

## 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 Bill Reilly on 0118 9813784 during December or Gerry Penfold on 0118 9811247 during January.

### 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 but he is not available to celebrate the Sacrament until 4th January 2022.



### NEWSLETTER

The Nativity of The Lord

The Holy Family

Second Sunday of Christmas

Epiphany

### Tadley, Kingsclere and Burghfield Common Masses



#### Christmas Eve - Friday 24th December

6.00pm Vigil Mass for Christmas Tadley (full)

#### Christmas Day - Saturday 25th December

9.00am Nativity of The Lord Tadley (full)

11.00am Nativity of The Lord Burghfield Common

*No Saturday evening Mass*

#### Feast of the Holy Family - Sunday 26th December

9.00am Mass Tadley

11.00am Mass Burghfield Common

#### Mary, The Holy Mother of God - Friday 31st December

6.00pm Mass Tadley

#### Second Sunday of Christmas - Sunday 2nd January

6.00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass Tadley

9.00 am Sunday Parish Mass Tadley

11.00 am Sunday Parish Mass Burghfield Common

#### The Epiphany of The Lord - Thursday 6th January

11.00am Mass Burghfield Common

7.00pm Mass 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 during the present variant surge.

## Nativity of The Lord - Christmas Vigil Mass

**Entrance Antiphon:** Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow there will be an end to the sin of the world and the saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

## Nativity of The Lord - Christmas Day

**Entrance Antiphon:** A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

**Responsorial Psalm:** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

## Feast of The Holy Family – Year C

**Entrance Antiphon:** The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

**Responsorial Psalm:** They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

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## Next Sunday's Readings (Second Sunday After the Nativity)

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2. 8-12 Ephesians 1:3-6. 15-18  
John 1:1-18

## Mass Attendance on 18th/19th December 2021

Tadley 6:00pm: 28 Tadley 9:00am: 27

Burghfield Common 11:00am: 27

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## HAPPY MASS OF CHRIST - AND "THANK YOU"!

As we approach the great celebration of The Lord's Birth, ending an uncertain pandemic year to enter another, it is a good time to say "Thank You!" to God for being able to celebrate in our churches, although continuing to adhere to restrictions protecting ourselves and our neighbours. It is also an opportunity to thank those who have quietly worked behind the scenes to enable a more 'normal' celebration of Christmas to take place.

A special thanks to those who have put up our Christmas cribs and Christmas trees in both churches. Helen Warner and Eileen Smith, ably assisted by Agnieszka Kozuchowski and youngsters Pavel, Aleksandra and Maria, accomplished the arrangement of the crib at St Michael's Church last Saturday after Adoration and Confessions. The youngsters also arranged nice decorations on two of the window sills.

The following afternoon, after Mass at St Oswald's Church, a group of volunteers assisted Ellen Goodall and Aggie Michalec in erecting the Christmas tree and beginning the crib arrangement, which Aggie completed later in the day.

On Tuesday Sonia Fox and Jo Mellor put up St Michael's Church Christmas tree. This stands in front of the statue of The Sacred Heart, with Jesus' outstretched arms welcoming us to celebrate this time of true love. They also completed decoration of the church porch.

Our thanks to those across the Parish who have acted as Stewards, enabling our churches to comply with both Church and Government guidelines and ensuring that our worship takes place in safe conditions. A special thanks to Geoff and Gina Poulter and Ellen Goodall for organising the rotas respectively at Tadley and Burghfield Common.

Tina and Rob van Ewyk deserve our thanks for organising deep and general cleans of St Michael's Church over the last year, assisted by a loyal group of volunteers. This was especially important as the Tadley church was in greater use than St Oswald's Church, and could not have been so without these cleans.

Many of us appreciated the return of music - although the wearing of masks to sing is irritating at times. A special "thank you" to Roy Singh, who sustained the singing throughout the last few months at our Saturday evening Tadley Mass, with the support of Antonia Bates, both behind the scenes and with the music in church. The 6:00pm Mass rarely had music before the pandemic but people have enjoyed the opportunity to sing. Antonia has now concentrated on sharing Sunday Masses with Anne Reilly and our fine music group, with the return of the Sunday morning Mass at Tadley. Our thanks to her for arranging the music for our Vigil Mass of Christmas this Friday, and to Anne for providing the music for the 9:00am Christmas Day Mass.

The music at St Oswald's Church at 11:00am on Sundays has been very good, because of the working together of Rick Wallis and Veronika Kucharcikova in respect of The Sacred Liturgy. The later time of the Mass has given them some scope in developing the sung parts, which is not possible at present in Tadley because of the need for me to rush from one Mass to another. I think this is an area we all need to address for the future of Mass times across the Diocese in the next ten years, as the availability of priests declines and clergy will have to cover larger areas. The Mass should not be a rushed affair as it is central to our being as a Catholic Community. So a lot to think about as times change and we begin to engage in our Diocesan Consultation next year about our future Catholic structures.

But next year can wait whilst we enjoy our Christmas celebrations into Epiphany and up to the Baptism of The Lord on 9th January 2022.

So let us Rejoice (Gaudete) Christus natus est (Christ is born)!

*Father Patrick*



## WELCOME TO FATHER STUART SEATON

The Mass at St Oswald's Church at 11:00am on Sunday 26th December, The Feast of The Holy Family, will be celebrated by Father Stuart, who is visiting family in our parish. He is a priest of the Westminster Diocese and Chaplain to Harrow School.

Although Father Patrick will be present to ensure that there are no unforeseen problems, he will be in the background, as Father Stuart kindly suggested that he was happy to preside if that would take pressure off Father Patrick, having said four Masses since Christmas Eve in our churches.

Your Parish Priest is more than delighted to accept the offer, enabling him to participate in a more thoughtful and reflective way, as one of the Baptised, which many priests like to do from time to time.

The Scripture Readings will be read by Bill and Joy Reilly of our Tadley community who have received the Diocesan Recognition as Readers during the recent pandemic online courses. The Diocese hopes that all Readers will take advantage of this formation which Sister Hyacinthe has been promoting.

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## TIME FOR A BREAK!

The Parish Office closes at 2:00pm on Thursday 23rd December and reopens on Tuesday 4th January at 9:30am. During this time emails will not be addressed and Father Patrick will not be available for Parish matters. He will do his best to address any important telephone calls but cannot ensure an immediate reply during this time. He thanks Kathryn, our part-time Secretary, for all her support since September in ensuring that Parish and Diocesan matters are dealt with as promptly as possible. We wish her a happy break with her family.

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## CLERGY CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Our Christmas Collection celebrates and gives thanks to our parish priests and all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese and in each parish.

If you would like to give a gift to support Father Patrick in his vocation and mission this Christmas, please visit: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/tadley-st-michael-and-st-oswald-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2022>

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## CRIB OFFERINGS - FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

Crib offerings this Christmas will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land.

Friends of the Holy Land help the most deprived Christian families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan. With no pilgrims and tourism since March 2020 and no government support to individuals or businesses, many families have lost all their income and are increasingly calling on Friends of the Holy Land for help with day to day living. This will apply at both our churches as it is a Diocesan Collection.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR !

The Church begins our secular new year with the celebration of The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. As you know, the Church began its new year on the First Sunday of Advent. Judaism and Islam, as well as other religions, also have their own new year arrangements within their traditions.

As Christians, we are still in the Christmas Season on 1st January, so it is appropriate that we enter into the general new year remembering the Mother of Jesus, asking for the blessings of Her Son as we continue to engage with the pandemic in 2022.

Solemnities are everything except Holy Days of Obligation, although some Solemnities are Holy Days, e.g. Epiphany! They start on the evening before the actual day, as is the case for the Vigil Mass for Sunday, which is celebrated on the Saturday evening. However the Sunday Vigil Mass takes precedence over the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and therefore her Mass cannot be celebrated this year on the evening of 1st January.

So, there will be a Mass for the new year in honour of Mary, Mother of God, on Friday evening 31st December (New Year's Eve) at 6:00pm in St Michael's Church. The Saturday evening 6:00pm Vigil Mass on 1st January is that of the Second Sunday of Christmas. Please note the times for Epiphany Masses (6th January) at our Churches in the Newsletter. Also, the obligation to attend Mass remains suspended.

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## FORTHCOMING FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FROM SISTER HYACINTHE

Our Formation for Mission team will be running the following online courses in January and February 2022, which may be of interest:

For Catechists: **Essential Training for Catechists** (5 Mondays, 10th Jan - 7th Feb, 7.30 to 9.00 pm) followed by our new course, **Further Training for Catechists** (5 Mondays, 21st Feb - 21st March, 7.30 to 9.00 pm) - in the first course, we will look at the fundamental principles of catechesis to discover what it is, and in the second course, we will look at specific questions: how to speak to adults, young people and children about God, Jesus, salvation, the human person and the Church. To find out more and register, check our website: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/> or register directly for the Essential Training: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91011220960> and for the Further Training: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91011220960>

Both courses are open to everyone - you don't have to be a catechist to sign up.

For those who care of children with Additional / special needs: we are offering 3 workshops on Thursdays 13th, 20th and 27th January, 7.00 - 8.30 pm for the parents, catechists and priests of young Catholics with additional needs: **Being Acceptional**. Workshop 1. At Mass: inclusion in the Liturgy; Workshop 2. In Catechesis: sacramental preparation; Workshop 3. In the Home: the domestic Church for children with additional needs. You can register here for the workshops: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91011220960>

