

## 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

### Safeguarding Officers:

Mrs Kath Murtagh (Tadley)  
0118 981 4658  
Mrs Ellen Goodall (Burghfield Common)  
0118 983 3332

### Parish Secretary:

Kathryn Garden  
Email: [tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Website: [www.stmandsto.org.uk](http://www.stmandsto.org.uk)

### Covenant to the People

If you would like help from the Covenant to the People scheme, please call Gerry Penfold during October. His number is 0118 9811247.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament is celebrated on request at the present time in the Parish Room at Tadley. Please book with Fr Tansey by telephone.

## NEWSLETTER

### The Twenty-Ninth Sunday

### in Ordinary Time

**17th October 2021**

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

### Tadley, Kingsclere and Burghfield Common Masses

6:00 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Tadley
9:00 am	Sunday Parish Mass	Tadley
11:00 am	Sunday Parish Mass	Burghfield Common

#### **Weekday Mass:**

12 noon	20 Oct	Feria	Tadley
12 noon	2 Nov	<u>Commemoration of All Souls</u>	Tadley

Advance booking is not required for weekend Masses but please telephone or email to advise if attending so Father Patrick can ensure we keep within acceptable numbers.

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### 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

**Entrance Antiphon:** To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

**Responsorial Psalm:** May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

#### Next Sunday's Reading (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Jeremiah 31:7-9. Hebrews 5:1-6. Mark 10:46-52

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### Diocesan Collections

This weekend there is an Obligatory Collection for The Foreign Missions.

### Mass Attendance on 9th/10th October 2021

Tadley 6:00pm: 30 Tadley 9:00am: 19  
Burghfield Common 11:00am: 30

### First Communion Forms

Next Sunday, 24th October, is the closing date for Applications for First Holy Communion to be given to Father Patrick

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### AN OFFENCE TO HUMAN DIGNITY?

We often forget that Saint Michael the Archangel held a prominent position in the academic and legal life of England before Henry VIII's break with Rome, and that position continues to the present day in spite of our growing secular society.

Michaelmas (the Mass of Saint Michael), celebrated on 29th September, and our Patronal Feast, marked the beginning of Michaelmas Term for universities and the Michaelmas Law Term for the legal profession. In Catholic England, those Terms would begin with the celebration of the Mass of Saint Michael.

On 1st October Cardinal Vincent Nichols said the 'Red Mass' in Westminster Cathedral for Catholic lawyers and other legal personages for the beginning of the Michaelmas Law Term. He used the occasion to address the recent High Court judgement against Heidi Crowter, who has Down's Syndrome, and Maire Lea-Wilson, who has a son with the same syndrome. The Cardinal described the judgement as an "offence" against the dignity that should be accorded to the disabled and others with medical conditions who, under our Abortion Law, can be destroyed up to the moment of birth.

Heidi and Maire brought a case against the clause in the 1967 Abortion Act that extends the right to abortion beyond the present 24-week upper limit of a pregnancy if the unborn child is disabled, even if it is a minor disability. They regarded it as a clause which discriminated against disabled children. Heidi intends to appeal against the judgement. She said, "We face discrimination every day in schools, in the workplace and in society. And now, thanks to this verdict, the judges have upheld discrimination in the womb too. This is a very sad day, but I will keep fighting".

Maire declared that she was "incredibly" sad and disappointed: "that the Court has chosen not to recognise the value and worth of people with Down's Syndrome, like my son Aidan".

Alithe Williams of The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children said that the two ladies had drawn attention to something our 'civilised' society ignores - "that babies can be legally killed, without anaesthetic, up to the very moment of birth, because they have Down's Syndrome or another disability".

In a finely argued Editorial, entitled 'Why the High Court is Wrong', The Tablet magazine noted that Maire Lea-Wilson, the mother of Aidan, had stated that she had been put under considerable pressure to have an abortion, offered little support, and given the impression that she was going against medical advice if she continued her pregnancy. The negativity she experienced seemed to suggest that "a life with Down's Syndrome was of no value".

The Editorial ended with the statement "This is but one step away from the horrors of Aktion T4 - the Nazi euthanasia programme for those deemed unworthy of life" (The Tablet 2/10/21).

On Friday 23rd October, Baroness Meacher's Assisted Dying Bill will be debated in the House of Lords. This aims to make legal the assisting of the suicide of a person who wishes to die before natural death. The Bill will be debated on the feast day of Saint John Paul II, and Bishop Philip asks that we seek his heavenly support in preventing the Bill being forwarded to The House of Commons for a further debate, bringing it closer to becoming part of the law of England and Wales. We might also ask Saint Michael to be with us on the day of battle!

Father Patrick

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## COELHO FAMILY THANKS

As parishioners know, Angela and José Coelho have been constantly in prayer at our Masses since having been hospitalised in Basingstoke with Covid some time ago.

Whilst Angela is now home, José, her husband, is still in the intensive care unit, and last Tuesday was very unwell.

The family express their thanks to Father Patrick and Kathy Knight, a family friend and parishioner, for ensuring that a priest was able to Anoint José that day. When Kathy informed Father Patrick of the situation he was able to contact Father Chris Whelan of Saint Joseph's Church, Basingstoke, who was on Hospital Call that week. Thanks to Father Chris for his prompt response and helpful words in the hospital.

Please continue to keep José, Angela and all the family in prayer - they appreciate our concern for them deeply.

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## THE UN COP26 APPROACHES!

### (i) Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament for COP26

Over the last few weeks Father Patrick has included frequent prayers in our weekend Masses for this important gathering of world leaders to address the serious Climate Crisis we have drifted into. Pope Francis hopes to attend the gathering at Glasgow, and we should all be focusing on the issues involved. There are no simple answers, and economic and industrial areas present particular problems.

For Christians, there is a real need to engage in this, alongside other Faiths and those who do not believe in God, ensuring that important moral considerations are not overlooked, nor damaging short-cuts adopted.

Bishop Philip asks that our Catholic communities have an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on the weekend of 30th/31st October for a good Conference. Ours will be from **10:00am-11:00am on Saturday 30th October** at Saint Michael's Church, led by Father Patrick.

### (ii) 'Coat of Hopes' for COP26 Conference

Marie Roberts of our parish has let Father Patrick know that our CAFOD group has agreed that she contribute a patch to the 'Coat of Hopes'. This patchwork creation is being worn by pilgrims who are walking from Newhaven on the South Coast to Glasgow, and it is hoped that it will be presented to world leaders at the COP26 Climate Conference at the beginning of November.

Marie's patch is based on Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter 'Laudato Si' (on the Care for our Common Home) as part of the CAFOD campaign. She created the patch on 'CAFOD Family Fast Day' (1st October), below is a picture of it:



Also, our thanks to Marie for agreeing to represent our Parish at Saint Paul's Church last Thursday on 'Creating Safe Spaces for Children' who are fostered or adopted, which the Reverend Richard Harlow appreciated.

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### "VIVA VOCE" AVAILABLE THIS WEEKEND

The Autumn edition arrived last Sunday afternoon at the Presbytery, and our thanks to Helen Warner's brother for delivering it from Basingstoke. Father Patrick has copies for those who want them.

The front page has a major article on the Symposium 'Politics and Religion', organised by the Diocese for Saturday 6th November. Details of how to book are given.

Also, articles about CARITAS, Healing and Prayer Ministry, the Spirituality Team and the Ananais Project are to be found in this edition. Get to know your Diocese!

There is also an interesting article on the Healing and Prayer Ministry in the recent Diocesan e-News, contributed by Geoff Poulter of our Parish, who is a member of the Diocesan Healing Ministry Team.

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### TWO BISHOPS OF PORTSMOUTH?

Our Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth sits alongside an Anglican Diocese of Portsmouth, albeit one smaller in size to ours. There has been a good Ecumenical relationship between both, and Bishop Philip has welcomed Bishop Jonathan Frost to the City, looking forward to working with him in our Christian journey. He succeeds Bishop Christopher Foster.

Bishop Frost is 57, and will be responsible for 133 parishes across south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. He is married to Christine and has three adult children. We wish him well in his new ministry.

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### A GREATLY APPRECIATED DONATION

Father Patrick has received a donation of £500 towards the upkeep of the Church to be used at his discretion. This kind donation is in memory of Sam Alexander, who passed away on 20th September 1980, from his wife Grace Mary Alexander, who used to attend Saint Michael's Church some time ago. Father Patrick extends his sincere thanks to Grace and her family.

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### ADORE MINI-RETREAT FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

As part of their 2021 programme: 'Alive In The Spirit' in response to Pope Francis' encouragement to be "baptised in the Spirit", ADoRE are offering an online spiritual mini-retreat on Saturday 23rd October from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

The theme will be "**Guidance of the Holy Spirit**" and will include Mass, Adoration, prophetic reflection, praise, inspiring talk and sharing. If you are interested

please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at [bit.ly/ADOREOCT2021](https://bit.ly/ADOREOCT2021). More details on the ADoRE website [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com)

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### MARRIAGE CARE, READING, WRITES:

Dear Father Patrick, Do you know anyone in your parish who might be interested in helping marriages in crisis?

As you may already know, Marriage Care provides relationship counselling on a donation basis to clients throughout England and Wales. Throughout the pandemic they have continued to offer this service using webcam and the demand has increased so much that they now have over 400 couples waiting for counselling. In order to meet this growing demand, Marriage Care is offering Relationship Counselling training to suitable candidates. The course lasts for two years and successful trainees will receive a recognised qualification at the end. There is an initial charge of £150 and then donations are invited to cover the costs of the residential parts of the course.

They ask that the following be put in our Newsletter:

*'Are you a natural, empathic listener, looking for an opportunity to develop and use your skills to help couples in distress? Marriage Care in Reading is looking for volunteer counsellors. We will train you on our Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) providing you with all the skills, knowledge and practical experience you need to start counselling couples safely and effectively. For the right candidate this will be a life-changing opportunity to train and volunteer within a supportive, nurturing and inspiring community and make the world of difference to couples and families. For further details visit [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or contact Sue Cooper at [sue.cooper@marriagecare.org](mailto:sue.cooper@marriagecare.org)'*

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### HELP URGENTLY NEEDED - CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

(i) Helen Warner of our Tadley community writes about The Christmas Crib for Saint Michael's Church:

"Calling all you artisans out there - is there someone (or more) who would love to bring their fresh ideas to displaying the Christmas Crib and take the lead? We would love to hear from you and discuss what might be possible in these restrictive times. Please contact Helen Warner (0118 981 2107) asap so we can plan ahead. Please help. Thank you!"

(ii) Ray Chalk of Tadley Common Methodist Church writes:

"The Good news is that we will be putting on a Pantomime this year, involving youngsters and not-so-youngsters both on and off stage. The less good news is that we do not have enough helpers at the moment to make this happen. We are therefore looking for help. No skills required, Just a willingness to be available for some of the time on Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons and in the evenings of 30 November to 4 December. Even if you can only manage a few of the times, that would be helpful. If you think you may be able to help at all, or would like more information, please contact the Producer at [christchurchplayers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:christchurchplayers@hotmail.co.uk)

## ONGOING MAINTENANCE - NO BREAK!

Our thanks to Robert May and Andy Hunneman of our Parish Finance Committee who will endeavour to repair the potholes in Saint Michael's Church car park this Sunday, 17th October, after the end of 9:00am Mass.

We have no funds to do a proper refurbishment of the area but it has to be addressed because of Health and Safety concerns expressed by our Diocesan authorities as the winter approaches.

Please do not use the area from 12 noon on Sunday 17th October to Tuesday 19th October. Should you do so and there is damage to your vehicle or to yourself, the Parish and Diocese cannot accept liability.

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## COURSES FOR PARENTS AND READERS

Sister Hyacinthe Defos writes:

Our team is offering the following initiatives which may be of interest to your parishioners and readers.

### Passing on love for the Eucharist to our Children

In this Year of the Eucharist our Formation for Mission Team is offering an opportunity to share advice and ideas on how to foster love for the Eucharist in our families.

We are offering 4 online sessions for parents, grandparents, catechists, teachers and everyone passionate about passing on love for the Eucharist to our children, led by Sr Hyacinthe and Angela Wood, with practical advice, discussions, testimonies and prayer, finishing each session with a Adoration.

The sessions will run on **Mondays, from the 22nd November to the 13th December at 7.00pm.**

The sessions will be:

1. Why the Eucharist is Important and how to pass on love of the Eucharist
2. Going to Mass as a Family
3. Making the Home a Place of Communion
4. Taking and Making Opportunities to foster love for the Eucharist

Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucOmsqDgoGN1pyBB7YAfHGV4\\_u8kemJ8e](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucOmsqDgoGN1pyBB7YAfHGV4_u8kemJ8e)

### Workshops for Parish Readers

Two workshops to equip parish readers will be offered on **Saturdays 4th and 11th of December, from 10am to 1pm.**

The first workshop covers an introduction to the Liturgy of the Church, with a specific focus on the Liturgy of the Word, as well as the Reading Skills necessary for parish readers. The second workshop offers a general introduction to the Bible as well as a set of keys to understand any biblical texts. Both workshops are led by a diocesan team: Deacon Martin McElroy from Winchester, Claire Tickell from Southampton and Sr Hyacinthe from the Lymington Dominican Sisters.

Both workshops involve small group discussions. To complete the training, awarded with a diocesan *Recognitio*, a reading practice with a diocesan listener is required. The details for arranging for the 1:1 15 minutes practice are given during the

workshops. Please advertise the workshops in your parish, for new and seasoned readers, especially now as we're getting back to church.

Find out more and register here for the workshops: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/readers>

### Wednesday Communion

The Dominican Sisters are launching a new initiative this Advent, to mark the Year of the Eucharist, called Wednesday Communion.

This weekly online meeting with the sisters will consist of:

A time of shared Lectio Divina on the first reading of the coming Sunday (especially helpful for readers!),

A time of fellowship, getting to know each other and share our stories,

A time of intercession for each other, for the Church and for the world

A time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament through the sisters' livestream in their chapel.

We hope that you'll take this opportunity to join us whenever you can on Wednesday. We hope this will be a precious time of fellowship and prayer, in communion with Jesus present in his Word and Sacrament.

Find out more and register here: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/wednesday-communion>

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## CATCHING UP!

Just to remind you that Father Patrick will not be available from Monday 25th October to Saturday 30th October.

The Parish Office will be open from Tuesday 26th October to Friday 29th October, from 9:30am to 2:30pm each day and the weekend Masses on 30th and 31st October are celebrated as usual.

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### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022**

Father Patrick would like to know by Sunday 24th October 2021 the names of all those who wish to receive the Sacrament of the Altar in 2022. They must be aged 8 years by the end of August 2022 and should be regular Church attendees.

**Name of Candidate:**

**Address:**

**Telephone Number:**

**Email Address:**

**Date of Birth:**

**Names of Parents:** (who agree to participate in the Preparation Programme)

*Completed forms should be returned in an envelope addressed to:*

Father Patrick Tansey  
St Michael's Presbytery  
Bishopswood Road  
Tadley RG26 4HG