

Parish of St. Michael, Tadley (with Kingsclere) and St. Oswald, Burghfield Common

Priest-in-Charge: Father Stephen Vooght - Parish Administrator: Dan Wisniewski

Presbytery & Office: Tel. 0118 981 4572 – Email: tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Office hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri: 9.45am-2.45pm. Closed on Mondays

Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

MASS TIMETABLE					
Day	Date	Feria, Memorial (M), Feast (F), Solemnity (S)	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sat	14 th Feb	6 th Sunday – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Aileen Hopwood RIP
Sun	15 th Feb	6 th Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	
Sun	15 th Feb	6 th Sunday	11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Mon	16 th Feb	NO MASS			
Tues	17 th Feb	Feria	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	
Weds	18 th Feb	Ash Wednesday	11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Weds	18 th Feb	Ash Wednesday	7.30pm	St. Michael's	
Thurs	19 th Feb	Lent	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	20 th Feb	Lent	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Sat	21 st Feb	1 st Sunday of Lent – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Joan Curran RIP
Sun	22 nd Feb	1 st Sunday of Lent	9.00am	St. Michael's	Lilian Mary Thomas RIP
Sun	22 nd Feb	1 st Sunday of Lent	11.00am	St. Oswald's	
<i>2nd Collection at all Masses this weekend for the St Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers)</i>					
<i>Weekday Masses are preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary prayed after each Mass</i>					
<i>Confessions available before Weekday Masses or by appointment</i>					

This coming week is **Ash Wednesday**, which is the beginning of the sacred season of Lent.

The word *Lent* comes from the Old English word "**lencten**," meaning *springtime*. This is fitting, because just as Spring is a season of new life and growth in nature, Lent is a spiritual springtime for the soul. It is a time when God invites us to renewal, conversion, and deeper growth in holiness.

Lent lasts for forty days (excluding Sundays) and mirrors the forty days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the wilderness. During this season, the Church calls us to three traditional practices: **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**. Through prayer, we deepen our relationship with God. Through fasting, we learn self-discipline and detach from what distracts us. Through almsgiving, we turn outward in love and charity toward others.

Lent is placed at this time of year to prepare us for the great celebration of **Easter**. Just as spring leads to new life, Lent leads us to the joy of the Resurrection. It is a journey from ashes to alleluia — from repentance to renewal.

As we begin this holy season, may we embrace it not simply as a time of giving things up, but as an opportunity to draw closer to Christ and allow Him to bring new life to our hearts.





PARISH MISSION APPEAL – At all Masses this Weekend St Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers)

A reminder that our **Parish Mission Appeal**, presented this weekend by **Fr Stephen Kimani Kariuki**, offers us an opportunity to support this vital work and to share in the Church's mission to the world. Through our prayers and generosity, we continue Christ's call to "go and make disciples of all nations."

NOTE: Weekday Mass time changes

- Wednesday 18th February (Ash Wednesday): 11.00am at St. Oswald's & 7.30pm at St. Michael's
- Friday 20th February: 9.30am at St. Michael's (instead of the usual time of 7.00pm)

A Lent Invitation to Prayer and Renewal

Through prayer, we learn to listen for what God is doing among us.

Recently, we shared prayer cards linked to our Local Mission Plan and invited everyone to pray for the life and future of our parish. As we approach Lent, we would like to build on that invitation by turning our attention more deeply to prayer itself, not only in church but also in the quiet of everyday life at home.

Over Lent, we will be hosting a **six-week online prayer course** on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00, starting on the first Monday of Lent. The sessions will be simple and practical, drawing on Scripture, the wisdom of the saints, and gentle guidance on the challenges people often face when praying.

This course is open to everyone and may also be a quiet way to invite a family member or friend who has drifted from faith to take a step back towards God this Lent.

Register using the QR Code, or:

This link: [Registration](#)

Email: jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sign-up sheets in Church

We look forward to journeying together in prayer through Lent!



RITE OF ELECTION 2026

The forthcoming Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion will be held on Saturday 21st February 2026 in St John's Cathedral at 11am. It is the liturgy in which those adults who are preparing for Baptism at Easter and those candidates who are preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church are presented to the Bishop for the Church's blessing. Please pray for the catechumens and candidates, together with their sponsors, families and friends. All are very welcome to attend and support those currently going through the RCIA programme.

Donations of Old Missals & Bibles for Bamenda

Since Fr Rinda (from the Archdiocese of Bamenda) collected our old Lectionaries and Missals from Mary Lee at the end of 2025 to ship them to Bamenda, we have received more donations of Missals and enquiries about whether Bibles are also needed. All items should be in good condition. Please place them in the box in St Michael's Church porch **by Sunday 1 March at the latest**. For parishioners at St. Oswald's wishing to donate, please call the Parish Office. Thank you!

Parish Office closed on Thursday 19th February

Dan will be taking a day off during the school half-term holidays. As a result, emails will not be checked until Friday 20th Feb. For urgent/ emergency issues, please phone the Parish Office, but note that it will only be possible to check voice messages on a sporadic basis.

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Parish Skittles Evening - 2 Tickets Remaining

The Archangels are organising their popular annual Parish Skittles Evening at AWE RecSoc on Friday 27 February at 7pm. Tickets are limited and available on a 'first come, first served' basis: £15 each, including a pre-ordered bar meal. Meal choices: 6 scampi & chips; 6 fish fingers & chips; 6 vegan goujons & chips (VE); 6 chicken goujons & chips; 2 sausages & chips; tuna mayo jacket potato; Cheddar cheese & beans jacket potato; butternut squash chilli & cheese jacket potato (VE). To book, please call or text Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email her:

maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk

SAVE THE DATES: Lenten Soup Lunches

The Archangels will be organising two Lenten Soup Lunches in aid of Hoima Hospice, Uganda, on Tuesdays 10 and 24 March – please save the dates!



Valentine's "Rave in the Nave" Party at St Mary's, Tadley on Friday 13 February

Featuring the Final Performance of Carbon Copy. Light refreshments included, but BYO drinks. Doors open at 7.15pm. Tickets £8 each, available from Chris on 07954 108913 or Peter on 07850 954005.

CTAT Men's Breakfast seeking helpers

The Men's Breakfast takes place on the 4th Saturday morning of the month and begins with a cooked breakfast. Mark Ward is seeking some younger men to join the cooking team. Please contact him if you can help:

mandjward@hotmail.co.uk

CTAT Ladies' Breakfast

On Saturday 14 February, our guest speakers will be Janet Gross and Christine Watson, updating us on their recent trip to the Adonai Centre in Uganda. Please join us at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, Main Road, from 10am to noon. All welcome!

SAVE THE DATE

The CTAT World Day of Prayer Service will take place in the afternoon of Friday 6 March.

Diocesan Vacancies

For current vacancies visit: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/>

There are also opportunities in our Diocesan schools:

<https://www.casoportsmouth.org.uk/current-vacancies-2/>

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/>