PARISH NEWS

Dear All,

Many thanks to all the parishioners who sent me get well messages these last few days. I continue to recover, but my energy levels are still somewhat depleted & I need to scale back my activity this weekend. Therefore, I have decided that, regrettably, there will be **NO MASS AT ST. OSWALD'S THIS WEEKEND.**

This will enable me to focus my depleted energies on a busy Saturday in Tadley (Baptism in the morning, followed by the 6.00pm Mass), together with the Sunday 9.00am Tadley Mass.

However, please note that, depending on how I feel on Saturday, I may have to scale back even further, so please keep a look out for possible further updates from Dan.

Please also be aware that I shall be generally unavailable on **TUESDAY next week (30th July)**, when I have an appointment to check my respiratory condition.

This Weekend's Mass arrangements

Saturday 27th July: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church Sunday 28th July: 9.00am at St. Michael's Church

REMINDER: Crosslink appeal

As advertised in last week's Newsletter, there will be an appeal at both Masses at Tadley this weekend by Crosslink, the Tadley based voluntary care group, under the umbrella of CTAT. There is a need for more volunteers to be involved in their work.

NEXT WEEK: Tea/Coffee after Mass at St. Oswald's

All being well, Mass will take place as normal <u>next week - 4th August</u>, at St. Oswald's. Please plan to stay after Mass, if you can, for tea/coffee & a chat.

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We welcome in Baptism!

SCARLET FLORENCE McDERMOTT on Sunday 27th July at St. Michael's Church

REMINDER: Sunday 28th July - World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

As mentioned in last week's Newsletter, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly falls on Sunday 28 July 2024. Pope Francis has given the day the theme "Do not cast me off in my old age" c.f. Psalm 71:9.

As the Pope says, we should cherish the elderly and recognise that there's no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren

REMINDER: Parish Walk &/or Tea & Cake - Sunday 18 August

The Archangels Social Group is organising a Parish Walk on Sunday 18 August to include a stop at St Mary the Virgin Church, Silchester, RG7 2HH for tea and cake! If you are interested in either joining the walk or meeting up with other parishioners for tea and cake at this Grade 1 listed church, please let Pauline Penfold (07749 409920) or Mary Lee (07821 254100) know. Timings and details of walk/tea stop to be confirmed.

If you can't make 18 August, but are interested in visiting the church, they are serving tea and cake between 2pm and 4.30pm every Saturday and Sunday in August - all proceeds to support the work of MAF, the world's largest humanitarian air operator. However, please do join us on 18 August if you can!

More singers needed at St. Michael's!

Do you enjoy singing at Mass? Would you like to take a more active part in the music ministry by joining the choir accompanied by the organ? The choir practises most Tuesday evenings, usually 6:30-8:00, in the church. They sing every other Sunday, as well as at Christmas and Easter. The main requirement is enthusiasm!

If you're interested, please contact Sarah on 07789 874303 or languages@sarahdavis.me.uk

REMINDER - Basingstoke Foodbank Appeal

The school summer holidays are almost upon us & the Foodbank has sent a message to all churches. Stocks are running low on certain items that are needed for the families they'll be supporting through the hols. As a reminder, these are families who have been referred to the Foodbank by schools, who might be genuinely struggling to make ends meet when the kids are home for the summer hols.

Please kindly consider donating any of the following: Feel free to pop items into our permanent crates in your church, or pop over to visit our warehouse at Tempus Business Units 63-64, Houndmills, Basingstoke, RG21 6XG weekdays.

- TINNED FRUIT 😈
- LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE 🧃
- DEODORANT ******
- MILK POWDER
- UHT MILK
- LOO ROLL
- HOT AND COLD DESSERTS
 (E.G. JELLY, SPONGE PUDDING, ANGEL DELIGHT)
- SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER

PARTICULARLY LOW STOCK LEVELS FOR:

- COFFEE
- SAVOURY SPREADS (MARMITE, PEANUT BUTTER, MEAT PASTE)
- SAVOURY SNACKS/CRISPS 😭
- SQUASH

Environmental Conference – Caritas

As part of the Season of Creation the Diocese are holding an environmental conference, 'To Hope and Act with Creation' at St Peter's and Winchester Martyrs parish on **Saturday September 14th**, **10am-1pm**. John Paul de Quay from the Ecological Conversion Group Charity will speak on 'Fellowship of believers, how faith should motivate us in caring for our common home?'. There will be updates from COP28 and preparation for COP 29 and practical actions for parishes. Everyone is welcome. A flyer can be found here and more information on the website.

Right To Life UK

The Right To Life UK charity writes:

"As the new Parliament begins, we are expecting attempts from MPs to introduce an extreme abortion law that would make it more likely that healthy babies are aborted at home for any reason, up to birth.

On the end-of-life front, this Friday, Lord Falconer is going to be introducing a Bill in the House of Lords to legalise assisted suicide and the Prime Minister has pledged that he will make time for MPs to vote on the introduction of assisted suicide.

As we face these major threats, it's important to make it clear to both new and returning MPs at the start of this parliamentary cycle that they have a large number of voters in their constituency who don't want to see extreme anti-life changes to our laws.

We have just launched an *EasyAction* tool on our website that makes it simple to contact your local MP asking them to oppose these radical changes to the law (the pre-written email also includes vital information on these threats that we are looking to get in front of MPs as early as possible in the new Parliament)".

You can click on the link button below to contact your MP now.

Click here to email your MP now

Diocesan Free Wills service

The Diocese has partnered with market-leading solicitors and will-writing providers to offer anyone over 18 basic simple or mirror Will for free. Whether you would prefer to write your Will in-person, online or over the 'phone, you will be expertly supported throughout a quick and straightforward process. There is no obligation to leave your Parish a gift in your Will, although a gift of this kind is an opportunity to make a lasting gift to the Church.

More information can be found at: Make your FREE Will - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, (portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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.

Father Patrick.

Fr. Patrick Tansey Parish Priest

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