

Dear All,

A sincere "Thank you!" to those parishioners who sent me cards, gifts and prayers for my 74th Birthday on Tuesday. Unfortunately, it was a normal working day, dealing with problems at the Burghfield Common site and final First Communion preparations, interrupted by the need to visit a seriously ill lady in the Basingstoke Hospital, as no other priest was available. However, you brightened my day, and the gratitude of the hospital patient was a gift in itself.

Following the First Communion Mass on Sunday morning, I shall not be available until Sunday 7th July for Parish matters, and there will be no Saturday evening Mass on 6th July, as I shall be at the 50th anniversary Bamenda celebration.

I know that I am in need of a proper break, especially having struggled with two broken teeth over the last few weeks and recovering from a nasty bug since last weekend, to say nothing of advancing age!

On Monday I am in London for the AGM and Dinner of the Secular Clergy Common Fund and on Wednesday at the dentist for continuing treatment, whilst clearing as far as possible important matters in the Office and enjoying some of my break. So, I am celebrating the Masses on the weekend of 22nd/23rd June, but I'm then away. The Masses on 29th/30th June (Saint Peter and Saint Paul) will be covered by Father Peter Codd and Father Jean-Patrice Coulon, with the assistance of Deacon Tony Darroch. My thanks to them all.

Dan outlines below the details of emergency cover, so please read them clearly. He will be available in the Office during his normal working hours to assist as necessary.

This Weekend's Mass arrangements

Saturday 15th June: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church

Sunday 16th June: 10.00am at St. Oswald's Church – **First Holy Communion Mass**

Mandatory Second Collection this weekend for: Day for Life

REMINDER!!! NO MASS at St. Oswald's Church this Sunday 16th June

REMINDER!!! First Communion Reconciliation & practice is TOMORROW Saturday 15th June at 9.45am at St. Michael's Church.

Our First Holy Communion Celebrations

At our 10.00am Mass at Tadley on Sunday, Lou, Daniel and Jacob make their First Communions. They have been an enjoyable group to engage with over the last few months, and our thanks to Marion, Jenny and Katherine for their involvement in the preparations for this important day in the lives of these young parishioners. Please also keep in prayer my great nephew Laurie, who makes his First Communion in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, this Sunday. Clearly, I am unable to be with him on the day, but will be seeing him soon on my break & will congratulate him then.

Emergency Cover: 18th June – 3rd July:

Father Patrick: On holiday & generally not available.

Parish Office: Tuesday-Thursday 10.00am-2.30pm, Friday 10.00am-2.00pm, CLOSED MONDAYS

Emails: Will be reviewed as normal during Office Hours.

Phone: Available during Office Hours. Messages will be checked during Office Hours.

OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS - If a serious need arises to contact a priest, please use the emergency contact details below:

Hospital Chaplaincy Contacts:

Basingstoke Hospital Chaplaincy Team

Office Hours: 01256 314901

Urgent & Outside of office hours: Via the Hospital Switchboard 01256 473202

(Alternatively, St. Bede's Parish Office during Office Hours only: 01256 465214)

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplaincy Team

Monday-Friday 8 am-4 pm: 0118 322 7105

Urgent & Outside of office hours: contact switchboard 0118 322 5111 to ask for the on-call chaplain.

Note: When contacting Hospital Chaplaincies, please clearly state you require a Roman Catholic priest. It is the responsibility of the family to request a Chaplain to attend.

FOR INFO:

St. Bede's, Basingstoke 01256 465214 – Rev. John Lee

St. Joseph, Basingstoke 01256 323595 - Rev. Paul Leonard

Douai Abbey (Woolhampton Parish) 0118 9715350

Note: Some of these clergy and /or their Administrators might also be taking a break at this time.

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Day for Life – Sunday 16th June

The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, *Day for Life* is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year it falls on 16 June. The theme is *The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life*.

A debate on end-of-life issues has been in the headlines in recent months with calls for assisted suicide being expressed, especially by celebrities, a view that opposes the Catholic view that life is a gift and that we are called to care for others at the end of their lives.

Day for Life is marked on the same day by the three Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

For further information & resources, click: [Day For Life 2024 – Resources](#)

THANK YOU!!! Parish Fundraising for St Michael's Hospice and Christian Aid

The Archangels Social Group sends many thanks to all those who helped in any way with their fundraising activities last weekend, 8/9 June. It was a great team effort all around!

Thanks to your generous donations of wine and sweets and their past stock of pre-loved jewellery, our stalls at the **Fete on The Green raised £361.10 for St Michael's Hospice!** It was great to see so many families out, enjoying themselves and many thanks to all those parishioners who came along to support us and have a go on our games. Our "Everyone's a Winner" sweet jars were a great attraction to children and adults alike; many adults had a go on the "Find the Wine" bottle bag game and were congratulated with enthusiastic applause and cheers from Gerry Penfold, whenever anyone won, encouraging others to come

and have a go too! Marion Evans also had a good trade on our pre-loved jewellery stall. We were delighted when Tilly had the nearest guess to the number of sweets in the big jar - 110 - and Charlie seemed thrilled that one of his guesses on the name of the teddy bear - Vernon - proved correct and won the bear!

The Cake Sale for Christian Aid on Sunday raised £140 - many thanks to all the parish bakers who generously donated delicious cakes and to those who came into the Parish Room and bought them.

So a **grand total of £501.10** was raised for two good causes over the weekend - we are very grateful to everyone for making it all happen!

REMINDER!!! Parish Summit Meeting

As advertised last weekend, this takes place on **Thursday 4th July** from 7.00pm – 8.30pm in the Parish Room, Tadley. There are 4 places left (“first come, first served”). Please let Dan in our Parish Office know if you wish to be present ASAP. The list will be closed once full. Thank you.

REMINDER!!! ‘Mingle at St Michael’s’

As advertised last week, the next “Mingle” session will take place **Wednesday 19 June** from 2pm - 4pm, in the Parish Room at St. Michael’s. All very welcome! Come prepared for a delicious array of cakes and plenty of conversation and laughter!

Bike Ride

The Archangels are organising a bike ride **on Saturday June 22nd at 10am**. It is to start outside St. Michael’s church and will be for about 15 miles, including a coffee shop stop. If anyone needs any more information please contact Jo Mellor on 07963551988.

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK!!! “Strength to Strength” course

Do you want to start or sustain a fruitful daily prayer life? The Pastoral Evangelisation Team will be offering a new course focused on prayer. Join us for a six-session series designed to give practical help to those wishing to pray more in their daily lives. In the six sessions we will be exploring the following each week:

Week 1 – 24 June 2024 - Pray for the day

Week 2 – 1 July 2024 - Food for thought

Week 3 - 8 July 2024 - The life of Prayer

Week 4 - 15 July 2024 - Pray before you speak

Week 5 - 22 July 2024 - Lord teach us to pray

Week 6 – 29 July 2024 - Give us this day

The course starts on **Monday 24th June @ 7.30pm – 9.00pm**. If you are interested in joining and learning how to sustain a fruitful prayer life, learn tips and best practices with some shared learnings with friends, then do join us! Register your interest by emailing The Pastoral Evangelisation Team via:

jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Golden Jubilee of the Bamenda – Portsmouth Link

Bishop Philip invites you to join him at St John’s Cathedral, Portsmouth on Saturday 6 July for a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 am to mark the 50th anniversary of the link between the Archdiocese of Bamenda and the Diocese of Portsmouth. He will be joined by Archbishop Andrew Nkea of Bamenda and Fr Bernardine Nsom, who will lead a delegation of 13 priests, religious and laity from Bamenda, visas permitting.

Please join us at the Cathedral for what promises to be a joyous Celebration Mass, followed by an exhibition and displays in the Discovery Centre, ending with Evening Prayer & Blessing at 4 pm. We are expecting to be joined by some 100 members of the Cameroonian Community from around the UK! Please come for all or any part of the day.

Diocesan Prayer for the Golden Jubilee of the Bamenda-Portsmouth Link – 2024

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the bond of love and friendship which has existed between the Archdiocese of Bamenda and the Diocese of Portsmouth for fifty years. We are deeply grateful to you for the spiritual and material benefits this union has yielded.

Guided by your Word and filled with your Holy Spirit, may we receive the grace to grow in partnership and understanding as we celebrate as one body, sharing in the one bread of Christ.

Bless those who have made selfless sacrifices to sustain us, especially the priests who have served in our dioceses. May their work be rewarded in the abundance of your grace.

May Mary Immaculate, St Joseph, St Edmund and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, our Patrons, intercede for us. Amen.

IMPORTANT!!!: Money Management for All - CANCELLED

Sadly, this event which has been advertised in our Newsletter has been **CANCELLED**. There have not been enough people booking on the course to make it worthwhile for the delegates. It will be postponed until the autumn & the new dates will be advertised when they have been agreed.

PLEASE BE AWARE IF YOU HAVE BOOKED A PLACE.

Tadley SEND Parents Evening

Meet up with other local SEND parents to socialise & support each other. **Thursday 20th June at 7.00pm – 8.00pm**. The Salvation Army, Mulfords Hill, Tadley, RG26 3LI. Free to all parents/grandparents. Tea/Coffee available. See poster in St. Michael's Church.

Men's Breakfast & Ladies' Breakfast

This event is to be relaunched on **Saturday 22nd June at 10am** in the Immanuel Centre. Please come along for good food and company.

Following the relaunch of the Men's Breakfast, Pam Darroch and other ladies from St Michael's church are keen to start the Ladies' breakfast again. It is proposed that this will take place on the 2nd Saturday of the month in the Immanuel Centre. Help will be needed. **If you are interested in helping take this forward, please let Janet Gross know via janetgross2301@gmail.com**

West Berks Foodbank appeal

The WB Foodbank writes: "As ever, we are very grateful for the support West Berks Foodbank receives from you - the church communities in West Berkshire. Churches are vital partners to us and the network of Trussell Trust food banks across the UK. Your generosity has contributed to the approx. 8.5 tonnes of donations received each month this year, however, the demand for help is such that we are sending out over 11 tonnes each month.

Also, you may have heard that we are running the Hungry Holidays scheme again for the 9th consecutive year. Schools have been asked to identify families that they feel will really struggle over the summer holiday period. A one-off delivery will then be made to the schools before the end of term to distribute to these families. Last year, we supported almost 1500 additional people across 40 West Berks' schools. We have already heard from 42 schools requesting help this year. I'm sure you can imagine the impact this will have on our stock. Last year, we sent out 20 tonnes in July!

I am sending out this urgent plea for your support to enable us to meet this need as well as the regular demand for help. The only way we can do this is by the generous support of the community. Please consider, if able, to buy an item or two for the foodbank when you do your weekly shop and put it in the Foodbank basket at the supermarket or at the church or other collection points. A shopping list of items currently needed which can be found at [Donate food | West Berks Foodbank](#) . With your help, we can ensure that no child in West Berkshire goes hungry this summer".

CTAT General Election Hustings

To help us all vote in an informed way in the upcoming General Election, Churches Together in Tadley has organised a "hustings" meeting which will let you meet the candidates for the Northwest Hampshire constituency, and hear them answer questions on the most popular topics residents have raised.

The meeting will be on **Monday 1st July at 7.30-9pm** at St Mary's Church on Bishopswood Road.

We need your questions! To make sure the meeting truly covers the most important topics for this community, you can submit any questions that you want the candidates to answer, just by dropping a card in the black box in St. Michael's entrance area, via the QR Code on the screen or poster adjacent to the box, or via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/tadleyhustings24>

Your questions will be aggregated and summarised to enable the most popular topics to be answered by prospective parliamentary candidates on the night. Come along and hear the candidates before you vote!

Right to Life - Vote For Both Lives

The Right to Life charity have launched their 2024 general election campaign - the *Vote For Both Lives* campaign - a major initiative that we will run throughout the country in the lead-up to election day (4 July). The main goal of the campaign is to get as many people as possible to ask their MP candidates to sign the *Both Lives Pledge*.

In the next Parliament, the abortion lobby will likely be back in full force, pushing to introduce new extreme abortion legislation. This election is, therefore, all the more vital when it comes to life issues. Please take action and click the button below to ask your local candidates to *sign the Both Lives Pledge*. It only takes 30 seconds.

The *Both Lives Pledge* outlines three policy changes that are designed to increase protection for babies in the womb and stop pregnancy discrimination for women - policies that will save lives by protecting and supporting both mother and child.

Once you have asked your candidates to sign the pledge, please encourage as many friends and family as you can to ask their candidates to sign the pledge.

Diocesan Vacancies

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

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/>

Best wishes to you all, especially to all the fathers in both our communities for an enjoyable day on Sunday!

Father Patrick.

Fr. Patrick Tansey

Parish Priest

St Michael's Church, Tadley

St Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

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Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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