

**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:**

Mrs Barbara Davis  
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 Bill Reilly on (0118) 9813784 during June.

**NEWSLETTER 21st June—28th June**

**2020 AD**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

### THE DAY FOR LIFE

This Sunday is The Day for Life, when we are called to pray about the importance of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Possibly this year we could reflect upon the long overdue reform of social care for the elderly in our care homes.

Previous governments have repeatedly side-lined this important area, depending upon low paid carers, many from other parts of the world, placing considerable strain upon The National Health Service when no care can be provided immediately. It is a scandal that many elderly patients were returned to care homes without proper testing for the Coronavirus, to make beds available for those who had developed it in everyday life. It is generally acknowledged that this was a major factor in the unintended spread of the virus in these homes. Only belatedly did we recognise the dedication of these carers alongside the courageous service of National Health Service workers, from consultants to hospital cleaners, also on low pay. The Lord often speaks through the storm if we have ears to hear calling for a new direction.

There would normally be an Obligatory Collection this weekend.

---- + ----

### FEAST OF THE WEEK

Wednesday 24TH June is The Solemnity of The Birth of John the Baptist; he of whom Jesus said: 'Of all men born of women, there is none greater than John the Baptist.'

In the memorable words of St Augustine of Hippo (4th Century):

'The Church observes the day of John's birth as a holy day: none of the Fathers is thus solemnly commemorated. We celebrate John's birth as we celebrate Christ's.'

HAPPY CELEBRATION!

---- + ----

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul is celebrated on the week-end of 27th/28th June, and normally there would be The Peter's Pence Collection that week-end.

## THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS:

Hopefully, on Friday 19th June, parishioners kept the Solemnity of The Sacred Heart of Jesus in prayer and festal rejoicing, enjoying meat on a Friday as it was not a day of abstinence.

June is a month dedicated to The Sacred Heart. Although the devotion goes back centuries, it was the visions granted in 1673 to 1675 to St Margaret Mary Alacoque which gave us its present form. Jesus spoke to her personally in them, calling her to promote this modern devotion, especially to sinners.

A French nun, some of her fellow nuns were somewhat irritated when they were told by her that she had been asked to embrace their shortcomings in prayer and sacrifice! Others regarded her as suffering from delusions. A supposed community of peace was thrown into disarray—but Jesus does that to some Christian communities to give them the opportunity to recognise they are not as perfect as they think. Also, to individuals who regard themselves as on the road to perfection but are far from it. Pope Francis sees something of this in the coronavirus pandemic—'In a sick world we thought we could stay healthy ...'

During this problematic time she received the support of an holy and experienced Jesuit priest, St Claude La Colombière. When she died in 1690, any opposition from her community had ceased.

It might be said that La Colombière brought the devotion to Protestant England. In 1676 he was appointed Chaplain to the Duke and Duchess of York at St James' Palace. The Duke was the brother of King Charles II and was married to the Catholic princess Mary of Modena. James, Duke of York, had converted to Catholicism. The appointment was fraught with danger. King Charles was married to the Portuguese Catholic princess Catherine of Braganza. Their marriage certificate can be seen in the Anglican Cathedral in Portsmouth, a Catholic ceremony having taken place before she landed in England to ensure a valid marriage in Catholic teaching. Extreme Protestants could smell the 'stench' of Catholicism in Charles' Court.

In 1678, the Popish Plot, a wild conspiracy claiming England would be invaded by Catholic France and James put on the throne after Charles II was assassinated, resulted in La Colombière's arrest and imprisonment.

Royal protection ensured that, in spite of great suffering, he was exiled rather than executed. But in its early days the modern devotion had found good soil in England. And Charles, The Merry Monarch, would die a Catholic, received into the Church on his death-bed by a priest he had kept with him because of his help during the English Civil War.

---- + ----

## IN PRAYER

- (1) Please keep Alex and Tasha in your prayers. The news about their baby boy is wonderful, and it is hoped that with the assistance of medical support he will be born in a few weeks. Joan Curran is greatly appreciative of all the prayers - keep them journeying to Heaven.
- (2) Kathy M Donald, a Kingsclere parishioner, is in hospital in London, but hopes to be transferred to Basingstoke Hospital soon. Father Patrick is grateful to Ann Palmer for letting him know.
- (3) Jane Sydenham is in Basingstoke Hospital, with back problems, so we do not forget her and her husband.
- (4) Dennis Healey is recovering from his recent operation, and we continue to remember him and Liz.
- (5) Mark, a friend of Jenny Seaborn, is doing as well as possible with cancer, but would appreciate our prayers.
- (6) Malcolm is grateful for our prayers as he recovers from his nose cancer operation.

All Parishioners are remembered in Father Patrick's Pro Populo (For the People) Mass each week, known and unknown. Please keep him in your prayers.

---- + ----

## WEST BERKSHIRE FOOD BANK, BURGHFIELD AND MORTIMER FOOD BANK CENTRE

Jane Steeds of our St Oswald Community has asked that the following be put in our Newsletter:

*Thank you for all the ways you have supported the West Berkshire Food Bank, Burghfield and Mortimer Food Bank Centre in the past.*

*You will probably be aware that due to the Coronavirus Pandemic the number of people experiencing unemployment has increased and that this number is likely to continue to rise in the immediate future. As a result the West Berkshire*

*Food Bank is experiencing significantly greater demand for Food Parcels than normal. Could you please continue to donate food, bearing in mind these difficult circumstances, as you are able.*

*All types of tinned and packeted food normally given out in a Food Parcel are needed.*

*In order to make food giving easier it is now possible, as well as giving via the **collection points in Budgens—Mortimer and Tesco—Burghfield Common**, to arrange collection **from your doorstep**. When you have food ready to collect you can arrange a collection appointment by **calling 07955626621**.*

*This is a new service so please be patient.*

---- + ----

### RETURNING TO PRAYER

Aggie Michalec, one of the St Oswald Community has very kindly forwarded on a link to a short video, explaining how to pray when the churches reopen.

<https://youtu.be/32k8CNZSJvc>

---- + ----

### RE-OPENING OF OUR CHURCHES-UPDATE

#### THANKS:

Father Patrick is grateful to Hugh Lobo for organising a team of volunteers who came to St Michael's on Saturday afternoon and helped move the pews and arrange chairs at a safe distance in preparation for reopening for Private Prayer. Grateful thanks and appreciation also to Hugh Lobo, his daughter Anna, Roy Singh, Gerry Penfold, and a new parishioner, Kevin, all responding to the request for help. Also thanks to Tony Darroch for his excellent advice and assistance with the Health and Safety Risk Assessment that has to be completed before the church can be reopened.

A separate information sheet has been circulated from the Parish Office this week, so please read it and consider whether or not you are able to volunteer in any way. Volunteers will be expected to comply with the relevant regulations.

St Bede's Church re-opened for Private Prayer on Monday 15th June, from 10.15 am—5.00 pm Monday to Saturday (Please note that the original closure time of 5.30 pm has

ceased because of the limited number of stewards available.)

On Sunday the church is open from 12 noon—5.00 pm and Holy Ghost Church remains closed at present.

---- + ----

### EVANGELISATION STRATEGY TEAM UPDATE

On Wednesday 17th June, in a socially distanced meeting of 3 hours, Gerry Penfold and Gina Poulter (Tadley) and Rick Wallis (Burghfield Common) met with Father Patrick to begin addressing a VISION for our Parish in the coming years, especially in the continuing context of Coronavirus. Sarah Hunneman (Burghfield Common) was unable to attend due to work commitments. The Vision, which will be the prelude to a Mission Statement, will involve Parish consultation in the coming months. The process may take considerable time and will ultimately need to be 'owned' by all and 'promoted' by all in the years to come. Pope Francis is urging the Church to seize this moment of change by entering into a deeper understanding of our Christian calling, enabling The Holy Spirit to lead us into unchartered territory. Please keep us all in prayer - and ask The Holy Spirit to enable you to engage in the process.

---- + ----

### 70TH BIRTHDAY THANKS!

Father Patrick expresses his deep thanks to all in the Parish who made his 70th Birthday on 11th June an unforgettable event in an unforgettable time of History! It was a Birthday to remember.

The large number of cards; the collection of wines and spirits; generous monetary gifts and the moving wishes for a good day with other gifts touched him deeply. Also the book token and congratulations from his CTAT Church Leaders. He will do his best to thank people personally, but apologises if he does not manage to do so to all—the number of 'Thanks' is pleasingly long!

A special 'thank you' to his brother and sister-in-law who arrived as a complete surprise bearing gifts and an excellent ' Birthday Lunch'. Also to our part-time Secretary, Barbara, for putting bunting and balloons outside the Presbytery early that morning, which was a pleasant surprise when seen.

An unforgettable day!

---- + ----

### TADLEY GARDENERS - WELCOME BACK!

Brenda O'Donovan has been looking at the gardens at St Michael's Church with Father Patrick over the last few days. They have agreed, with social distancing and compliance with relevant regulations being observed, Gardening will resume on Sunday 4th July from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Volunteers are asked to contact Barbara on 01189 814269. Please note that there will be no access to The Parish Room and only the church can be entered, if open, for Private Prayer. All toilets are closed and volunteers need to bring their own drink and food for the gardening period, removing all items afterwards. It is advised that they bring sanitiser with them, as well as gloves and face masks if required.

---- + ----

### BURGHFIELD COMMON HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICE

On Tuesday 16th June, Father Patrick and Barbara, met with a very helpful and professional member of DYNOROD to look at the drains on site at St Oswald's. Three of the covers - the two outside the Boiler Room area and one right facing the wall to the Leonard Rooms - are unsafe to stand on and need to be replaced. Parishioners and others are advised to take care as the Parish cannot accept liability if the above is not noted. The covers will be replaced as soon as possible.

Sincere thanks to Barry Rockhill for placing cones on the abovementioned drain covers.

---- + ----

### ST ANTHONY'S DAY

Father Patrick is pictured by the statue of St Anthony of Padua in St Michael's Church. Each year, Micheal Connolly brings some fine Lilies for Anthony's Feastday of 13th June. In spite of his recent bad fall and short hospitalisation during the lockdown, he delivered some again this year. It was good to speak with him—at a distance. Keep him in prayer.



----  
--

+ --

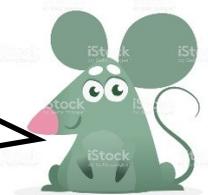
### THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED FROM MIDDAY FRIDAY 19TH JUNE TO TUESDAY 23RD JUNE

---- + ----

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR DADS! AND A SAD FAREWELL TO DAME VERA LYNN RIP

Dear Young People

It would be lovely to hear from you if you would like to send in any prayers for publication or if you have any recipes for Fr Patrick to cook!



H M S N O O L L A B  
A T H U R S D A Y S  
P A Y T N E V E S E  
P I S I N G K I U L  
Y J U N E A C A R D  
P M A T C H I O P N  
F F A T H E R J R A  
E L E V E N T H I C  
B I R T H D A Y S S  
T N E S E R P M E L