

## 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](mailto:tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

Website: [www.stmandsto.org.uk](http://www.stmandsto.org.uk)

<b>MASS TIMETABLE</b>					
Day	Date	Feria, Memorial (M), Feast (F), Solemnity (S)	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sat	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2nd Sunday of Lent – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Stephen Hayden RIP
Sun	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	2nd Sunday of Lent	9.00am	St. Michael's	Giuliana Chiste RIP
Sun	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	2nd Sunday of Lent	11.00am	St. Oswald's	Community of St. Oswald's
Mon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	NO MASS			
Tues	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Lent	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	Jules Desseignet RIP
Weds	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Thurs	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Lent	7.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Philip John Burton RIP
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	9.00am	St. Michael's	Mia Ginever RIP
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	11.00am	St. Oswald's	
<i>2nd Collection this weekend: CAFOD Family Fast Day. Please bring CAFOD envelopes containing donations</i>					
<i>Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass, except Tues/Fri in Lent</i>					
<i>Stations of the Cross: After Tuesday &amp; Friday Masses in Lent</i>					
<i>Confessions: Before Weekday Masses; NOTE: NO CONFESSIONS THIS SATURDAY MORNING 28<sup>th</sup> Feb</i>					



### Feast of St Oswald King, Christian, Martyr - 28<sup>th</sup> February

St Oswald (c. 604–642), King of Northumbria and martyr, is remembered not only as one of the great Christian rulers of early England, but as a man of deep and visible prayer. Born into the royal house of Bernicia, Oswald spent years in exile on the island monastery of Iona, where he embraced the Christian faith and was formed by its strong monastic tradition. In 634, before his decisive battle against the pagan king Cadwallon at Heavenfield, Oswald erected a large wooden cross and knelt in prayer before it and urged his troops to pray with him for God's help. The victory that followed was seen as confirmation of divine favour. Tradition also holds that the place of the cross became a site of pilgrimage and healing.

Afterward, as king, he worked tirelessly to establish Christianity throughout his kingdom. He invited St Aidan from Iona to preach the Gospel and helped him in his missionary work. They founded the monastery at Lindisfarne, which became a great centre of faith and learning.

Oswald was known for his charity to the poor and his humility as a Christian ruler. In 642 he was killed in battle at Maserfield, dying at the age of 38. Because he died defending his people and his faith, he was honoured as a martyr. Many miracles were attributed to him after his death, and devotion to him spread across Britain & beyond.

***As the Feast occurs on Saturday, we will mark it instead by including in the celebration of this Sunday's 11.00am Mass at St. Oswald's, a tribute to his memory. Additionally, the Mass will be offered up for parishioners.***

## LENTEN OBSERVANCES



### Parish Stations of the Cross

Immediately after the 7.00pm Friday Mass at St. Michael's

### Parish Confessions

- Before each of the Weekday Masses
- Saturdays in Lent 11.00am-Noon at St. Michael's (Except for this Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, due to Fr. Stephen attending a Pastoral Area meeting)
- By appointment via the Parish Office



### Pastoral Area Lenten Reconciliation

The Pastoral Area Lenten Reconciliation will take place at 7.30 pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March in St Bede's Church. Priests will be available to minister the Sacrament of Forgiveness. This is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for Holy Week & Easter.

### A Lent Invitation to Prayer and Renewal

Through prayer, we learn to listen for what God is doing among us.

Recently, we shared prayer cards linked to our Local Mission Plan and invited everyone to pray for the life and future of our parish. As we approach Lent, we would like to build on that invitation by turning our attention more deeply to prayer itself, not only in church but also in the quiet of everyday life at home.

Over Lent, we will be hosting a **six-week online prayer course** on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00, starting on the first Monday of Lent. The sessions will be simple and practical, drawing on Scripture, the wisdom of the saints, and gentle guidance on the challenges people often face when praying.

This course is open to everyone and may also be a quiet way to invite a family member or friend who has drifted from faith to take a step back towards God this Lent.

Register using the QR Code, or:

This link: [Registration](#)

Email: [jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Sign-up sheets in Church

We look forward to journeying together in prayer through Lent!



### Afternoon of Prayer & Reflection - St. Joseph's, Basingstoke

There will be a Lenten afternoon of prayer and reflection at St. Joseph's on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, from 3-5pm and led by the Verbum Dei Missionary Community. All are warmly invited.

### Parish Facilitation Team

There will be a talk given by Gerry Penfold at all Masses this weekend to introduce our newly formed Parish Facilitation Team

### CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day envelopes will be collected THIS weekend

Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.



### Donations of Old Missals & Bibles for Bamenda

This weekend is the last opportunity to donate unwanted missals and bibles for use in Bamenda. There are boxes in the entrance areas to both churches for you to use. All donated items should be in good condition. Thank you!

### Vocations Promotion Visit

Next weekend we will be hosting a visit from our Diocesan Vocations Team at all Masses. In advance, Canon John Cooke writes:

Have you asked yourself who is responsible for 'finding' your next priest? Is it down to Archbishop Richard Moth (newly installed in Westminster), Bishop Philp or maybe even a task for Fr Stephen to plan for his own succession? It may surprise you to realise that the duty of fostering and supporting vocations lies with the whole Christian community. What do you do to foster and support vocations? Whilst it is important that each one of us comes to a realisation of our own personal vocation through God's plan for each one of us; our call to holiness & discipleship in Jesus' name - it is good to focus on the need for priestly vocations in our Diocese. I hope that our visit to you highlighting vocations will be memorable, that it stirs up a fresh enthusiasm in the parish for praying for vocations, for actively encouraging vocations & for being open to the possibility of exploring a God-given call. And who knows, it may be the start of a journey towards the priesthood for one of your parish members sat in the pews this weekend. We can all play a part in God's Divine plan because the Holy Spirit works through each one of us.

### Douai Abbey listing of Reflection Days & Workshops for Spring/Summer

Please see the latest Douai Abbey programme of Reflection Days & Workshops attached to this Newsletter

### ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

#### Parish Skittles Evening

The Archangels look forward to welcoming ticket holders to the Parish Skittles Evening at AWE RecSoc this evening, Friday 27 February at 7pm. If you can't gain access to the club on arrival from 6.45pm, please call or text Pauline Penfold on 07749 409920 to let you in. Please remember to bring a debit or credit card to purchase drinks from the bar as AWE RecSoc now operates a cashless bar.

#### Lenten Soup Lunches

Nurses from our community have long been involved in developing and fostering the link between Basingstoke Hospital and Hoima Hospital in Uganda, along with the orphanage, maternity facility and latterly a hospice, and parishioners have been generous in their support of their work. Later this year, Jo Mellor will be returning to Hoima to work with their hospice team again. The Archangels would like to raise funds for Hoima Hospice this Lent - could this be an opportunity for you for your Lenten Almsgiving?

To assist us with catering, please sign up in St Michael's porch to attend the Lenten Soup Lunches in aid of Hoima Hospice, which will be held in the Parish Room on Tuesdays 10 and 24 March from noon to 2pm. Come along and enjoy the company of parishioners over a simple soup and bread lunch, whilst raising funds for an excellent cause. Places are limited by the size of the room, so please book early to secure your place!

Any queries, please contact Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email: [maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk)

#### SAVE THE DATE: "Life of Christ" – Saturday 20 June – 10am – 3.30pm

The Archangels will be organising a trip to Wintershall to see an open air performance of their three-act play of the Life of Christ. Please save the date!

#### CTAT World Day of Prayer Service

This year's CTAT World Day of Prayer service will be at **2:00 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. The venue is St Luke's Church, Church Road, Pamber Heath RG26 3DX. The theme is "I will give you rest, come." The service was prepared by Christian women from Nigeria. Refreshments will be available after the service.

All are very welcome to attend.

**CTAT Ladies' Breakfast:** On Saturday 14 March, our guest speaker will be Pauline Ball from the Alzheimer's Society, who will lead a Dementia Friends Session to give us a better understanding of what it is like living with dementia and the small ways in which we can help. Please join us at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, Main Road, from 10am to noon. All welcome!

Future Ladies Breakfasts on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month (except for August & December).

**CTAT Forum:** Thursday 12 March, Main Road Methodists Church, 7pm for 7.30pm

Praise Event - Saturday 18 April – 2pm – 5pm This will take place at St Paul's Church as part of their 60th Anniversary celebrations. The bands of all CTAT communities are invited to participate in a celebration of their favourite hymns and songs. Come along and join in praising God!





**WORKSHOPS & REFLECTION DAYS: please request further details**

- **Booking & further enquiries:** Email: [pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk)
- **Programme:** 10.30 to 4pm: arrivals & coffee from 10am. Please bring own lunch.
- **How to arrive** see: <https://www.douaiabbey.org.uk/contact-us.php>
- **Contribution** £20 made on the day (coffee & tea provided)

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**Saturday 7 March**      **Reflection: Cave – Refectory - Road:** A gentle, contemplative day led by Barbara Priest exploring our Lenten pilgrimage & its 3 monastic elements: the solitude of our *cave*, the hospitality of our *table*, & our *journey* of faith.

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**Saturday 28 March**      **Awakening to the Mystery of God** in the Scriptures, in our environment & each other *Led by Peter Bowe OSB & Martin Webb*  
To look at how our awareness of the Divine Mystery may grow, enriched over time - by the Scriptures, what is about us and through one another. How might we be more open to the Presence of God now?

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**Holy Week Retreat for Young People (2-5 April)** Again reserved for young adults. Thank you!

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**Saturday 25 April**      **Life's Fragility: Reflecting on the reality of loss, ageing, sickness & death** *led by Clare Carlisle & John Cottingham*  
We examine attempts to come to face the fragility of life, our inevitable decline & eventual demise. Do today's solutions measure up to what older philosophical/spiritual traditions offer us?

**Saturday 9 May**      **Finding Divine Sabbath in a 24/7 Digital World**  
*led by Elisabeth & Roger Major.* How to apply Jesus' teaching about the Sabbath? Where is rest & relief to be found in a relentless culture? Come away to discuss, think and experience the Presence of God in peaceful surroundings.

**Saturday 6 June**      **Workshop: Contemplative Photography** *led by Roddy Maddocks*  
Through gentle guidance, quiet reflection, & unhurried photographic wandering, learn to attune to light, colour, texture & stillness –allowing images to emerge from presence rather than haste. As novice or experienced, come to explore the monastery's peaceful grounds & sacred spaces with open heart, and leave with renewed inspiration & a clearer, quieter way of seeing.

**Saturday 13 June**      **Wider Horizons of the Spirit (III): (A Repeated Workshop)**  
**Encounters of a 1980s Indian Journey** *–led by Peter Bowe OSB*  
From a year in India in 1983, with Bede Griffiths at Shantivanam & on extensive journeys, questions arise for our Christian & spiritual journey today. How does Christ relate to Hinduism & Buddhism? Can we encounter him in other faiths? How to live by faith, Christian & otherwise, in a secular world?