

Parish of St. Michael, Tadley (with Kingsclere) and St. Oswald, Burghfield Common

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

Presbytery & Office: Tel. 0118 981 4572 – Email: tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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	9th May	6th Sunday of Easter - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Stephen Hayden RIP + Patrick & Doris Duffy RIP
Sun	10th May	6th Sunday of Easter	9.00am	St. Michael's	Reg & Marge Elson RIP & Deceased Family Members
Sun	10th May	6th Sunday of Easter	11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Mon	11 th May	NO MASS			
Tues	12 th May	Easter	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	Daniel & Catherine McCarthy RIP
Weds	13 th May	Easter	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Thurs	14 th May	Ascension of The Lord (S)	9.30am	St. Oswald's	Anne Heavey RIP
			7.30pm	St. Michael's	
Fri	15 th May	Easter	7.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	16 th May	7th Sunday of Easter - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	17 th May	7 th Sunday of Easter	9.00am	St. Michael's	
Sun	17 th May	7 th Sunday of Easter	11.00am	St. Oswald's	Anne Heavey RIP
<i>Children's Liturgy this weekend at the 9.00am St. Michael's Sunday Mass</i>					
<i>Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass (NOT THIS THURSDAY)</i>					
<i>Confessions: Before Weekday Masses (NOT THIS THURSDAY), Saturday at St. Michael's 11.00am - 12 Noon, or by appointment</i>					



For centuries, the first day in May was a gala day in Britain. People would decorate the windows and doors of their houses with flowers. The fairest maid of the village was crowned with flowers as 'Queen of May' and she would receive homage and admiration. There would also be a maypole, a high fixed pole on which flowers were suspended and which folks danced around. These pagan customs were based on fertility rituals associated with 'Maia' a Roman fertility goddess.

In 1815, the Catholic Church adapted this concept of fertility by dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It did this by emphasising Mary, the mother of God, as being the fruitful Virgin most spiritually productive and fertile mother of all ages. The spiritual fruit that Mary produces is, of course, Jesus, the blessed fruit of her womb. The great apostle of Mary, St Louis Marie de Montfort says: "If we desire the fruit of Life, Jesus Christ, we must possess the tree of life which is Mary."

"O Mary we crown you with blossoms this day, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May"

Altar Servers update

Father Stephen was delighted to enrol our St. Michael's Altar Server, Dee, into the Guild of St. Stephen at a formal ceremony held during last Sunday's Mass. In addition, we are very pleased to announce that Dee has also agreed to formally take on the role of Altar Server Co-ordinator to lead and train new Altar Servers. It is a real testimony to Dee's faith, vision and determination that the Altar Server role has now happily been revived at St. Michael's. Thank you and well done, Dee!

NEW ALTAR SERVERS ALWAYS WELCOME! We continue to be on the lookout for additional Altar Servers, so if your child may be interested, please catch Dee for a chat after Mass, or let the Parish Office know. Thank you.



A Name for the Parish We Are Becoming

Through the "You Will Be My Witnesses" Diocesan Mission Plan, and guided by our Local Mission Plan, our four parishes are coming together as one Parish, with a shared mission. A shortlist of 6 names has been carefully and prayerfully discerned, in line with the direction of the Diocese. Vote for your preferred name. You are invited to approach this prayerfully. Let the Holy Spirit guide you. Voting is available online (via link or QR code) or through paper ballots at your church.



Link: <https://forms.gle/thMgN5xoSpmBj1C19> Voting closes on Corpus Christi Sunday, 7th June.

Parish Office closures next week

The Parish Office will be closed on two days next week: Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May. This is to enable Dan to undertake the not insignificant task of uploading all the completed hard-copy Parish registration forms into the CHURCHSUITE system.

During these two days, the Office voicemail & email will be monitored at regular intervals. Any emergencies will be dealt with immediately. Replies to routine matters will experience up to a two-day delay. Sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your kind understanding.

Advance notice for next Sunday 17th May

- Laudato Si Week starts.
- A 2nd Collection will be held at all our Masses next weekend for the Catholic Communications Network.

News from St. Oswald's



Huge thanks to Robert May of our St. Michael's community for kindly volunteering to collect a significant amount of gardening waste, from St Oswalds last Saturday morning following the latest working visit from Community Payback (CP), thereby saving us the cost of hiring a skip.

For those that are not aware, a few years ago, we were very fortunate to secure the services of CP to maintain the grounds at St. Oswald's on a regular basis. Since their services are free of charge, the Parish has been able to avoid a considerable cost in the ongoing upkeep of the grounds, which are densely covered by significant amounts of vegetation.

Out thanks also to Ellen Goodall for so diligently and effectively acting as the volunteer liaison/co-ordination with the CP Team and Supervisors/Managers.

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years?

If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on Saturday 20th June at 11am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact your parish secretary if you would like to attend and they will send you a form for you to complete and return to Kirsten McGuire (kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk), in the Bishop's Office.

Thank you.



Choir for the Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass

Singers are being sought to join the choir for the above Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass at St Bede's church on Sat 20th June.

If you can read music or hold a tune and would like to help make this a memorable celebration for the couples of our diocese, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Chris Olding at cjolding@wheatsheafmusic.co.uk for information.

ADoRE mini-retreat

Just before he left his followers at the Ascension, Jesus promised them *'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth.'* (Acts 1:8) But how many Catholics realise that this promise is also for each of us who have been baptised? But, it does not happen automatically just because we have been baptised and confirmed.

ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat 23rd May 10.00-1.00 on Zoom. "THE GIFTS AND FRUIT OF LOVE." How the Holy Spirit empowers us to be other Christs. Mini retreat morning Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring talk from guest speaker Dr. Maria Heath, Director of Mission Northampton. Register in advance at bit.ly/ADOREMAY2026 Full Details at https://www.altonrenewal.com/this_month

Christian Leadership Formation

CLF is a one-week residential programme at The Christian Heritage Centre in Stonyhurst, Lancashire, for Year 12 and Year 13 students. It combines theology, philosophy, media skills, and leadership development with daily liturgies and a strong social element.

This summer's courses are:

Year 13 — The Human Ecology: 5-10 July

Year 12 — The Common Good: 10-15 August

Enrolment deadline 17th May. Scholarships are available.

The website is: www.christianleadershipformation.com and a 1-page PDF summary for circulation can be [downloaded here](#). Contact for any questions: 01254 827329.

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Calling All Bakers - Cake Sale for Christian Aid on Sunday 17 May!

There will be a sale of cakes and treats in St Michael's Parish Room after the 9am Mass next Sunday 17 May to raise funds for Christian Aid – please bake or buy something delicious for the Archangels to sell! Cakes can also be donated at the Saturday Vigil Mass.

Christian Aid Week runs from 10 -16 May in 2026. The parish no longer helps conduct a door-to-door street collection, but has an annual sale to raise funds for this worthy cause, standing alongside people living in poverty throughout the world. The 2026 campaign is focusing on helping mothers tackle urban poverty and hunger in Nairobi, Kenya.

There will also be the opportunity next Sunday to browse our stalls of crystal – decanters, glasses, vases, jugs – religious pictures, jewellery and accessories – please come in and have a look for a bargain!

Wintershall 'Life of Christ' Update

We currently have 22 people interested in the trip to see 'Life of Christ' at Wintershall, near Guildford, on Saturday 20 June, so we have 11 places left to fill the proposed coach. It is a great experience! If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email her at maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk

Mingle at St Michael's

The next Mingle will take place on Wednesday 20 May in St Michael's Parish Room from 2 – 4pm. All welcome!



'Pray Tadley' – Meeting on Sunday 10 May, 2.30 – 4.30pm

Parishioners may recall the CTAT prayer initiative in Advent 2024, called 'Pray Tadley' - we asked parishioners to pray for the people in their roads either privately or by joining prayer groups which CTAT established in geographical areas in Tadley, Silchester & District to ensure there were people praying for people all over CTAT's area during Advent. We took the four themes of Advent as the focus for our prayer: Hope; Peace; Love; Joy. In some areas, cards were put through doors, saying that we would be praying for people and inviting them to let us know if they would like us to pray for their specific prayer intention. There was quite a response. The initiative had been co-ordinated by the Community Church for CTAT.

It was felt the initiative needed to continue beyond Advent. Richard Lister, who specialises in developing prayer movements, has been invited to come to talk about how the programme could be developed further into a sustained prayer movement praying for the good of the people of Tadley & District: to pray and bless every person and place in Tadley and the surrounding villages.

The meeting will take place in St Mary's Church, Bishopswood Road, RG26 4HQ this Sunday 10 May from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. All ministers and members of congregations are very welcome to come and participate.

Ladies' Breakfast – this Saturday 9 May

The next Ladies' Breakfast will take place at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, RG26 3NJ, from 10am on Saturday 9 May, when Nick Bhugeloo of A&N Wellbeing Services will be the speaker on "Supporting Others Without Losing Yourself – the Sandwich Generation". Come along and enjoy a continental breakfast in the company of other women. All welcome!

St Mary's Tadley Annual Plant Sale - Saturday 9 May

All welcome at the plant sale at St Mary's Church, Bishopswood Road, Tadley, RG26 4HQ from noon to 2pm.

Coffee Morning & Plant Sale at Silchester Methodist Church Hall

There will be a Coffee Morning at Silchester Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 16 May from 10am to 12 noon with a sale of plants and gardening-related items. All welcome!

'Almost Family Fortunes' – Saturday 16 May at 7pm

URC is holding a fun time for all ages fundraising event on Saturday 16 May at 7pm in their Immanuel Centre, RG26 3NJ. Enter your teams of 4-8 people, £7.50 per person. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Money raised to go to the Adonai Children's Centre in Uganda. For tickets, please contact Mark Ward: 07849 546894.

Volunteers still needed to help with CTAT Stand at Treacle Fair – Sunday 31 May

Volunteers are needed to help please with setting up the pitch, manning the stand during the day (this could just be for part of the day) and/or clearing down the pitch. If you are willing to help, please contact Dina Haywood who is co-ordinating the stand: dinahaywood@btinternet.com