

Dear All,

This Sunday is Peace Sunday, all our Mass times will be as normal, although a reminder that the 9.00am Sunday Mass at St. Michael's will be a Votive Mass for Peace.

This Weekend's Mass arrangements:

Saturday 13 th January:	6.00pm at St. Michael's Church
Sunday 14 th January:	9.00am at St. Michael's Church – Children's Liturgy!!!
Sunday 14 th January:	11.00am at St. Oswald's Church

Next weekend we have a special recognition of the importance of the Octave of prayer for Christian Unity, with the 11.00am Sunday Mass at Saint Oswald's Church on 21st January being a Votive Mass for Christian Unity. This will be followed in the afternoon by our CTAT (Churches Together around Tadley) Unity Service at Saint Mary's Church, Silchester at 3.00pm, organised by the Reverend Karen West, the Anglican minister in Silchester, and myself. I hope that there will be a good attendance from our Tadley Catholic community, alongside other Christians from the area. Those attending are asked to share cars because of the limited amount of parking available.

Volunteer needed: I have been asked if a member of our community would do the First Reading & I should be grateful for a response on this ASAP.

Christ in action in and around Tadley

Dwelling further on the theme of Christian Unity, I cannot but help reflect on how this is manifesting itself in our Parish area. Prayer should lead to action, to engagement with other Christians to serve our local communities and to witness publicly together to Christ's love for all people, whatever their beliefs or none. This we do alongside proclaiming the Good News.

In and around Tadley many members of our local churches are engaged in the work of Food Banks, not forgetting the Food Bank centre in the Leonard rooms in the Burghfield Common area of our Catholic parish. This operates free of Hall charges, as a service to the local community there. At a time of struggle for many, because of the cost of living, this work is invaluable.

CTAT has close links with Tadley Town Council in respect of local issues and needs and also with the Citizens Advice Bureau in Franklin Avenue. Members of our churches are to be seen at the Community Liaison lunch each year, engaging with others concerned to serve our local community, especially those in need. As local Christians we have also looked at the provision of warm spaces during cold weather and are represented on the Wellbeing Forum, which developed from the coronavirus pandemic.

This service is bolstered by prayer together with a desire to bring Christ's love to others, but we need more volunteers for this to continue into the future. So please keep all this in prayer during the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity. We are greatly blessed by the presence of CTAT, which is the finest expression of Christian fellowship and concern I have come across in my priestly ministry.

Together in mission (TIM), which runs Café B & operates in Burghfield & surrounding areas, is also appealing for new volunteers to help in their work to "serve the needs of our neighbours". They are particularly keen to hear from people who can help with the following: Fundraising (e.g. the running of events & writing grant applications), marketing, social media presence, stewarding of the services they offer. There is a poster containing this information in St. Oswald's Church.

Interested? Further details from Emma Shumsky on 07931 305996 email:

emma.shumsky@gmail.com

Donations: <https://localgiving.org/charity/tim/>

Website: www.togetherinmission.org.uk

In addition, Jenny LeLean from **Caritas Portsmouth** writes: "If you would like to know more about how to organise or have experience to share on running a warm space/community project in your Parish, do join Caritas Portsmouth for our first networking event on Tuesday 23rd January from 12:30 till 1:00 PM. You can register [here](#) and we look forward to seeing you".

CTAT Holiday Club update

- On Thursday evening 11th January, Mary Lee & I attended a very fruitful meeting at the Salvation Army Hall to begin preparations for the Tadley Holiday Club, planned for Monday 26th July to Friday 2nd August. It was also a good opportunity to meet with the new Salvation Army Youth Worker named Hannah, who will be working with Sam, this year's Club organiser. The theme of the Club will be "Mission Possible", looking at the missionary activity of Saint Paul. Our next meeting to progress with this will be on 22nd February at the Salvation Army Hall at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. If you would like to be involved, please make a note in your diary.
- On Friday morning 12th January, the Silchester CTAT group, of which I am a part, met at the Reverend Karen West's home. The Silchester Easter Holiday Club will take place from Monday 8th April to Friday 12th April & we began preparations for this. There will be a further meeting of the group on Tuesday 23rd April.

Lepra celebrates 100 years!

On the weekend of 27th/28th January there will be an opportunity to contribute to the work of Lepra, which plays an important part in the fight against leprosy, at all our Masses.

During the coronavirus pandemic, I was often on the telephone with Laurice Jarman as we tried, with difficulty, to find a date for an appeal when our churches were allowed to open. We managed it over a couple of years! I have agreed to this year's appeal, which Laurence has asked me to give, as Lepra is celebrating 100 years of existence. It helps the work of Saint Joseph's Leprosy Centre in India, which Lepra built in 1998 for the Catholic Sisters who worked there. I encourage you to access our Parish Website to view a fine presentation by Laurice. There are also posters up in both Churches.

What is a Jubilee?

The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. Preparations began in Advent 2023 & this year, 2024, is designated a Year of Prayer to prepare for the Jubilee in 2025.

CAFOD has produced some useful resources to assist us as we prepare in prayer throughout 2024: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/year-of-prayer>

We can find an early indication of Jubilee in the Bible: a Jubilee year was to be marked every 50 years. Even though it wasn't easy to organise, it was intended to be marked as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation, and involved the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, and a fallow period for the fields.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII called the first Jubilee, also known as a "Holy Year," since it is a time in which God's holiness transforms us. The frequency of Holy Years has changed over time: at first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between Jubilees to

every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years. There have also been “extraordinary” Holy Years: for example, in 2015 Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of Mercy as an extraordinary jubilee. By participating in the Holy Year, one is granted a plenary indulgence, if all the necessary requirements are met.

Scam e-mail

Following the scam email that was circulating earlier this week, purporting to be from Father Patrick, a quick reminder of our IT Department’s advice to Parishioners:

- Be wary of any e mails that you are not expecting and ensure that they are from who they are proposing to be from.
- Ensure that your device and applications are up to date with the latest version and have the latest security patches installed.
- Use antivirus and also keep that up to date with their latest patches.
- [Cyber Aware - NCSC.GOV.UK](https://www.ncsc.gov.uk) is also a good source of advice & information.

In addition, our parishioner Hugh Lobo advises that if you suspect you have received a scam email, you can forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk & the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) will investigate it.

The statue of Mary in Basingstoke Hospital Chapel

Hospital staff and visitors may have noticed that, in recent weeks, the statue of Mary has not been present in the Chapel. We have been assured that plans are in place to relocate the statue to a position within the Chapel where it will be much more visible and is being kept safely until it is possible for this work to be completed. The Chaplaincy Team would like to thank everyone for their patience whilst we wait for this work to be completed.

ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat: “Chosen to be holy – transformation by the Holy Spirit.”

Every baptised person is called to holiness, chosen by the Lord to be fruitful (*John 15:16*). This is not something we can achieve by our own efforts: the Father gives the Holy Spirit to transform us into the image of Christ, so that our lives can bear fruit in witnessing to the good news of God’s love.

27th January 10.00am - 1.00pm. Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker **Charles Whitehead KSG**. Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREJAN2024 More information at www.altonrenewal.com

Coming soon!!!

Parish Skittles Evening!

The Archangels Social Group is planning a Skittles Evening at AWE Rec-Soc on Friday 8 March at 7.00 PM. Past such evenings have been very popular and great fun, regardless of skill levels! Further details will be available soon, but in the meantime, please make a note of the date in your diary if you are interested.

Diocesan Vacancies

Pastoral Coordinator of Evangelisation, Havant - Closing date 9th February 2024

Operations Manager, Winchester - Closing date 9th February 2024

Health & Safety Officer, Portsmouth – Currently there is no closing date

For these & other vacancies visit: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

Further reading

Portsmouth Diocese news items:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales news items:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/>

Caritas Portsmouth Newsletter:

<https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/news-events/>

Enjoy your weekend!

Father Patrick.

Fr. Patrick Tansey

Parish Priest

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