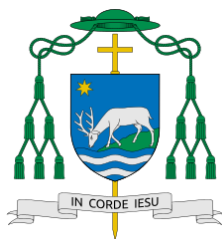


**NORTH WEST
HAMPSHIRE**

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

Deacon:

Dcn Anthony Cairns:
0118 982 1511

Safeguarding Officers:

Mrs Kathy 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 Saturdays 23rd December 2017 and 30th December.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

2/3 Dec	£298.15
9/10 Dec	£345.25
Christmas Flowers	£303.05

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)
17th DECEMBER 2017**



A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871

Tadley and Kingsclere and Burghfield Common Masses

Sundays:	6.00pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Tadley
	9.15am	Sunday Parish Mass	Tadley
	11.15am	Sunday Parish Mass	Burghfield Common

Week commencing 17 December 2017

12noon	Tue 19 Dec	Tadley	<i>Advent Mass</i>
12noon	Wed 20 Dec	Tadley	<i>Advent Mass</i>

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Response to the Psalm: My soul rejoices in my God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Next Sunday's Readings: (FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Year B)

Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14.16. St Paul. 16:25-27. Luke 1:26-38

BISHOP PHILIP'S CHRISTMAS GIFT!

Our Bishop has been provided by a generous donor with 40,000 copies of Matthew Kelly's best selling book, **Rediscover Jesus**, for distribution to Catholics of our Diocese for Christmas. These will be distributed in our Parish Area on the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday).

Matthew Kelly is from Australia and is a New York Times best-selling author. Over twenty of his books have been published in thirty languages. **Rediscover Jesus** is a collection of 40 short chapters, 3-8 pages each, that focus on a particular way to know Jesus. Each reading concludes with a point to ponder, a verse to live, a Question to consider and a short prayer. In Lent, Fr Patrick hopes to enable parishioners to come together to discuss the issues raised in this book. In the meantime happy reading!

FR PATRICK NEEDS TRANSPORT!

Particularly demanding for all Christian clergy this year is the fact that Christmas Eve is a Sunday, followed by Christmas Day on the Monday. Fr Patrick would appreciate offers of transport to our St Oswald's Masses at 11:15am on the Sunday and Monday (24th & 25th) with offers from the St Oswald community to return him to Tadley. ASAP please, otherwise he will have to order taxis!

DOUAI ABBEY ADVENT MUSIC AND REFLECTIONS

This takes place this Sunday from 3:30pm at the Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, with music ranging from Palestrina to Macmillan, and the **Magnificat** of the great 17th Century composer Charpentier. Reflections will be given by the Monks of the Abbey.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

With individual Confession for our Pastoral Area at St Bede's Church on Sunday 17th December at 2:30pm.

CONDOLENCES

Mrs Winsper, our part-time Secretary, recently heard of the unexpected death of her step-father in Scotland. We extend to Shelley and her mother and all the family our condolences at this difficult time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER KEVIN

Fr Kevin O'Brien, presently Parish Priest at Thatcham, celebrates 40 years of priesthood on Gaudete Sunday. Many will remember him as Parish Priest at Tadley before Fr Patrick was asked to be his replacement. Fr Patrick has sent him a card, wishing him all the best, on behalf of our Parish Area, for a joyful anniversary and a holy Christmas. He will be remembered in the Universal Prayer this weekend.

COME AND JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

You will see outside our Churches in Tadley and the surrounding areas banners bearing the above Invitation, They are an initiative of Churches Together Around Tadley, organised by The Reverend Richard Harlow, who recently was appointed an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral. Fr Patrick has purchased one for each of our churches, to be used this Christmas and following Christmases.

WELCOME TO THE REVEREND JOHN PATON

On Tuesday evening, 12th December, Fr Patrick attended the Licensing & Installation of The Reverend John by the Bishop of Reading to be Priest-in-Charge of the United Benefice of Sulhamstead Abbots with Bannister & Ufton Nervet.

The ceremony took place in the beautiful Church of St Mary, Sulhamstead Abbots. The Reverend John comes from Devonshire and after studying at Oxford University he worked for HM Customs & Excise. In his late 30s he trained for the Anglican priesthood at St Stephens House, Oxford, and before this appointment was Precentor of Christ Church, Oxford, the seat of the Bishop of Oxford & a College of the University.

Fr Patrick had a long chat with him at the enjoyable reception in the Parish Room, and they look forwards to working together as part of Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead & Mortimer. Keep him in your prayers.

FINE AFTERNOON TEA!

Before going to the Sulhamstead Installation, Fr Patrick spent a very enjoyable time in our Parish Room at Tadley, in which Geoff & Gina Poulter had arranged Afternoon Tea for elderly parishioners and others.

There was an outstanding selection of sandwiches and cakes, with a plentiful supply of tea & coffee. Our thanks go to all who chatted with our guests. Also to those who provided gifts for the raffle. At the Installation Reception, Fr Patrick had to constantly refuse offers of food and cake, having had a plentiful amount as a result of the tea!

CHURCH CLEANING AT TADLEY

This will be from 10:30 am—12:30pm on Thursday 21st December to prepare for the Christmas Celebrations. Please contact Helen Warner (0118) 981 2107 as soon as possible if you can help, even if only for an hour. There will be a need to straighten the pews so able-bodied people are needed.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Bishop Philip writes: "I am delighted to announce that, after extensive discussion and consultation, we will be launching in the New Year a new Diocesan Pastoral Council. This consultative body will meet four or five times a year in order to "investigate and consider matters relating to pastoral activity and to formulate practical conclusions" (cf. Can. 512 §1). In our diocese, the main objective is that of new evangelisation, bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church, and so the new Council will have this as its main focus. It will function as a Diocesan 'Evangelisation Strategy Team' under my chairmanship, whilst working in close liaison with Fr Mark Hogan, the Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation. I will be contacting Coordinating Pastors to ask them to nominate members of Pastoral Area ESTs willing to serve. There will also be an annual gathering of the Council open to anybody actively involved in the work of evangelisation across the Diocese. My hope and prayer is that the Council will "truly reflect the People of God" (cf. Can. 512 §2) and play a key role in helping us all discover what the Lord is calling us to."

TIME TO GET READY FOR JESUS!

NATIVITY FESTIVAL: This is held on Saturday 16th December and Sunday 17th December. Full details about this event at Tadley Common Methodist Church are on the poster at St Michael's Church.

LIVING NATIVITY: Churches Together Around Tadley invite you to this event on Thursday 21st December, to hear the true story of Christmas and to gather around the crib with live animals. We gather at St Paul's Church on the Green at 3:30pm for our Lantern Procession to the URC Church at 4:15pm. Spiced punch, hot chocolate and mince pies are available afterwards. Full details on the poster in St Michael's Church.

CAROLS AT ST OSWALD'S CHURCH:

On Saturday 23rd December at 4:00pm, followed by a Children's Party, with mulled wine for adults afterwards and mince pies for all. Parishioners from Tadley & Kingsclere are warmly invited to this but are asked to bring a plate of suitable food and a named gift. Full details on the posters in our Churches.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASSES

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17th December 2017 09:15am TADLEY
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON

BLESSING OF THE CRIB AT BOTH MASSES

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

23rd December 2017 6:00pm Vigil Mass TADLEY

CHRISTMAS EVE/ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

24th December 2017 09:15am TADLEY
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON

CHRISTMAS DAY/NATIVITY OF THE LORD

11:30pm TADLEY
EVENING VIGIL SERVICE LEADING INTO MIDNIGHT MASS

09:15am TADLEY
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON

NO EVENING MASSES IN THE PARISH AREA ON CHRISTMAS DAY/NATIVITY OF THE LORD

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

30th December 2017 6:00pm Vigil Mass TADLEY

NEW YEARS EVE/ THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

31st December 2017 09:15am TADLEY
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON

NEW YEARS DAY/MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

01st January 2018 11:00am TADLEY

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

06th January 2018 6:00pm Vigil Mass TADLEY

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD CELEBRATED AT ALL SUNDAY MASSES

07th January 2018 09:15am TADLEY
11:15am BURGHFIELD COMMON

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED & FR PATRICK NOT AVAILABLE

The Office closes from Thursday 21st December to Thursday morning 4th January. If there is an urgent need to contact Fr Patrick, please do so by telephone or call at the Presbytery. However, From Christmas Day afternoon until the morning of Thursday 28th December he will not be available, taking a short break, using up unused holiday time.