PARISH OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

St. Michael's, Tadley
& St. Oswald's, Burghfield Common

Priest-in-Charge: Father Stephen Vooght
Parish Administrator: Dan Wisniewski

Safeguarding (St. Michael's Church): Christine Caren
safeguarding.tad.sm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Safeguarding (St. Oswald's Church): Ellen Goodall
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Pastoral Facilitation Team: Gerry Penfold (Chair)

Presbytery & Office: Tel. 0118 981 4572 **Email:** tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Address: St. Michael's Presbytery, Bishopswood Road, Tadley, RG26 4HG
Office hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri: 9.45am-2.45pm. Closed on Mondays
Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

MASS TIMETABLE

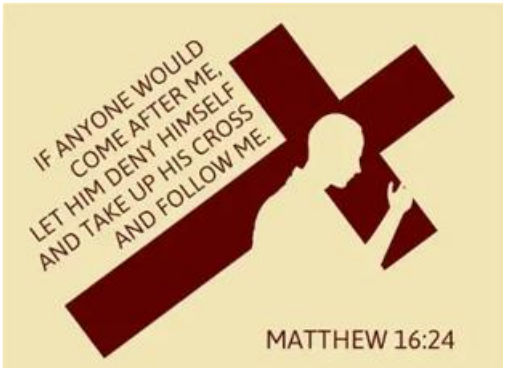
Day	Date	Feria, Memorial (M), Feast (F), Solemnity (S)	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sat	29th Aug	22nd Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	30th Aug	22nd Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	Gina Poulter RIP
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Mon	31st Aug	NO MASS			
Tues	1st Sept	Feria	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	
Weds	2nd Sept	Feria	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Thurs	3rd Sept	St. Gregory The Great (F)	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	4th Sept	First Friday	7.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	5th Sept	First Saturday	9.30am	St. Michael's	
		23rd Sunday – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Wayne Togher RIP (2nd Anniv.)
Sun	6th Sept	23rd Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	Patrick Sugrue RIP (6th Anniv.)

Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass
Confessions: Before Weekday Masses, Saturday at St. Michael's 11.00am - 12 Noon, or by appointment
Mass Intentions: If you would like a Mass Intention, please contact Dan in the Parish Office

Parking at St. Michael's Church

We have been asked if Parishioners could kindly refrain from using the parking spaces outside the parade of shops, adjacent to the Church. From now onwards, if our car park is full, please use available parking on adjacent streets, remembering to do so in a safe manner which does not inconvenience our neighbours. Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation in this matter.

The Way of the Cross



Last Sunday, Peter made a profound profession of faith: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus affirmed Peter's faith and declared him to be the rock upon which He would build His Church. Yet, in this Sunday's Gospel, we see how much Peter and the other Apostles still had to learn about what it truly meant for Jesus to be the Messiah.

Jesus tells them that He must go to Jerusalem, where He will suffer and be put to death, but that He will rise again. Peter cannot accept this. He expects the Messiah to come in glory and victory, not through suffering and the Cross.

Jesus then makes clear that the Cross is not only His path, but also the path of every true disciple: **"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me."** To take up our cross does not mean seeking suffering for its own sake. It means accepting faithfully whatever sacrifices, difficulties and trials may come our way as we strive to live according to God's will. It means putting God before self, resisting the seductions of the world, and trusting Him even when the path is difficult. The Cross may appear to be defeat, but in Christ it becomes the way to victory; suffering becomes the path to glory, and death becomes the gateway to Resurrection.

As Christians, we cannot truly follow Christ without following Him to the Cross. **The way of the Cross is the way to life.**

Children's Liturgy announcements

St. Michael's

Children's Liturgy will take place at the 9.00am Sunday Mass on the following dates for the Autumn School Term: 6th Sept, 27th Sept, 18th Oct, 8th Nov, 29th Nov, 20th Dec.

St. Oswald's

A reminder that the Children's Liturgy group will be starting at St. Oswald's on September 6th during 11am Mass and will be on the first Sunday of every month moving forward.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027

Parents of children who will be aged 8 in August 2027 are invited to declare their interest in our 2027 First Holy Communion programme. To do so, please kindly contact the Parish Office by the end of October. An initial meeting for parents is anticipated for December, with preparation sessions for candidates beginning in January.

Marc Mildenhall RIP

Marc's Funeral will be at St. Oswald's Church at 2.00pm on Tuesday 8th September

Sue Elliot RIP

For parishioners who may not already be aware, it is with great sadness that we announce that Sue Elliot died on Tuesday 11th August. Please join us in praying for the happy repose of Sue's soul and for her family at this difficult time.

Sue's funeral will be held on Friday September 18th at 11.30am at the West Berkshire Crematorium, Thatcham Crematorium. If you are intending to attend the funeral, it is very important that you let her daughter, Kate, know for catering purposes afterwards on kaceybe@gmail.com

Assumption Day at St. Oswald's

Our sincere thanks go to Mel Stevens of our Burghfield Common community for yet another masterful decorative display in St. Oswald's Church for Assumption Day!

Photo courtesy of Mary Gush

Online Giving

"And this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you" - Genesis 28:22

In support of our churches, and in alignment with the Catechism of the Catholic Church fifth precept (cc 2043) that we shall help to provide for the needs of the Church, the following QR Code has been established for scanning to enable us to give easily online.

Diocesan Catechist Day – Portsmouth Diocese
Saturday 10 October | 9:30am–1:30pm | St Bede's, Basingstoke

A reminder to all our Catechists (regardless of whether you have had any formal training or not). Join Catechists from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer, inspiration, and practical formation as we reflect on our shared mission to form missionary disciples. Inspired by Jesus' words, *"Go therefore and make disciples…"* (Matthew 28:19), we will explore how catechists can lead others to Christ, hand on the living faith of the Church, accompany people in conversion, and help build vibrant missionary parishes. Whether you are an experienced catechist or new to the ministry, you are warmly invited to attend.
To register your interest please go to https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGR0zEzDh or email Meghan, Formation for Mission Team Leader at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Douai Abbey - Pastoral Programme Autumn 2026

We are very grateful to Father Peter Bowe of the Douai Community for providing us with the latest Douai Programme of Retreat and Reflections, which is attached to the back of this Newsletter and displayed in both our Churches. Parishioners are encouraged to make use of these opportunities for spiritual reflection and growth.

Archangels Social Group - Parish Walk and Cream Teas at Silchester

Pauline Penfold writes: 20 adults and 1 baby participated in our Silchester walk, including some new parishioners. We all enjoyed the walk in the sunshine and the lovely tea and choices of cakes at St Mary's church Silchester. We divided after the tea with 12 coming back the slightly longer way and the others returning the original route. A great turnout and a very enjoyable afternoon!

Photos courtesy of Peter Hughes

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Mingle @ St Michael's
The next gathering will be on Wednesday 16 September in the Parish Room from 2pm to 4pm. All welcome!

Praise, Pitch & Picnic! – CANCELLED
Sincere apologies from Rev Karen West and the St Mary the Virgin Church community to those who had already signed up or were thinking of going to the Picnic & Rounders in Silchester on Sunday 6 September, but they have had to cancel the event. Maybe next summer!

Silchester Country Fayre – Saturday 5 September
This popular annual Fayre takes place from 11am to 4pm on Saturday 5 September in Silchester. Please come along and visit the CTAT pitch! There will be many attractions including Basil and Crew Mobile Farm, many stalls and in the arena: Berkshire Birds of Prey Display, Paws for Thought Dog Display, Storm in a Teacup Circus and Bubble Display, CM Gymnastics Display, Silchester Choir performance and Musical Sits for Dogs – all dogs welcome! Please visit their website for full details, including timings for the various displays in the arena: https://www.silchesterfayre.org.uk/fete-attractions/

CTAT Ladies' Breakfast
The next Ladies' Breakfast will take place on Saturday 12 September at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, RG26 3NJ, from 10am to noon. Maddie Gavrolivic from Compassion UK will be our guest speaker, describing their charity's child development work to release children from poverty in 29 countries across the world, including the opportunity to sponsor a child. All welcome!

Last Chance for Summer Refreshments at St Mary the Virgin Church, Silchester
The church will be open for the purchase of refreshments from 3pm – 5pm this Saturday and Sunday – tea, coffee, cold drinks and cake. All welcome!

Diocesan Vacancies

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

There are also opportunities in our Diocesan schools:
https://www.casoportsmouth.org.uk/current-vacancies-2/

Further reading

https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/
https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/

DOUAI ABBEY PROGRAMME Autumn 2026

WORKSHOPS & REFLECTION DAYS [further details on request] :

- **Day Programme:** 10.30 to 4pm: arrival & coffee from 10am.
- **Morning only** *(Fr Gervase)*: 10am (arrivals & coffee) –12.30pm
- **Full Day Contribution** £20 made on the day
- **Catering:** Please bring own lunch - coffee & tea provided
- **How to arrive** see: https://www.douaiabbey.org.uk/contact-us.php

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Sat 19 September: **Matthew 20–25** *led by Fr Gervase Holdaway OSB 10.30 – 12.30*
Reflections on the final section of Matthew's Gospel (chs 20–25) to be proclaimed on the last Sundays of the Church's year. *(Contributions invited)*

Sat 3 October: ***Make me an Instrument of your Peace!*** *Alban Hood OSB (10-4pm)*
The prayer of St Francis is well-known and contains a depth of thought that is often unappreciated. During this day, we will reflect on each line of the prayer & draw out spiritual sustenance for our daily Christian life. *Fr Alban Hood OSB is priest at Fordingbridge.*

Sat 7 November: **10 maids awaiting a Bridegroom-*Bach Cantata 140* "*Watchet auf*"**
Gervase Holdaway OSB 10.30-12.30 Introduction to Bach's Cantatas showing their liturgical significance and devotional teaching, illustrated with *Cantata BWV 140* which relates to Matthew 25:1-13, the Gospel for Sunday 8 November. *(Contributions invited)*

Sat 21 November: ***"Deep calling on deep" An Awakening of the human Spirit***
Peter Bowe OSB Across religious traditions & beyond many are finding a new awakening to "Presence," to "Now." We shall look at some tools for living in the present, as in E. Tolle's *Power of Now* & Tom Wright's biblical vision of *God's Homecoming* to our "renewed heaven & earth." A Full day - for seekers of a deeper way!

Sat 28 November: **Introduction to Mark's Gospel for 2027** 10.30–12.30pm
Gervase Holdaway OSB
Proclaimed on Sundays of coming liturgical year B *(Contributions invited)*

Sat 5 December: **Advent Reflection full Day '*For peace comes dropping slow*'**
Barbara Priest - In the midst of busy preparations for Christmas hides the beautiful breathing space of Advent. This expression of W.B. Yeats introduces a gentle exploration in how we can reclaim this precious time in God's peace & light. *Barbara Priest is an Anglican lay minister & oblate of Douai Abbey.*

Sat 12 December: ***Bach Advent Cantatas*** 10.30–12.30pm *Gervase Holdaway OSB*
A reflection - on Cantatas 61 & 62 *Now come Saviour of the Gentiles,* & 36 *Soar in your Joy* - to prepare us to welcome Christ at Christmas. *(Contributions invited)*