

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 Bill Reilly during August (01189 813784) and Gerry Penfold during September (00189 811247).

NEWSLETTER

23rd August — 5th September 2020 AD

THE 21st & 22nd SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

CORONAVIRUS PARISH BULLETIN

PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

MOVING FORWARD AS A CORONAVIRUS PARISH

At the end of July, Fr Patrick received a most affirmative personal letter from Bishop Philip, commending him for his priestly leadership and example. Bishop Philip added that this leadership in Tadley has facilitated the growth and development of some remarkable laity and lay leaders, with many gifts to share with the wider Diocese, including Gerry Penfold and others.

In his reply, Fr Patrick spoke of moving forward in mission as The Coronavirus Parish, alongside the other Christian Churches in Tadley and Burghfield Common, as part of the Diocese of Portsmouth. He told Bishop Philip of the support received from many in both our communities and that he would let them know of the Bishop's high regard for them.

At present the Evangelisation Strategy Team (EST) is hoping that parishioners will respond by the end of August to the PARISH VISION item in 26th July - 8th August 2020 Newsletter. MOVING FORWARD involves every member of the Parish, not merely a few individuals, as we face the new challenges of the pandemic which is still with us, and will be well into 2021 if not beyond. PLEASE DO RESPOND TO THE ARTICLE BELOW IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

PARISH VISION - YOUR INPUT!

The Evangelisation Strategy Team (EST), (Fr Patrick, Sarah Hunneman, Rick Wallis, Gina Poulter and Gerry Penfold) have begun thinking about what our parish will look and feel like in 5-10 years' time. This builds on the output from the open meeting that took place last October. As part of our thinking, we have come up with a set of individual words that describe our parish in the future. We would like to test these words with as many parishioners as possible to see which ones best fit your vision of our parish. This input will be really important in shaping our plans for the future and prioritising what we are able to do with limited resources.

So we have created a survey which will enable you to select up to 10 words from a list of around 45 and also to add one or two of your own if you wish. The survey will remain open until **31st August 2020**. We will then collate all the input and share the result with everyone via the newsletter and the parish website. So please reflect on what you would like the parish to look and feel like and pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit so that the words that emerge are truly God's vision for our parish. When you are ready, please go to the survey

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/2e0e>

and complete it before the deadline. The more parishioners that complete it the better! If you do not have access to the internet, please contact any member of the EST for a paper copy of the word list which can be completed and handed in to the Parish Office, just like the online version.

EST MEMBERS CONTACT DETAILS:

Gerry Penfold	07802 608549
Gina Poulter	01256 541052
Rick Wallis	07966 167946

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MASSES DURING SEPTEMBER

'Thank you' to all who have enabled two weekend Masses to be celebrated during August. Since the beginning of the month, the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Tadley has been fully booked, Fr Patrick having to turn away some people on the day. A number of these have transferred to 10.30 am Sunday Mass at St Oswald's Church, whilst others booking for Tadley have asked to be put on the Sunday List if no Tadley places are available. The members at Burghfield Common have grown steadily. There has also been an opportunity after both Masses for people to chat at a social distance and to re-establish 'human' contact. This was particularly evident at both churches last week-end.

We shall continue with the two week-end Masses as already established during September, during which time Fr Patrick hopes to introduce some week-day Masses. We celebrate The Patronal Feast of St Michael's Church on 29th September (Michaelmas), so this will be one of them. More news later, when the availability of cleaners is established. Also, Stewards will be required for any week-day Masses, as this is necessary under Diocesan Guidelines and also important for Government track and trace directives. If you would like to volunteer for cleaning at Tadley or Burghfield Common, or to Steward at either church, please let the Parish Office know. Again, a special 'Thank you' to our part-time secretary, for ensuring that the requisite numbers for both churches are clearly established from bookings each week.

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BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

Parishioners should now be aware that they need to book for a Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass from 10.30 am each Tuesday to 12.30 pm each Thursday. Bookings after this time will not be accepted, as announced at our Masses last week-end. A considerable amount of time is now taken by Barbara having to process requests each week, ensuring that all the de-

tails are properly logged in case there is an outbreak of the virus in our area. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE PANDEMIC IS NOT OVER, AND THERE IS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN THAT THERE MAY BE A SERIOUS RESURGENCE FROM OCTOBER ONWARDS. Our Bishops have stressed that the necessary precautions must be followed before a church re-opens. If you have not booked within the requisite time, feel free to check with Fr Patrick if a place is still available on Saturday morning. However, do not feel disappointed if one is not available. He appreciates your understanding.

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DIOCESAN COURSE FOR CATECHISTS, CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS AND OTHERS CONCERNED TO PASS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Sister Hyacinthe, OP, has requested that the following information is made available to Parishioners. It would be particularly good if our Children Liturgy Leaders across the Parish Area came together in respect of this Course - so over to you! Now would be a good time for both our groups to engage in joint discussion on how we engage with parents and young people in the forthcoming months.

Diocesan Course for Catechists, Children's Liturgy Leaders, and for everyone keen to pass on the faith to others, in 5 sessions.

The sessions will be from 3.30 pm until 5.00 pm and will take place on Thursdays 27th August, 3rd September, 10th September, 17th September, and 24th September.

A certificate will be issued on completion of the 5 sessions.

The course is free, and open to everyone. It will be led by Sr Hyacinthe.

Here is the link to register for the course on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErdOuvqj8rH939R-On1G6B6QdInlTQbt5n>

We're also preparing a series of videos to introduce the new directory for catechesis, and this will be followed by a course on the directory.

We will also move our readers formation online and are in the process of preparing this.

Further information from:

Sr Hyacinthe Defos du Rau, OP

Formation for Mission Team Leader

Department for Evangelisation

Tel: 0150681874

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'THANK YOU' AGAIN TO OUR LOCAL KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

Fr Patrick has written to the Knights expressing his thanks for a further cheque of £100.00, which amount is being sent to all our local Parishes as a small contribution towards the serious shortfall in finance experienced by the lack of collections from March 2020.

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PARISH FINANCE UPDATE

Helen Warner asks that parishioners remember that this coming week will be their last chance to make up for previous missed PARISH/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND FATHER PATRICK'S EASTER OFFERINGS.

Both she and Fr recognize that this is a difficult financial time for all of us, and that they greatly appreciate the kindness of those parishioners who have been sending cheques and monies to cover the outstanding months as reasonably as possible. Also, those who have been continuing to support our Parish Area through online banking and by placing donations in the Parish and Special Collection Boxes in our Churches. They also stress that any Parishioners feeling financial difficulties should not feel guilty nor should they worry if they are not able to contribute as before.

The Church in England and Wales, as in other parts of the globe, is facing difficult financial decisions for the future. Our Diocese is looking at the problems confronting us, and is engaging in a consultation with clergy concerning the effect of the pandemic on our parishes financially. Challenging times ahead!

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GARDENING UPDATE

On Thursday morning 21st August, Agnieszka Michalec of our Burghfield Common community sent the photograph below. With Veronika Kucharcikova and two of her children, Patrick and Sarah, Aggie did some weeding and tidying up by the front border and around the Statue of the Virgin Mary behind St Oswald's Church. Congratulations to the youngsters, and Patrick has some more ideas about tidying up the next time. More news later.

It was good to welcome Veronika and Martin and family back to St Oswald's Church last Sunday, following the Baptism of Maria in Slovakia recently. Fr Patrick was delighted to welcome Maria as a new member of our Christian community.

The Tadley Gardeners gather again on Saturday 5th September from 10.00 pm - 2.00 pm, at St Michael's Church



IT LOOKS AMAZING!

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO OUR JUNIOR GARDENERS

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I AM

Bishop Philip writes:

A good number from across the Diocese have signed up to the new Chris Stefanick online coaching program "I AM". It uses a series of online videos and personal emails to help participants reflect on the way they talk to themselves and to realign their thoughts with the Word of God. At the end of the program they will have explored seven "I AM" statements about their God-given identity and hopefully will have gained a deeper understanding of the love God has for them. I believe it is important to support this program at this time because it is a way of ministering on a personal level to our parishioners, especially those troubled by the disruption of the pandemic. Many will have started the year with good intentions and big dreams, and now find themselves disappointed, grief struck, isolated and feeling lonely. You can help spread the word to those in need by placing an advert in your own newsletter. The explanatory videos are here: <https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/a/25768/3fRt36iv>. The participant pays a charge on sign up (\$37 or c. £30).

Fr Patrick apologises for those, like himself, who would prefer the English 'programme' rather than the American 'program'!

C'est la vie!

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