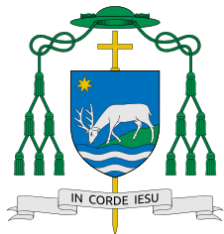


**NORTH WEST  
HAMPSHIRE**

**PASTORAL AREA**

SERVING THE PARISHES OF  
ANDOVER, BASINGSTOKE,  
HOOK, TADLEY AND  
BURGHFIELD COMMON



**St Michael's Parish, Tadley,  
Kingsclere,  
and St Oswald's Church,  
Burghfield Common**

**St. Michael's Church**  
Bishopswood Road, Tadley,  
RG26 4HG

**St. Oswald's Church**  
Abbey Park, Burghfield Common.  
RG7 3HQ

**Parish Priest:**

Rev Fr. Patrick Tansey:  
0118 981 4572

**Safeguarding Officers:**

Mrs Kath Murtagh (Tadley)  
0118 981 4658  
Mrs Ellen Goodall (Burghfield Common)  
0118 983 3332

**Parish Secretary:**

Mrs Shelley Winsper  
Email:  
Tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Website:  
www.stmandsto.org.uk

**COVENANT TO THE PEOPLE**

If you would like help from the Covenant to the People scheme, please call Bill Reilly on (0118) 981 3784.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

The Sacrament is celebrated on most Saturdays in St Michael's Church from 5pm to 5.30pm, but not on Saturday 29 December and 12 January.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS**

08/09 Dec £ 296.00  
15/16 Dec £ 241.76  
Christmas Flowers £ 335.20

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, THE LORD'S BIRTHDAY  
AND THE HOLY FAMILY**

**23, 25 AND 30 DECEMBER 2018**

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871

**Tadley and Kingsclere and Burghfield Common Masses**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

<b>Sundays:</b>	6.00pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	<b>Tadley</b>
	9.15am	Sunday Parish Mass	<b>Tadley</b>
	11.15am	Sunday Parish Mass	<b>Burghfield Common</b>

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**CHRISTMAS DAY/NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

11:30 pm TADLEY  
**VIGIL SERVICE LEADING INTO MIDNIGHT MASS**  
09:15am TADLEY  
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON  
**NO EVENING MASSES IN THE PARISH AREA ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

12noon Fri 28 Dec Tadley The Holy Innocents (Feast)

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

29 <sup>th</sup> December	6:00pm	Vigil Mass	<b>Tadley</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> December	9:15am	Sunday Parish Mass	<b>Tadley</b>
	11:15am	Sunday Parish Mass	<b>Burghfield Common</b>

<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Tues 1 Jan</b>	<b>Tadley</b>	<b>Mary, Mother of God (Solemnity)</b>
12noon	Fri 4 Jan	Tadley	Christmastide Mass

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**Responsorial Psalm:** God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me.. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son:

**Next Sunday's Readings: (The Holy Family)**

Samuel 1: 20-22 24-28. First Letter of St John 3: 1-2 21-24. Luke 2: 41-52

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

**Responsorial Psalm:** They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

**Next Sunday's Readings (EPIPHANY)**

Isaiah 60: 1- 6. Ephesians 3: 2-3 5-6. Matthew 2: 1-12.

**CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION**

By tradition, the collections on Christmas Day and on Easter Sunday are for the upkeep of the clergy caring for Parishes and form an important part of their yearly income. Father Patrick thanks all in advance for their continuing and deeply appreciated generosity. He wishes all Parishioners and Visitors a truly a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. His thanks also for your many cards and your presents.

**FATHER PATRICK NOT AVAILABLE**

Father Patrick will be taking a short break from the afternoon Sunday 6th January to Saturday 12th January.

### **FARE THEE WELL!**

Deacon Anthony and Diana left our Parish for their new house in Lymington on Thursday 20th December. Their speedy departure, linked to various contractual agreements in respect of the move, left little time for a Parish Farewell. Deacon Anthony and Diana acknowledge this, and were sorry that they were unable to delay the move until after Christmas.

On Tuesday evening, 18th December, Father Patrick and Deacon Anthony met for a farewell chat in the Presbytery. It had been a busy day for both, having officiated together at Carole Ellery's fine funeral Mass, with Deacon Anthony having to deal with further matters for the move afterwards, and Father Patrick attending the Family Reception after the Cremation Ceremony.

At their meeting, thanks to the efforts of Helen Warner, Father Patrick was able to present Anthony with a card filled with signatures of goodwill from our St Michael and St Oswald communities, and one wishing them, on behalf of the Parish, a happy move to their new home.

Father Patrick also presented him with a Parish Cheque of £500.00, for their own personal use, for which Anthony expressed his sincere thanks.

Helen had delivered, after the Funeral Mass, a basket of festive flowers for Diana, which was also given to Anthony that evening.

He asked particularly that everyone who had sent cards and farewell greetings be thanked in our Christmas Newsletter and apologised for being unable to respond to all of them because of the time of the move.

Father Patrick was grateful for a gift from them of some fine brandy and wine glasses and a copy of Herodotus—The Histories.

They hope to return for the 60th Anniversary of St Michaels Church in September 2019 and it is hoped, for a more personal official farewell after the New Year.

### **CRIB BLESSINGS**

Our Church Cribs will be blessed for the Arrival of the Lord at our 9:15am and 11:15am Masses on Sunday 23rd December.

All monies left at our Parish Cribs will be donated to the Christian Communities in the Holy Land.

### **MINISTRY OF ACOLYTE**

Tony Darroch has been recommended for the Ministry of Acolyte, whereby he becomes by right a permanent lay minister of the Eucharist, as part of his journey towards the Permanent Diaconate. Bishop Philip has issued the necessary Permission and this will be celebrated at St Oswald's Church at 11:15 am Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family.

### **NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS**

The First Day of the New Year is also the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. There will be Mass at 11:00 am at St Michael's Church for all who wish to seek the protection of Our Lady for 2019.

### **FIRST COMMUNION ENROLMENT**

This takes place at the 9:15 am Sunday Mass at St Michael's Church on the Solemnity of The Epiphany. Parents and Youngsters are asked to be present at least a quarter of an hour before the Mass. Father Patrick expresses his thanks to Father Jim Keenan for celebrating the 11:15 am Mass at Burghfield Common that Sunday, enabling Father Patrick to enjoy coffee and cake with the parents and youngsters after Mass!

### **PARISH ALPHA COURSE**

A date for your new 2019 diary - ALPHA Programme for our entire Parish Community and anyone else interested commences 12 January 2019.

Saturday Morning 9.30-11.30 at St Oswald's Hall. We start with breakfast each Saturday. Keep your eyes on the church noticeboards and ears open for announcements. What a great way to begin our New Year together as a worshipping community.

Our thanks to Geoff Poulter and Roy Singh for their presentations last weekend, about the course. Sign - up lists now available.

### **PRAYING FOR OUR SEMINARIANS**

We are asked to pray, by our Vocations Team, this month for Paul Nwune, studying at St John Seminary for the Priesthood. Paul comes to us from Nigeria and Father Patrick knows him well from his visits to the Seminary.

### **SUPPORTING OLIVER**

The rose bowls at the end of our car park in Tadley were put in place by Clive Warner, whom Father Patrick has known over the years from their links with the Old Presentation College in Reading. Clive asked that he put them there as a "Thank you" to Father Patrick and Shelley for enabling him to spend quiet time in St Michael's Church during the illness of his grandson Oliver.

Oliver was diagnosed with high-risk Neuroblastoma, a life threatening cancer, in 2016. He fought the disease and was able to start school, but in January this year the cancer returned. His chances of survival dropped to less than 10%

Oliver's family is now fundraising to access treatment not available on the NHS, costing hundreds of thousands of pounds. Local people and groups are supporting this effort and Father Patrick hopes to have a voluntary collection in the Parish in early 2019. In the meantime, there are posters in our churches, enabling people to contribute voluntarily if they wish to do so.

Please keep Oliver and his family in your prayers at this very difficult time.

### **REDISCOVER JESUS**

Last Christmas, Bishop Philip offered each of us, through the kindness of a benefactor, a copy of the book Rediscover Jesus by Matthew Kelly. For those who haven't read it yet, please do, it is a fantastic resource. For those who have read it and it is now gathering dust on a bookshelf, would you consider donating it to a prisoner? Sr Patricia Murphy is a prison Chaplain at Drake Hall Women's prison in Staffordshire and she would like to use this book to help women turn their lives around. If you are happy to donate your copy, please see Tony Darroch after Christmas or contact him on 0118 9811105.

### **THE TIME OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

This begins on Sunday 20th January, at the 9:15 am Mass at Tadley. That morning there will be the Votive Mass for Christian Unity allowed that day. This is a time when all parishioners should engage in prayer for a United Christendom and support the opportunities of the week to meet with other Christians locally. The Time of Prayer ends on Friday 25th January, The Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, with Mass at Tadley at 12 noon.

Our Parish has two Churches Together organisations—Churches Together Around Tadley and Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer. To facilitate the involvement of Father Patrick and the Reverend Ruth of the Methodist Church, who are involved in both, there will be separate Unity Services throughout the period.

CTAT Service is at 4 pm at Tadley Common Methodist Church on Sunday 20th January

CTBSM Service is at 6:30 pm at Mortimer Methodist church on Sunday 27th January. Father Patrick has been asked to preach. Saint Oswald Prayer Service. This time of prayer will be at 10:30am as part of CTBSM Unity Prayer Service at local Churches throughout the week. Parishioners from Tadley and Burghfield Common are welcome to all these events, so please put notes in your diaries now.

### **ADVENT TIME OF PRAYER THANKS**

The CTAT afternoon of prayer at St Michael's Church on 5th December has received many expressions of thanks from local Christians. Again thanks to Christie Watson and her helpers for a splendid effort in preparation for the Lord's Birthday.

Father Patrick was especially grateful for a cheque of £60.00 from Christine to cover our church heating that day and during preparations for it. There is a letter and card of thanks on our Community Noticeboard in St Michael's Church from Christine.