

Parish of Tadley (with Kingsclere) and Burghfield Common - PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th April 2025 (Palm Sunday)

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

Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

Office hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri: 9.45am-2.45pm. Closed on Mondays

****FINAL NEWSLETTER BEFORE EASTER – NEXT EDITION WILL BE FOR WEEKEND OF 27/27th APRIL****

Dear All,

In Father Patrick's absence, some updates, reminders & news from the Parish Office & the Archangels Group. Father will be travelling back to the Presbytery this evening, in good time for this weekend's Masses.

----- + -----

This Weekend's Mass arrangements (Palm Sunday)

Saturday 5th April: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley

Sunday 6th April: 9.00am at St. Michael's Church, Tadley + **Solemn Procession with Blessed Palms**

Sunday 6th April: 11.00am at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

Note (For the Tadley 9.00am Mass):

Please can all parishioners arrive earlier than usual, so that everybody has taken their places in church by **8.45am**. This will then enable a smooth & dignified distribution & blessing of the Palms, prior to the Solemn Procession.

Note: Easter Mass arrangements are shown in a separate section later in this Newsletter.

TODAY! Stations of the Cross at St. Michael's church

The second & final Stations of the Cross this Lent, led by Bill & Joy Reilly, will be at St. Michael's church, **this evening Friday 11th April at 7.00pm.**

Gift Aid Envelopes – New Tax Year

The Envelopes for the new Tax Year will be available for collection at our Masses **THIS** weekend.

Gift Aid on Easter Offerings

All donations, including Gift Aid where applicable, given at Masses on Easter Sunday (including the Easter Vigil), other than those by regular standing order, will be used exclusively to support the priest(s) appointed to the parish.

Not available next week

For the upcoming week, Father Patrick will be unavailable on the following days:

Monday 14th April – Usual day off

Tuesday 15th April – Participation in Chrism Mass at the Cathedral

For the remainder of the Holy Week, Father Patrick's availability will be restricted to emergencies only, due to his preparations for Easter.

REMINDER: Lifts still needed!

Further to my email earlier this week, we still need parishioners to help Father Patrick with lifts as follows:

1. This Sunday 13th April (PALM SUNDAY)

- From St. Michael's, after the 9.00am Mass, to St. Oswald's for the 11.00am Mass
- Thereafter, following conclusion of Mass at St. Oswald's, back to St. Michael's.

**A parishioner has already kindly offered Father Patrick a lift for both directions, HOWEVER.....
We still need someone to act as a RESERVE, in case of illness or other issues.**

2. Next Sunday 20th April (EASTER SUNDAY)

- From St. Michael's, after the 9.00am Mass, to St. Oswald's for the 11.00am Mass
- Thereafter, following conclusion of Mass at St. Oswald's, back to St. Michael's.

We still need volunteers please for either direction (or both)... & we also need reserves as well!

Since the Masses on both these Sundays will be more involved than usual, the convenience of having lifts arranged will enable Father Patrick to have one less thing to worry about on the day.

Please call Parish Office if you are able to help (Please call only – NO emails – Thank you!)

----- + -----

REMINDERS: Holy Week – Other events & resources

Palm Sunday Silchester Walk

This begins at 9.30am on Sunday 13th April, at Silchester Village Hall, or at Walls carpark at 10.00am if the weather is wet.

Maundy Thursday Service & simple supper – Silchester Village Hall

Everyone welcome THURSDAY APRIL 17TH @ 6.30PM.

Please e-mail Eve to register your interest for catering purposes on eve_baker2003@yahoo.co.uk

CTAT Good Friday Service

This takes place at 10.30am outside St. Mary's Church, Tadley. ALL WELCOME.

Passion Play – Reading, 18th & 19th April

Following last year's success, Rise Theatre CIC, a local professional Christian theatre company, are again performing their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BB) in central Reading on **Good Friday 18th April (3.30pm)** and **Saturday 19th April (3.00pm)**. It is a **FREE** event. Bring a blanket or outdoor chair to sit on! The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. See www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay for more information and to WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER. Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too!

----- + -----

HOLY WEEK & EASTER LITURGIES IN OUR PARISH

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday 12th April: 6.00pm Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Sunday 13th April: 9.00am Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Including Solemn Procession with Blessed Palms
Sunday 13th April: 11.00am Mass at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday 17th April: 7.30pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Mass of The Lord's Supper
Followed by Watching Before The Blessed Sacrament until 10.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 18th April: 3.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Liturgy of the Passion & Death of The Lord
The Diocesan Holy Places collection will be taken
Reminder: Good Friday is a day of fasting & abstinence

HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday 19th April: 9.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
The Easter Vigil, with the lighting of the Easter Fire, Sacred Readings & the First Mass of Easter

EASTER DAY

Sunday 20th April: 9.00am Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Sunday 20th April: 11.00am Mass at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common
Note: No evening Mass

----- + -----

Parish Office update

Things are getting busier than usual!...

Emergency roof repair – St. Michael's church

A few days ago, Father Patrick noticed a missing roof tile at the back of the church, leaving a gaping hole. This has been caused by deterioration in the condition of the concrete filler in the roof verge at that end of the church, due to its exposure to the prevailing direction of wind & rain. This is not just a case of replacing one damaged tile, but remaking the concrete filler across the length of the roof verge. At time of writing, & following a lot of running around finding suitable contractors to quote, we hope to be able to appoint a contractor today to address this next week, prior to Good Friday (& hopefully before we get any meaningful amounts of rain!).

Hedge/tree trimming – St. Michael's church frontage

From Tuesday 22nd April – Thursday 24th April, we will have a contractor in to perform an annual cut-back on the bushes/trees along the perimeter of the grass area & Bishopswood Road, together with addressing the large tree by the Presbytery. Please therefore exercise extreme caution if entering the St. Michael's car park during those days, due to the presence of the contractor's employees working & moving around the site.

Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection/Service

On Tuesday 22nd April, our fire safety contractor will attend both our Church Sites for this mandatory compliance work.

Tree surgery works – St. Oswald's Site

These major works will take place on two separate days: Monday 28th April & Wednesday 30th April.

Lightning Conductor Service – St. Oswald's

We recently had a contractor attend St. Oswald's to perform this now mandatory compliance annual inspection. This has resulted in remedial work being identified, to effect a repair & also to comply with latest mandatory legal requirements.

Signs & Notices

Hopefully, some of you will have seen new signs & notices cropping up in various places in both our church sites. This is as a result of guidance provided to us by the www.worknest.com Health & Safety consultancy, appointed by the Diocese to advise Parishes on legal compliance with latest legislation.

Fire Risk Assessments

These will be conducted by an outside consultancy at both our church sites on Wednesday 21st May. We will have a flurry of fire risk preparation actions as we near those dates, to be as ready as possible for the Assessments. Thereafter, we may be required to carry out remedial actions, depending on the outcome of the Assessments.

----- + -----

Update from Archangels Social Group – Save the Dates!

The Archangels Social Group has met with Fr Patrick to agree a programme of events for the remainder of 2025, including plans for the parish to mark his retirement and wish him farewell, after what will be nearly 17 years as our Parish Priest!

The proposal is to hold a **Farewell Party at Heath End Village Hall on Friday 29 August** from 7pm to approx 10pm (the Archangels would very much appreciate help with clearing and restoring the hall, which we will have to vacate by 11pm!). **Fr Patrick's Farewell Mass will be on Sunday 7 September in Tadley**, followed by the chance to socialise over tea/coffee and cake. There will be only the one morning Mass in the Parish that Sunday.

The Archangels are small in number, so if YOU are willing to join a **team to help organise these Farewell Gatherings**, your help would be much appreciated – please call or text Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email her at maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk to register your interest.

Calling Parish Bakers: Christian Aid Week falls this year from 11-17 May. As we no longer undertake the door-to-door collections in the parish, we try to raise funds for this important Christian organisation annually. The Archangels are organising a **Parish Cake Sale & Tombola for Christian Aid on Sunday 11 May** after the 9am Mass in the Parish Room. Please note the date and bake a cake to donate on 11 May or gifts for the tombola would also be greatly appreciated after Easter.

Mingle at St Michael's: the Archangels will be continuing to run this on a monthly basis in 2025. The next Mingle will be on Wednesday 14 May and thereafter will be held on the third Wednesday afternoon of the month from 2pm to 4pm in the Parish Room or hopefully out on the patio, weather permitting!

Archangels' Programme for May – December 2025: Attached to this Newsletter is the 2025 programme of events planned for 2025 and make a note of the dates in your diaries now! We also hope to run a Games Night one evening in the summer – date yet to be agreed.

----- + -----

CTAT Events - REMINDERS

TOMORROW! Ladies' Breakfast – Saturday 12th April

All are welcome! 10.00am - 12 noon, Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, Main Road, Tadley, RG26 3NJ Speaker: Jon Morris, a Money Coach from Christians Against Poverty, who will talk about services to help people manage their money.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 26th April

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday 26th April, at **10.00am – Noon**. Full English breakfast, good company & conversation. Venue: Tadley URC Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, Main Road, Tadley, RG26 3NJ. Our speaker will be Roger from Yeldall Manor, a residential drug and alcohol treatment centre near Reading for men struggling with addiction. It should be a really interesting morning! Spread the word!

Men's Shed

The Men's Shed is now open every Friday (except Good Friday) starting at 2.00pm, at St. Mary's Church, Newchurch Road, Tadley, RG26 4 HQ. www.tadleymensshed.org.uk email: tadleymensshed@gmail.com

Save the Date! – Alive 4U, a church service for Children & Families, 11th May at 10.30am

Venue: URC, Main Road, Tadley. Info: Mark 07849546894

Save the Date! – The Bible Society's Romans Course – Starting 12th May

7.30pm on Mondays from 12th May – 21st July.

Venue: Tadley URC Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, Main Road, Tadley, RG26 3NJ.

Info & reservations: tadleyurc@gmail.com

----- + -----

REMINDER: Additional formation sessions for EMHC, Readers & Ministers of Children's Liturgy.

The EMHC day on 3rd May, 10.00am – 2.00pm will include a session on taking Holy Communion to the sick and house bound.

The Readers' day on 18th October, 10.00am – 2.00pm will include a session on Lectio Divina.

The Ministers of Children's Liturgy day on 6th September, 10.30 am - 1 pm. The programme will include prayer and reflection, sharing good practice; working collaboratively; how to grow and communicate as Liturgical Catechists; Music suggestions; and a wish list for future support, networking and how to find more helpers.

ALL sessions will take place at **St Bede's Church/Hall in Basingstoke**.

Anyone involved in any of the above is encouraged to register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

The sessions are open to both new and experienced Ministers.

----- + -----

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.casopportsmouth.org.uk/current-vacancies-2/>

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 for the weekend,

Dan.

Dan Wisniewski

Parish Administrator

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

A registered charity number 1199568

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

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

St Michael's Archangels Social Group

Programme for May – December 2025

May

11 Cake Sale & Tombola after 9am Mass for Christian Aid Week

14 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

June

14 Fete on the Green – stalls in aid of St Michael's Hospice

18 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

July

16 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

20 Parish Walk ending at Silchester Methodist Church for tea and cake

August

20 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

29 Farewell Party for Fr Patrick at Heath End Village Hall

September

7 Fr Patrick's Farewell Parish Mass, followed by tea and cake

17 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

29 St Michael's Feastday Refreshments

October

15 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

17 Quiz Night & Raffle at St Mary's Church Hall in aid of St Michael's Hospice

November

9 Cake Sale after 9am Mass to raise funds for the Christmas Tea Party

19 Mingle at St Michael's, 2pm – 4 pm

December

10 Christmas Tea Party at St Mary's Church Hall

Date yet to be agreed for a Parish Games Night over the summer