

Dear All,

An unfortunate accident

My thanks to Ana, our church cleaner at Saint Oswald's Church, for alerting Dan and me that during the last week the Tabernacle at Saint Oswald's Church had crashed to the floor of the Sanctuary! After our investigation of the situation, the Tabernacle itself is alright, but the surrounding structure needs replacement. No damage was done to the consecrated hosts within it. At present the Tabernacle has been returned to its place, but is no longer attached to the wall, therefore the Blessed Sacrament will not be left in the church until a proper repair takes place.

Pentecost Service

The Churches Together in Burghfield and Mortimer Pentecost Service last Sunday evening was well attended on a beautiful evening. Members of our Burghfield Common community were present, as well as a member of our CTAT fellowship from Tadley. It was good to meet once again, after almost four years, the Reverend Glynn from Saint Mary's Anglican Church, Burghfield, and Father Paul, the Anglican priest in Mortimer, all of us involved in the service, led by Methodist Minister the Reverend John Banks, who also covers Tadley. Also to meet his wife, Kyung Mi Banks, for the first time.

A fine evening of praise, song and scripture, not only in English, but also in Afrikaans and Spanish! Our thanks to John for ushering in a revival of our Churches Together in that part of our Parish since the pandemic.

Basingstoke Foodbank News

Do not forget to view the thank you from Basingstoke Food Bank displayed in Saint Michael's Church, thanking you for your food donations in 2023, which provided 119 meals for those needing them. During the same year the Basingstoke Food Bank assisted over 7,800 people through partnership with local agencies. Full details on the thank you poster.

Missio Updates

Our thanks to Sue Tull and Sarah Hunneman for their promotion of Missio within our Parish Area. In 2023, via the red boxes, online and through other methods, the Parish raised £1,302.59 for the Missions. Please bring in your Missio boxes to Saint Michael's Church & Saint Oswald's Church during June for counting. Also speak to Sue or Sarah if you wish to contribute by other means.

In addition, please be aware that Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite everyone to a special Mission Mass. This is an opportunity for Red Box supporters and volunteers to come together in prayer for our global Catholic communities. Everyone is welcome to attend:

Where?: Christ the King Church, Northumberland Ave, Reading RG2 8NR

When?: Tuesday 4 June at 7pm - For more information email: redbox@missio.org.uk

Not available

I shall not be generally available as follows:

- **Tuesday 28th May** because of important dental treatment.
- **Thursday 30th May** because of a meeting in London of the Secular Clergy Common Fund Administrators.
- **Friday 31st May** because of the need to produce a Newsletter and catch up with Dan on matters following his break (see next item).

Parish Office closed for 2 days next week

Dan will have a couple of days off on 28th & 29th May, so the Parish Office will be closed on those days. As a result, **emails will not be addressed** until his return on **Thursday 30th May**.

This Weekend's Mass arrangements:

Saturday 25th May: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church
Sunday 26th May: 9.00am at St. Michael's Church
Sunday 26th May: 11.00am at St. Oswald's Church

Note: Pastoral Letter from Bishop Philip will be read at all Masses

Copies will be included in next weekend's Newsletter.

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Wedding Anniversary Congratulations!

Denis and Kath Murtagh are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday 26th May. Parishioners are cordially invited to join them for a toast in the Parish Room (and hopefully the patio) after the 9am Mass.

Our thanks to them both for their involvement within the Parish over many years, especially Kath's role as Safeguarding Officer in the past & Denis's present role as Chair of our Parish Finance Committee.

Singers needed!

The Parish traditional choir is looking for more people to join up. We sing every fortnight at the 9am Mass and usually practice most weeks in the church on a Tuesday evening. If you are interested, please get in contact with the Parish Office.

Mingle at St Michael's

The Archangels Social Group is launching "Mingle at St Michael's", an afternoon cafe in the Parish Room from 2 - 4 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, starting on 5 June. Please join us for a warm welcome and the chance to meet up midweek for a chat over a tea or coffee and a piece of cake! Please see posters at both our Churches.

Calling Parish Bakers!

On Sunday 9 June in the Parish Room after 9 am Mass, there will be a Cake Sale for Christian Aid as our parish contribution to the recent Christian Aid Week. There will also be some gift items for sale, including religious items. Please bring cake donations to the Parish Room before 9 am Mass, together with a note of ingredients in case of allergens. Many thanks!

Parish Canal Boat Trip - Sunday 21 July

The Archangels Social Group is organising a Parish Canal Boat Trip on the afternoon of Sunday 21 July from Newbury Wharf, RG14 5AS along the Kennet & Avon Canal. We have hired a boat for our exclusive use to depart at 4 pm, so we will meet at the Wharf at 3.45 pm.

There are 2 steps up and then 5 "rather steep" steps down to access the boat, which has a licensed bar and a toilet onboard. The trip usually lasts about 75 mins, but there can be delays if the canal is busy. Cost: Adults £10, Children £5. We suggest we gather for a bring-your-own picnic in Victoria Park, Newbury beforehand!

To book, please call Pauline Penfold on 07749 409920 or Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email Mary at mlee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk We hope you will join us!

Parish Fundraising Weekend for St Michael's Hospice and Christian Aid

St Paul's Church has offered CTAT churches the opportunity to have free stalls at their Tadley Fete on The Green on Saturday 8 June to raise funds for our churches or for charities of our choice. The Archangels Social Group has booked several stalls to raise funds for St Michael's Hospice.

To help us make our stalls a success and raise as much as possible for this worthy cause, we should be very grateful for donations of bottles of wine and bags of sweets for our popular game, where contestants may win a bottle of wine if they choose a winning bottle bag, and our "Everyone's a Winner" game, where contestants are guaranteed to win the contents of different-sized jars of sweets. Please bring donations to Masses next weekend and leave in the porch.

Please come to support us at the Fete on the Green, RG26 3PB, where there will be a bouncy castle, live music, food, arts & crafts, games, lots of stalls and lots of fun! Midday to 4 pm on Saturday 8 June. Free entry. Full details of the Fete on the poster displayed in St. Michael's Church.

Tadley Treacle Fair

A reminder that the Tadley Treacle Fair is on Sunday 2nd June. There will be a CTAT stand, so please do stop by.

Tadley URC Family Fun Day

Another opportunity to enjoy the tradition of a British Summer outdoor event! The Tadley URC invite all to their Family Fun Day on Saturday 15th June, from 12.00 Noon – 3.30pm. Location: Immanuel Centre, Main Road, Tadley, RG26 3NY. All proceeds going to St. Michael's Hospice (Note: This will be a cash only event). Full details of this event on the poster displayed in St. Michael's Church.

Local Church Plant Sales

St Mary's Church, Bishopswood Road, Tadley, RG26 4HQ is holding a Plant Sale with Refreshments on Saturday 1 June from 10am to 2 pm. All welcome!

Money Management for All

Following the success of the sessions organised last year, Holy Ghost parish is delighted to tell you that once again we have partnered with Christians Against Poverty [CAP] to deliver one of their 'Money coaching' programmes in St Bede's church hall on June 20th & 27th and July 4th & 11th.

Delivered by local churches in partnership, money coaching is a free service designed to empower you with the knowledge, skills, tools and confidence to better manage your finances. Anyone can benefit - from those who've been using a budget for years to those struggling to get to grips with their spending. We'll hear from specialists in saving and spending wisely, to credit and debt professionals; you'll receive guidance that's second to none.

Places on the forthcoming course are very limited, so please book your space asap.

The sessions will begin at 7pm with a light meal, ending at 9pm. For more information please contact Deacon Tony or Pam on either adarroch@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 07883 059 529. But to book a place, please go to this link to book direct: [Get to grips with your finances | CAP UK](#)

We hope to see you there!

Right to Life – General Election Update

With the snap General Election on 4 July 2024, Parliament is to be suspended (prorogued) today (Friday), ahead of its formal dissolution next Thursday. As a result, the Criminal Justice Bill will fall by the wayside & the two extreme abortion up to birth amendments tabled by Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy will now not pass and these extreme changes to our abortion laws will not become law.

Right to Life have written to thank the tens of thousands of you around the country who have taken a series of campaign actions over the last six months, including emailing your MPs, signing petitions, sending postcards, sharing campaigns with friends and many other actions. Through your actions, it became crystal clear that a large number of people in constituencies wanted to see positive pro-life changes to our law, not the extreme changes being proposed by the abortion lobby.

Calling all Thomas Hardy fans

Sarah Davies draws our attention to a performance of a new play “Wessex & Hardy – On the Cusp of Change” written by Ann Davidson, by the Newbury Dramatic Society. The venue will be at Kingsclere Community Library at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28th May.

Tickets £7.00 (to include a glass of wine or soft drink) available from the library (Saturday 10.00am – 1.00pm or Tuesday 1.00pm – 5.30pm) or on Eventbrite.

Diocesan Vacancies

For current vacancies visit: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/>

Further reading

Portsmouth Diocese news items:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales news items:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/>

Caritas Portsmouth Newsletter:

<https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/news-events/>

Best wishes to you all, and a joyful Trinity Sunday. This celebration was first established in England by St. Thomas Beckett, the Martyr of Canterbury, in the 12th Century. It was then extended to the entire Catholic Church by Papal Decree in the 14th Century.

Father Patrick.

Fr. Patrick Tansey

Parish Priest

St Michael's Church, Tadley

St Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

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Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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