

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
Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

Covenant to the People

If you would like help from the Covenant to the People scheme, please call Gerry Penfold on (0118) 9811247 during January 2021.

NEWSLETTER

23rd/24th and 30th/31st January 2021

**The 3RD AND 4TH SUNDAYS IN
ORDINARY TIME**

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

WELCOME BACK:

Our Newsletter returns in the continuing pandemic as Mrs Davis has returned to work from 13th January 2021. However, during the present lockdown she will be working from home as far as possible, only visiting the Parish Office for essential matters with Diocesan permission. She will now be adhering strictly to her set hours and Father Patrick will also be reducing his work commitment to ensure a balanced life-style. So apologies if e-mails and telephone calls are not addressed as promptly as in the past.

A sincere 'Thank You!' to those who have contributed to Father Patrick's Christmas Collection during these difficult times, for the many Christmas cards and gifts, and the warm messages of support in respect of continuing Masses and telephone support from the Presbytery. At the present moment the Collection comes to £1,427.70.

CATHEDRAL COLLECTION:

This weekend we take the annual collection in support of your Cathedral in Portsmouth.

Appeal envelopes are available at all Masses for those who do not have gift aided planned giving envelopes for second collections. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family.

Due to lockdown and restrictions being imposed on many people travelling, a 'Give as you Live' page has also been created to enable you to donate online at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>

Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

Announcement at Sunday Masses Weekend of 23rd/24th January 2021

This weekend we make our second annual appeal for financial as-

sistance for your Cathedral in Portsmouth. This annual collection is the only financial support your Cathedral receives from the wider diocesan family.

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TIME OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This runs from Monday 18th January to Monday 25th January (The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul). There will be no CTAT Christian Unity Service this year until Sunday 21st February (The First Sunday of Lent). More details about this later, but put the date in your diary and the time of 4.00 pm. It will be a ZOOM Service, and will include a Farewell to The Reverend Gill Sakakini and her husband Steve.

Fr Patrick and The Reverend Gill have enjoyed working together as close neighbours at St Michael's Church and St Mary's Church, and she will be deeply missed by all in CTAT (Churches Together Around Tadley). Her husband Steve has also been a delight to know.

The Reverend Gill moves to Shepton Mallet, where she will be involved in Arts Ministry, where her fine creative ability should flourish in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Somerset.

The CTAT Forum on 14th January went very well, ZOOM again enabling representatives from our church communities to engage with their clergy in continuing to move forward in spite of coronavirus. Many thanks to Mary Lee and Pauline Penfold, our representatives, for their work, and it was good to hear a generous tribute from the Reverend Ruth Midcalf concerning the contribution of the St Michael's community to The Advent Shed evenings in respect of singing.

Thanks were expressed to The Reverend Richard Harlow and Pastor Greg Whittick as they retired as Moderators, to be replaced by The Reverend Kay Blackwell and The Reverend Ruth Midcalf.

The Sunday morning Mass at St Michael's Church on 10.00 am on 24th January will be a Votive Mass for Christian Unity

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PARISH CONDOLENCES

The Funeral Mass for Veronica McHale at St Michael's Church on Tuesday 19th January was a moving event,

and our condolences to Paddy her husband and all family and friends. Many thanks to Geoff and Gina Poulter who acted as Stewards, taking this burden off the family at a difficult time. Although only thirty people could attend the Mass, a large number of people paid their respects in silence outside the Church grounds, many staying throughout the Mass in dreary weather. Thanks to Terina of Ash Brook Funeral Directors and her gentlemen for ensuring that all was done well in these difficult circumstances. In normal times the church would have been full. It was a great support for the family.

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THE TADLEY HUB IS THERE TO HELP!

The Tadley Hub (Tadley and District Community Association) is based at The Link and the Point, deploying volunteers to assist with shopping, prescription collection and other assistance. The Hub can be contacted on 0118 981 4538, and there is a Poster in the glass case at St Michael's Church. Our Tadley Churches support this local effort in this time of pandemic.

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JOB VACANCY

Vacancy - St John the Baptist, Andover Parish - Parish Secretary

Part time: 22 hours per week

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary at St John the Baptist parish, Andover to work 22 hours per week to be accountable for the smooth organisation of the parish and provide full confidential administrative and secretarial support to the parish priest. Hours of work: Part time post 22 hours per week days and times to be agreed.

Experience and Qualifications required for role:

An experienced administrator with excellent secretarial, interpersonal, time management and prioritisation skills. Computer literature, skilled in word-processing, spreadsheets and data management as well as excellent internet and all-round office skills. Excellent communication skills to promote effective interaction between clergy, area administrators and parishioners as well as managing the day-to-day management of the Parish hall. Knowledge of parish and diocesan organisation structure (desirable).

Personal Attributes:

Self-motivated with the ability to work without supervision: taking initiative and using judgement; able to work under pressure, cope with change and deal with conflicting demands and differing personalities. Diplomatic, discreet with a sympathetic nature and emotional resilience. Sympathetic to the Ministry and Mission of the Catholic

Church.

Closing date for applications: 28th February 2021. Interview date: Friday 5th March 2021

Application forms and Job Description are available from: the Parish Office Tel: 01264 352829 or email: stjtb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Mrs Teresa Lynam,
Parish Administrator
St John the Baptist Catholic Church,
Alexandra Road,
Andover, SP10 3AD.
Tel: 01264 352829
www.catholic-andover.org.uk

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HAS THE EVANGELISATION STRATEGY TEAM (EST) been in your prayers during the present lockdown?

It hopes to meet via ZOOM on Friday 29th January. Pray that The Holy Spirit will enable Father Patrick, Gerry Penfold, Gina Poulter, Sarah Hunneman and Rick Wallis to discern clearly the way our Parish communities should move forward in these strange times. As Jesus prayed in The Garden of Gethsemane: 'Not my will but thine be done,' calling us to seek first the Will of the Father, wherever it leads.

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CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE

Dear Father Patrick,

A Happy New Year to you! Thank you for your support of our work at Catholic Marriage Care over the past years. Despite these challenging times, Marriage Care's support for marriage through relationship counselling and marriage preparation continues. We have moved all our face-to-face services to online alternatives using effective webcam technology, ensuring that we are able to continue to support as many people as possible.

COVID-19 has put increasing pressure on relationships and we urge couples to seek the support or expert help they need before they reach breaking point. Marriage Care offers a donation-only counselling service so that anyone can access support whatever their financial circumstances.

Marriage Preparation has also moved online and we continue to offer both Preparing Together and FOCCUS. Our Preparing Together day has been adapted to be delivered in three sessions of 90 minutes a week apart over Zoom allowing more time for the couples to complete the activities and to reflect on the commitment that they are going to make. One couple commented: "The three sessions were fun and thought-provoking and getting to meet other couples in the same position as ourselves made it a wonderful

experience. We feel much better prepared for our wedding as well as our married life together." We also offer FOCCUS marriage preparation online. This consists of individual couples completing an online inventory covering all aspects of married life including finances, communication, problem solving, sexual issues, extended family issues and also religion, covenant and commitment. A report is then generated and the couple discuss the findings with a trained facilitator in two sessions over Zoom. One couple recently commented after doing FOCCUS: "It was really nice working with you and to get the conversation started as to those difficult subjects we tend to shy away from. Thank you for listening and encouraging the conversation."

Further information and details on how to book either our counselling or marriage preparation services can be found on the marriage care website: www.marriagecare.org.uk

We hope to return to face-to-face work later in the year and we will keep you informed of any developments.

If you would like to discuss any of this further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Regards
Sue Cooper

Head of Reading Centre, Catholic Marriage Care
(A parishioner of Corpus Christi, Wokingham)
07939495774

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WHAT DO YOU THINK OF OUR DIOCESE?

Bishop Philip is asking parishioners to respond to our online questionnaire which has been running over Christmas and continues until the end of January. It will enable him to assess priorities for the future.

No doubt those who are technologically adept will have seen details about it on the Diocesan E News or on the Diocesan Website and will have responded.

However, for the many who do not engage with these, a paper version is available. If you require this, please leave a message for Chris Smith, our Director of Communications, on 02394 216496, asking for it to be posted to you and giving details of your name and address. Do so this weekend please.

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THANK YOU

Barbara expresses her sincere thanks and appreciation for all the prayers said and messages sent to her from Parishioners.

DIOCESAN 2ND COLLECTION LIST FOR
2021–2022

OBLIGATORY

Clergy Training Fund	25 April 2021
World Communications	16 May 2021
Day for Life	13 June 2021
Peter's Pence	27 June 2021
Apostleship of the Sea	11 July 2021
Home Mission Sunday	19 September 2021
World Missions	24 October 2021
Bamenda	7 November 2021
Cathedral	23 January 2022
Clergy Assistance Fund	27 March 2022

HOLY PLACES COLLECTION DOES NOT FALL DURING THIS FINANCIAL YEAR

OPTIONAL

Catholic Education Service	5 September 2021
CAFOD Harvest	2 October 2021
Racial justice	30 January 2022
CAFOD Lent Day	13 March 2022

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