

Dear All,

As the holiday season comes to an end, with Dan and his family back from Canada, the Parish Office reopens and things return to normal - whatever that is! The last week has been very busy - although Kathryn kindly gave a couple of free hours each week while Dan was away, there was a considerable amount to catch-up on for both of us upon his return. At the same time, I was experiencing some difficulties linked to my asthma, which slowed me down. So, next week I shall not be generally available, getting some rest and continuing to clear things. The coming Friday 8th September, Power Service will be updating the fire alarm system in the church, parish room & presbytery alongside other electrical work in Tadley, together with electrical work at St. Oswald's church. So please do not expect a speedy response on issues that day! Our thanks also to Ellen Goodall for organising our parish BBQ this weekend and to Marion Evans for linking up with our First Communicants to be present for our 10.30am Mass at St. Oswald's before the BBQ. **REMEMBER, THERE IS NO MASS IN TADLEY THIS SUNDAY**, although the 6.00pm Saturday evening Vigil Mass is celebrated as normal.

Mass arrangements – September

Saturday 2nd September: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church

Sunday 3rd September: 10.30am at St. Oswald's Church

Happy Barbeque!

Thanks to Chris Coelho for overseeing the food cooking. **If the car park at St. Oswald's church is full when you arrive, please park responsibly elsewhere, taking care not to block the entry and departure areas for the cars of local residents.**

Welcome to the Reverend John Banks!

Sadly, because of our BBQ, I shall not be able to attend the Welcome Service at Tadley Common Methodist Church this Sunday at 10.00am of the Reverend John, new Methodist Minister in our Parish Area. As I replied to the kind invitation from our Methodist brothers & sisters: "He will be in our parish prayer at both our churches that weekend & will be a welcome member to ecumenical fellowship across the entire area I cover".

Closer to Christ Campaign

The Thanksgiving Weekend for our successful completion of the Campaign will be at all our Parish Masses on the weekend of 16th/17th September. Thank you to all who are continuing to send pledges. The present figure is over £70,000!

Congratulations to Pat Welsh!

Pat is a long-standing member of our St. Michael's church community & has close links with it since its beginnings, alongside her deceased husband Edmund. She has a special Birthday Celebration on the weekend of 9th/10th September, & the 6.00pm Mass at Tadley that Saturday will be for Pat & the soul of Edmund at the request of her family, who will gather with her. Sincere congratulations, Pat. It has been, & continues to be, a pleasure knowing you.

Thanks to Ben!

Our thanks for Ben Rowden of our Tadley Community who has agreed to be the CTAT representative for St. Michael's church alongside Mary Lee. He will also be involved generally with Churches Together Around Tadley in respect of its website & general communication system.

CTAT Forum

The next Forum of Churches Together Around Tadley is on Thursday 14th September at 7.00pm (tea & coffee) for 7.30pm. It will be held at the Salvation Army Hall. All are welcome to attend & to engage in our preparations for the Lord's Birth in December & other events. As Church Leaders we are fully stretched & events will depend upon the availability of volunteers.

Missio Magazine available

The magazine is available in both our churches, free of charge. Our thanks to Sue Tull (Tadley) & Sarah Hunneman (Burghfield Common) for their work in supporting the Missions. There will be a Mission Appeal across the Parish in October.

Called & Gifted - Learn more about your spiritual gifts and unique mission in God's plan, guided by a trained team

Fr John Lee & Fr Patrick invite you to join the Called and Gifted programme and Live Teaching day on **Saturday 21 October at St Bedes Church from 9.00am.**

The first stage is a teaching day where you learn about charisms – the day actually covers over 20 charisms! Some are what you might expect e.g. Wisdom, Prophecy and Healing; some are rather more down to earth like Administration, Service and Encouragement; and others are more creative like Music, Writing and Craftmanship.

The second stage is a private, one to one discussion called a discernment conversation with a trained member of the Called & Gifted Team, to help you explore in more depth which charisms you may have.

The third stage is a period of personal discernment where you prayerfully reflect on a charism and explore how it may be present in your life. This third stage includes the opportunity to come together in small groups in the Parish to discuss your experience of specific charisms and how they might be working for the benefit of others.

You all will also receive a Complete Resource Workbook that guides you through the process of discernment; six month's online access to the videos created by Sherry Weddell and her team at the Catherine of Siena Institute (the authors of the C&G process) and six months access to the online inventory and your results.

To register please email calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or reach out to your parish called and gifted representative .

At the present moment, Fr Patrick is liaising with our Pastoral Area co-ordinator Fr John Lee in respect of financial support to subsidise the cost of the programme for parishioners.

Basingstoke Foodbank – Volunteer opportunities

1. The Foodbank Treasurer, Pat, is seeking assistance to submit Gift Aid claims to HMRC to recover the tax on Gift Aided donations received by the Foodbank.

If you have experience in dealing with Gift Aid and could help us, Pat would be delighted to hear from you. Pat can give further details by contacting him: treasurer@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

2. Rosemary, the Community Connector, would appreciate a bit **of administrative support half a day a week**. She has created a resource for volunteers to signpost clients for a whole range of additional on-going support through crisis whatever the clients may be challenged with e.g. help with insufficient finance, debt, wellbeing issues, where else to find free clothing, food and other services in the community etc...

The volunteer role will be in the Head Office (Tempus, Houndmills). Note the office is located upstairs with no lift availability. Looking for someone who's a confident IT and microsoft office programmes user & who would be happy to learn about a new signposting app for use in our centres.

3. Also looking for 1 or 2 volunteers who might be interested in hearing about **becoming a volunteer coach**. We have just launched a coaching programme led by Rosemary to help people who might feel frozen with all that they're having to deal with. This simple 1 hour per week programme for up to 12 weeks helps them identify what they'd like to address and then to break this down into small action steps they'd like to do weekly. Coaching training of 4 x 2 hour sessions is provided by an external trainer this Autumn. Clients interested in this sort of help will be linked up with a coach who would see them once a week for up to 1 hour. Most 1:1 meetings are in either a Foodbank Centre, a local community cafe or the Tempus head office meetings space.

If you have previous training of offering counselling or coaching or pastoral support for others, do get in touch with Rosemary to find out more: connect@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

Today is the World Day for Prayer of the Care of Creation

As featured previously in the *Parish News*, the *Caritas Season of Creation* runs from 1st September to 4th October.

Today therefore marks the start of the season, established by Pope Francis in order to encourage the Catholic community to pray for our common home. For ideas, resources & events:

<https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/season-of-creation/>

Contemplating Mary - Star of the New Evangelisation

Dr Denise Clare Oliver and Dr Christina Pal from the new Apostolate, *Life in Truth* invite you to join them for this FREE evening online, as we prepare to celebrate the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this Year of the Holy Spirit. With Dr Denise Clare Oliver and Dr Christina Pal, the session will consider together Mary's essential role in the New Evangelisation.

Wednesday 6th September, 7:00 – 9:00pm

For more information and to register for this FREE event, please email info@lifeintruth.org.

St. Bede's CAFOD Saturday 9th September

Come and find out about CAFOD's work on Saturday 9th September at St Bedes Basingstoke. CAFOD Portsmouth is hosting a meeting so that volunteers and supporters can find out more about our work. The meeting is on Saturday 9th September at St Bedes Church Hall, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX from 10:30 am to 12:30pm. At this meeting Philippe Mougin CAFOD's Emergency Response Leader will talk about our work in Pakistan after last year's floods. Please book your place so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo at jlewry@cafod.org.uk

Diocese job vacancy

Part-time PA to Vicar for Clergy and Administrator for Clergy Support Team – Closing Date: Friday 15 September 2023

For this & other vacancies visit: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

Foundation Governor Vacancy – Bishop Challoner School, Basingstoke

Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School are actively seeking Foundation Governors to join the Governing Body.

The school is looking for practising committed Catholics with the time and enthusiasm to be a school governor, working with a strong established team in supporting the school and the wider community. You need to be willing to commit to a term of office of four years from the date of appointment.

The Diocese of Portsmouth website has lots of information on the role of a Foundation Governor and we would suggest that you take a look at this prior to taking the next step of applying for the position - <https://www.casportsmouth.org.uk/recruiting-governors/>

If you would like to find out more about the role at Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School or would like a chat to one of the existing governors before making a commitment, then please contact Beverley O'Shea, School Business Manager, Beverley.oshea@bcs.hants.sch.uk

Enjoy your weekend & hope to see you at the BBQ. Looks like the weather might co-operate for once!

Father Patrick Tansey **Parish Priest**

St Michael's Church, Tadley
St Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common
Tel: 0118 981 4572
Email: tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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Registered office: Diocesan Office, St Edmund House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3QA

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