

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
Bishopwood Road, Tadley,
RG26 4HG

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

Parish Priest:

Rev Fr. Patrick Tansley:
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 5:00pm to 5:30pm. However it will now not be available until Saturday 11th January 2020, unless there is an emergency.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

01/12/19 £336.56
08/12/19 £219.18

GAUDETE SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2019

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Tadley and Kingsclere and Burghfield Common Masses

6:00pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Tadley
10:30am	Sunday Parish Mass	Tadley

Week Days 16 December - 20 December 2019

11:00am Wed 18 Dec **Tadley** Funeral Mass for John Gomes (RIP)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR A

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

Responsorial Psalm: Come, Lord, and save us.

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 Sundays Readings (Fourth Sunday in Advent)

Isaiah 7:10-14. Romans 1:1-7. Matthew 1:18-24.

On Saturday 21st December Fr Patrick is involved in the drama of the Living Nativity during that afternoon. Therefore the Vigil Mass at Tadley will be celebrated at 6:30pm rather than 6:00pm, to enable him to return for it.

LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL? AN UPDATE! A CHRISTMAS DAY UPDATE

It is sad to have state that there will be no Mass in St Oswald's Church on 22nd December (Fourth Sunday of Advent), so we shall all meet again at 10:30am that Sunday in St Michael's Church. Fr Patrick and Shelley spent most of Tuesday morning, 10th December trying to forward the installation of the gas meter, without which the boiler cannot be activated. The following day, whilst Victoria, our Human Resources Diocesan Representative, Gerry Penfold and Fr Patrick interviewed candidates to find a new part-time Secretary, Shelley accomplished the almost impossible!

The meter would be installed without a 10 day waiting period, following unremitting contact with British Gas. However, at the end of Wednesday after the last interview she let us know that the trench for the new gas supply installation was flooded! Fr Patrick called the day to an end. All being well, Cherwell Heating will start installing the boiler next Tuesday, 17th December, which will take 2/3 days to complete. Following that, it will be necessary to ensure that the heating is working properly and that the Church is suitable for use.

Pray that by Monday 23rd December, all those involved at Burghfield Common will be able to prepare for Mass on 25th December at 11:15am. Fr Patrick will be rushing from the 9:15am Mass at Tadley, which will be celebrated whatever happens, so all needs to be in place when he arrives. And then, Happy Christmas: He is taking a short break until the weekend.

THE BISHOPS CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Please take a copy of The Gospel of Luke in The New International Version (NIV), to be read during this Year of The Word, when we listen to The God who speaks to us through Sacred Scripture, It is Bishop Philip's present to each family in the Diocese.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION

Bishop Philip has asked that all Crib offerings be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land to assist Christians in that part of the world. Please be generous!

CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTIONS

These are traditionally for the use of your priest and form an important part of his upkeep. Fr Patrick thanks you in advance for your kind donations.

PASTORAL AREA OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

This will be available at St Bede's Church on Sunday 22nd December 2019, from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Fr Patrick hopes to assist at this.

TADLEY CHURCH CLEANING

This will take place on Monday 23rd December 2019 from 10:30am –12:30pm. Please let Helen Warner know if you are able to help by telephoning 0118 981 2107.

LAS POSADAS

This begins in our Parish on Gaudete Sunday (15th December), giving 9 days for the journey of Joseph and Mary to Midnight Mass at St Michael's Church, starting with a Christmas Vigil at 11:30pm on 24th December, which leads into Midnight Mass.

Sign up sheets are available for hosting the pregnant Mary, Joseph and their donkey, but the opportunity to celebrate with family, friends and neighbours between 15th—23rd December will be first come, first served. So sign up early if interested. Full instructions will be available with the statue.

THE LIVING NATIVITY

Once again, CTAT is delighted to present this celebration of the real meaning of Christmas for all Tadley residents. This year it will be on Saturday 21st December, starting at 3:30pm with people meeting at St Paul's Church on the Green, Tadley. There we process to the Immanuel Centre Garden at the URC Church to see the Millers Ark Live Nativity Animals and celebrate with Readings, acting and carols. Refreshments follow. All are welcome, especially in Nativity costumes. Full details on the posters in St Michael's Church.

TADLEY CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH AT THE AMBROSE ALLEN CENTRE

Full details of this free event for those who may be alone on Christmas Day or are unable to enjoy a Christmas Lunch at home for some reason are on the poster in The Parish Room. Please contact Tammy and Nathan on 0118 981 9905 as soon as possible if you are interested.

BISHOP CHALLONER LSA VACANCY

Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and energetic Learning Support Assistant to join their dedicated team; this is a fixed term post for the academic year 2019/20, with potential to extend depending on the needs of the school. The position would be suitable for a graduate who is looking to obtain experience before joining the teaching profession. If you would like further information please visit <https://hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy/SearchResults> or contact Beverley O'Shea via Beverley.oshea@bcs.hants.sch.uk The closing date is noon on Wednesday 8 January 2020.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA!

The Knights, a Catholic organisation for men, was founded in 1919 in Scotland, and is celebrating 100 years of its existence. Members of the organisation have been invaluable in supporting numerous Parish Priests in promoting the work of the Gospel throughout Britain at a local level, in raising large sums for charitable causes, in upholding the rights of the unborn child threatened increasingly by direct abortion, in helping the widows and families of members when necessary.

The Grand Knight of Basingstoke Circle is Roy Singh, a member of our Tadley community. Fr Patrick thanks him for inviting him to a splendid dinner at the Apollo Hotel on Monday 2nd December, with Fr Chris Rutledge (Circle Chaplain) and Fr Gaston from St Joseph's Parish. It was a most enjoyable evening, and Fr Patrick was delighted to be on the same table as David, a former member of our Parish, and his wife Teresa, from California. They are now settled, following their recent American marriage, in Holy Ghost Parish, Basingstoke.

On behalf of our Parish communities: ad multos annos! Thank you for the work you do for the Church.

A SPLENDID CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

On Tuesday, 10th December, the Parish Room echoed to the sound of

carols, laughter, and happy conversation. Our thanks to Geoff and Gina Poulter, and the group of parishioners who helped them, for providing, once again, an enjoyable afternoon of fine sandwiches and good cake for senior parishioners and for those not in good health. Fr Patrick and Gina seemed to find their cups of tea disappearing, and the hunt for Gina's cup was most amusing. (The Lord has a sense of humour!) A worthy preparation for the coming Birthday of our Saviour—with fine piano playing by Maria Murray Brown who returned to support the carol singing.

THE EVANGELISATION STRATEGY TEAM FOR OUR PARISH

Fr Patrick has been reflecting upon and praying about the suggestion that an Evangelisation Strategy Team (EST) be established in the Parish before the end of the year.

Parishioners will recall that this was highlighted in our Parish Booklet: Building a bridge to our Parish future, discussed at the Parish Meeting on Maintenance & Mission on 16th October in the Leonard Rooms, Burghfield Common. At the Advent Day of Prayer at Douai Abbey on 4th December, Bishop Philip expressed his thanks to Fr Patrick that Gerry Penfold had given him a copy of the booklet. The establishment of an EST in each Parish is clearly desired by our Bishop.

Fr Patrick has approached several parishioners from Tadley and Burghfield Common over the last few weeks about this idea, and he is also grateful to those who have said that they would be interested in being involved. This is good, because the Parish EST will not be acting alone—it will need sub-groups to forward various initiatives. However at this early stage, the EST will need time to develop various ideas and suggestions. It will, to use a Latin phrase: FESTINALENTE (Hasten slowly). In the new year, Fr Patrick will meet with those he has asked to form the initial group—some others may be added if necessary. Alongside him in our EST will be Gerry Penfold and Gina Poulter (Tadley), Sarah Hunneman and Rick Wallis (Burghfield Common). That which they all need over the coming week is the prayer of our Parish community that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to seek the way forward for our Parish and that all in our Parish will be guided by the same Spirit to engage alongside them in The Mission of the Church.

PARISH CONDOLENCES

JOHN GOMES (RIP)



John, a well known member of the Parish, resident in a care home in Basingstoke, died very suddenly on the afternoon of 30th November. His Funeral Mass is at St Michael's Church this Wednesday, 18th December, at 11:00am. Our deepest condolences to Queenie, his wife, and his family. Queenie expresses her thanks to St Joseph's Church, Basingstoke, for ensuring that he received Holy Communion regularly in the home.

NANCY FISHER (RIP)



Nancy, the wife of another respected parishioner Bernard Fisher, was being cared for in a home near St Bede's Church, before his death, Bernard was exemplary in visiting her almost every day whilst she was in the home.

Nancy died on 10th December, before our parishioner Tina Van Ewyk visited to see her. She had been anointed on the 8th December by Fr Leo from St Bede's Church. Our thanks to Fr Chris Rutledge and the team at the Church for their care of her.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARIA MURRAY BROWN

She receives the Diocesan Medal this weekend for her many years of commitment to our Parish Liturgical Music, traditional and modern