

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 Mary Lee on 0118 9813221 during May and Bill Reilly on 0118 9813784 during June.

NEWSLETTER

**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY AND CORPUS
CHRISTI 29th/30th May and 5th/6th
June 2021**

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Bishop Philip is inaugurating this year to follow The Year of the Word, which finishes in early June. The Year of the Eucharist commences on 6th June 2021, which this year sees the celebration of The Solemnity of Corpus Christi. It ends at Christmas 2022. We are asked not to forget that we are celebrating also The Year of St Joseph, instituted by Pope Francis recently.

Hopefully, parishioners used The Year of the Word well during the pandemic, giving more time and study to Sacred Scripture in the lockdowns. The Liturgy of the Word during any Mass is the preparation for entry into The Liturgy of the Eucharist, and there can be no Mass without it. Hence the ancient tradition that if you were not present for the Gospel on a Sunday you had not fulfilled the Sunday obligation of 'hearing' Mass, an obligation suspended during the pandemic. Our Bishops are contemplating when to re-introduce the obligation, but are aware, as stated in their recent Reflection on The Day of the Lord (Sunday), that 'the pace of our emerging from this pandemic remains as yet unclear.' And they acknowledge the challenges we face in bringing our communities back to the full practice of the faith. They indicate three areas we should address:

- 1) There are the fearful and weary, anxious about coming into the enclosed spaces of our churches and those who have simply lost the habit of coming to church. These will require personal contact and sensitive invitation.
- 2) There are those who will no longer regard being part of the Catholic community as a priority in their lives. They represent a particular focus and concern for our outreach.
- 1) There are the 'Covid curious', who may have come into contact with the Catholic Church through the internet, an area which needs further thought across diverse media platforms.

So we have already three areas of prayer for The Year of the Eucharist in these challenges. There is a need to recognise the centralising of the Sunday Mass in the bumpy months ahead—to arrange our Sunday around the Mass and not the Mass around our Sunday as Bishop Philip has said.

The Year of the Eucharist should draw us more deeply into its meaning, leaving each Sunday Mass with the Holy Spirit calling us to service and outreach to others.

POPE FRANCIS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Our Pope has described the Eucharist as 'an act of cosmic love,

directing us to be stewards of creation'. When the bread and wine are prepared at the Offertory, the priest says 'Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation' over both, thanking God for this goodness in giving us them to be used in Sacrifice, to become the Body and Blood of Jesus, our brother and Saviour.

Our English and Welsh Bishops reminded us in their Pastoral Letter on the Environment for Pentecost last weekend of the need to understand that the whole of creation is a gift of God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth, and the importance of involving ourselves as Catholics in the debates about the Environment, about our misuse of it, and how we might pass it on better to future generations.

They mentioned the forthcoming G7 and COP26 meetings being hosted in England and Scotland in June and November. John Kerry, the US Climate Envoy, stated on Saturday 15th May after meeting with the Pope in the Vatican, that Pope Francis hopes to attend the COP26 Summit on Climate Change in Glasgow. However, this will depend on COVID-19 travel restrictions at the time and on whether or not the Summit will be an in-person or virtual gathering. Kerry described Francis as 'one of the great voices of reason and compelling moral authority on the subject of the climate crisis'.

He has intervened in one area of the debate which often divides people, - the question of overpopulation. Many climate change campaigners argue that fewer children will mean fewer carbon emissions and some would support a control of births.

Recently Francis addressed a Conference on Italy's approaching demographic disaster. The Italian fertility rate has dropped to an average of 1.27 births per woman in 2019, well below the European average of 1.53. In 2020, fewer babies were born than at any time since Italian unification in 1861.

The Pope declared: 'Italy reached the lowest number of births since national unity, not because of COVID-19, but because of a continuous, progressive downward trend, an increasingly harsh winter.' He also stated that 'a society that does not welcome life stops living.' (Acknowledgment : [The Tablet 22.5.21](#))

Central to our emergence from the pandemic and to the changes that this involves is his belief that families must be at the centre of debate, otherwise there will be no future.

Involvement in discussion of the issues of environment and climate change demands that as Catholics we involve with a Catholic viewpoint formed by considered study of the issues, alongside an understanding of Catholic teaching on Creation and acknowledging God as Creator of Heaven and Earth and we as stewards as God wills. Sometimes that will mean that we must speak against that which may be a faulty popular idea or an erroneous understanding of the importance of human life from conception to natural death in its many spheres.

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MISSIO

The Summer edition is now available in Tadley thanks to Geoff and Gina Poulter. If you wish to take a copy, please see Father Patrick at the side-door after 6.00 pm Mass on Saturday. It contains an interesting section on how the Major Seminary in Bambui, Cameroon, adapted to the need for safety protocols amidst civil strife during the last months.

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THE SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

This is celebrated this year on Friday 11th June at 10.00am in St Michael's Church if Stewards are available. Booking will be as normal, from 10.30 am on the Tuesday to 12.30 pm on the Friday of that week. It is not a Day of Abstinence, so meat dishes may be consumed, as it is everything except an Holiday of Obligation.

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GARDENING SATURDAY!

The next Saturday for the volunteering group of parishioners to meet is Saturday 5th June, from 10.00 am—2.00 pm. Our thanks to Brenda O'Donovan for her weekly visits to ensure our Tadley grounds are welcoming to parishioners and visitors, and for bringing together our volunteers regularly.

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OBLIGATORY COLLECTIONS

Day for Life	on Saturday/Sunday 12th/13th June
Peter's Pence	on Saturday/Sunday 26th/27th June

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IN PRAYER

Deacon John Foley, recovering from surgery for cancer and waiting further surgery.

'Peggy' Gregory of our St Oswald community, suffering from cancer.

Beth, daughter of Cristina Jordan of our Tadley community, awaiting further heart surgery.

Katherine Brindle, mother of Pauline Penfold of our Tadley community, who is unwell at the moment. Also for Pauline and her two brothers at this difficult time.

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BISHOP CHALLONER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BASINGSTOKE—VACANCIES

(1) Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School are looking to appoint a passionate, enthusiastic and caring **Lay Chaplain**, who is a practicing Catholic with a deep commitment to their own faith. The successful candidate will have an understanding of the role within a school setting. For further information please visit <https://hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy/Details/85407/> or contact Beverley O'Shea via email Beverley.oshea@bcs.hants.sch.uk or 01256 462661. Closing date for applications is Thursday 10 June 2021.

(2) Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School have two vacancies commencing in September 2012. The first post is for a **Learning Support Assistant, this post is suitable for a graduate looking to obtain experience before joining the teaching profession**

<https://hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy/Details/85063/>

the second position is for a **Learning Support Assistant with either an ELSA or FEIPS qualification** <https://hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy/Details/85065/> contact Beverley O'Shea via email Beverley.oshea@bcs.hants.sch.uk or 01256 462661 for further information. Closing date for applications is Monday 7 June 2021.

(3) Due to retirement Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School have the very rare opportunity for an ambitious, enthusiastic and outstanding teacher to join the school as Head of Music. For further information please visit <https://hampshire.education-jobs.org.uk/Vacancy/Details/85472/> or contact Beverley O'Shea via email Beverley.oshea@bcs.hants.sch.uk or 01256 462661.

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BELONG AND BELIEVE

We have been asked to advertise this course, the next Pastoral Area one to start in June. It is free for all who are interested. Please contact Geoff Poulter who has been asked to be our representative if you wish to register.



BELONG and BELIEVE

On the horizon is a brand-new CaFE course called "Belong and Believe" – this is what is being said about it.

In our post-pandemic world, the need for vibrant and welcoming Christian communities has never been stronger. This new filmed course is a timely resource drawing on the immense wisdom and inspiration from our Celtic spiritual heritage helping us to find renewed faith and vision together.

A five-session course to revitalise communities and their mission that covers the following topics:

Building Welcoming Communities; Growing in Faith Together; Renewed in the Holy Spirit; Caring for God's Creation; Evangelising with Love & Action

This is a perfect time for this course as we move out of lockdown and think about a Parish of the future.

Once again, we will be working with the other parishes in our Pastoral Area on this initiative. So, if you want to register, please email us at geoffpoulter@hotmail.com and we will do the rest.

The zoom based course which is free to all will be on **Monday evenings at 7.30pm-9.00pm commencing Monday 31 May.**

Link: <https://faithcafe.org/pages/belong-and-believe-private-preview-sessions>

CTAT MEMORIAL SERVICES—TADLEY RE-MEMBERS

In our continuing discussions during the pandemic, the clergy of Churches Together Around Tadley focused on the importance of providing a time of prayer and reflection for those who had lost local relatives over the last months from COVID or other illnesses, and others who died throughout our world during this pandemic.

Two special Services will be held on:
Saturday 10th July at 3.00 pm at St Mary's Church,
Bishopswood Road, Tadley, RG26 4HQ

And
Sunday 11th July at 3.00 pm at Tadley Cemetery, Church
Road, RG26 3AX

For more information: minister@st-marys-church-tadley.co.uk

Tel: 0118 981 4860

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FARE THEE WELL!

Major Barry of The Salvation Army leaves Tadley for a new appointment in July, so we wish him God's blessings.

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RETIRING—BUT STILL SERVING

The reverend Rob of Silchester officially retires in June, but will still be available in the village to serve the spiritual needs of the community. We wish him well.

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WELCOME

The Reverend Steve McKay will soon be with us at St Mary's Church with his family, replacing the Reverend Gill

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SAFEGUARDING UPDATE AND SHAKE-UP!

Following the damning Report by The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), on the failure of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to oversee properly Safeguarding, our bishops have accepted almost all the recommendations of the Inquiry.

The former chief prosecutor, Nazir Afzal, a Muslim, has been appointed chair of the Church's new safeguarding body, The Catholic Standards Safeguarding Agency (CSSA).

His appointment is significant in that he is in charge of a body with independence day-by-day to advise Church agencies and to monitor their compliance.

Mr Afzal played a prominent part in the Rochdale sex trafficking gangs investigation, as Chief Prosecutor for north-west England from 2011—2015. This was covered by a first-class BBC drama some time ago.

In an interview with Edward Stourton, the prominent Catholic commentator, on Radio 4's early religious programme, Sunday, he stated he was satisfied that he had the independence required and asked that he be invited back to the programme in a few months to give an assessment of progress.

Safe Spaces

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales.



Who can we help?

Safe Spaces is for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales

Our Services are for people aged 18 or over, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the perpetrator is living or deceased. You do not have to have reported the incident to the Church authorities or the Police in order to access support.

You do not need to be a current active member of the Church in order to access support.

Our service is for people who have experienced any kind of abuse - this includes (but is not limited to) sexual violence, inappropriate sexual behaviour, physical abuse, financial abuse or exploitation, psychological abuse (including spiritual abuse), domestic abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour.

Phone number:
0300 303 1056

Website:
www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/

Email:
safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

How can we help?

Remote support is provided nationally through our helpline and Live Chat for as long as our clients feel they need it and it is deemed to be helpful.

We can help with advocating with authorities and other agencies, giving you emotional support, providing information (including information on church and police procedures), understanding your needs and working together on individual support plans. If face-to-face support is wanted local to where you live, we will try to make contact with appropriate agencies depending on need.

Opening Times:

Monday:	10am - 6pm
Tuesday:	10am - 6pm
Wednesday:	10am - 6pm
Thursday:	12pm - 8pm
Friday:	10am - 6pm
Saturday:	10am - 6pm
Sunday:	Closed

MASSES IN JUNE—RETURNING TO 'NORMAL'?

People have been enquiring about returning to 'normal' after 21st June, 2021. Whilst there will be a Government update in mid-June, at present the Prime Minister is making no commitment that restrictions will be definitely ended towards the end of June. Also, our Bishops are quite clear that they cannot predict where we shall be at that time, and it may be that certain restrictions may still apply to churches and other places of worship. At the present moment sanitising, social distancing, the use of face masks and the proper cleaning of churches, if used daily, applies.

Thanks to Gina Poulter (Tadley) and Ellen Goodall (Burghfield Common) Stewards are continuing to be provided, so it is hoped the following Masses will be celebrated in June if Stewards are still required:

The Solemnity of The Sacred Heart, Tadley at 10.00 am (11.6.21)

Weekday Mass, Burghfield Common at 10.30 (16.6.21)

The Solemnity of The Nativity of St John the Baptist, Tadley at 10.00 am (24.6.21)

Memorial Mass for Mrs McHale RIP at 11.00 am Tadley, on Saturday 26th June (Family Mass in preparation)

The Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul at 10.30 am Burghfield Common and 7.30 pm Tadley, on Tuesday 29th June.

Saturday (6.00 pm) and Sunday (10.30 am) remain each weekend for the present.

There will be a reassessment of the situation after 21st June when Church and Government Guidelines have been reviewed.

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SOME WORDS OF THANKS

It is with great regret that we shall be saying 'Farewell' to Mrs Barbara Davis as our Parish Secretary in mid June. Barbara tendered her letter of resignation in early May, and our Diocese is now addressing the need for a replacement. This process will take a few weeks, during which time the Parish Office will be closed.

Barbara joined us in January 2020, following the departure of Mrs Winsper, and shortly before the first lockdown of the coronavirus pandemic. She stayed in post throughout that lockdown, one of a few Parish Secretaries who did so. Our Parish owes her an immense debt of gratitude for enabling the Parish to function effectively and staying in constant touch with Diocesan and Government directives. Her medical and professional knowledge was indispensable in preparing our two churches to open in July 2020. Many parishioners are highly appreciative of the 'safe' environment provided by her doing this so splendidly, commented upon also by a police support officer in Tadley and our Health & Safety Officer in Portsmouth. She ordered the Parish Room in Tadley as a safe place for permitted meetings, the hearing of Confessions and a space where parishioners seeking support could meet within the regulations for spiritual guidance.

During this time she worked well over her stipulated hours, linking us with the often stressful reordering of Diocesan technology and a constant change in personnel, and especially in ensuring that regulations were adhered to as required by the Diocese and Government, avoiding possible significant fines.

Most of this was unseen by parishioners, but she became well known by Diocesan officials who developed a great respect for her professionalism, secretarial knowledge and polite but straightforward manner. Although employed as a part time secretary, these would often address her as our 'administrator'.

Very often she continued working when she should have been having time out, displaying a remarkable dedication to the Parish. Again, it was her efforts which resulted in The Leonard Rooms being used for the May elections, and certain groups, under the present guidelines. The voting authorities were greatly appreciative of being able to use a building complying perfectly with the necessary guidance. Thank you, Barbara! You will be missed.

VERONIKA AT BURGHFIELD COMMON

A big thank you to Veronika who has offered to help us out with the cleaning at St Oswald's Church and especially the Hall, which is now opening up.

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tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk and request that your details be removed from our Distribution List.