

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

23rd March 2025 (3rd Sunday of Lent)

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

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

Dear All,

You may have read in the diocesan e-news that this Sunday 23rd March is the 60th anniversary of the death of the fourth Bishop of Portsmouth, Archbishop John Henry King (1880 – 1965).

The 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday will be celebrated for the repose of his soul, as there is an enduring Foundation Mass for him in our Parish for that day.

I remember him giving me the Sacrament of Confirmation many years ago in Reading, and engaging with the young people afterwards like a kindly grandfather.

During my time in Guernsey, soon after ordination to the priesthood, it was his former secretary, Monsignor Raymond Lawrence, who was Parish Priest there. So, it was a time when I learned more about this remarkable Bishop of Portsmouth from 1941 - 1965.

He was a fine historian of the Catholic Church in the Reformation, especially of the Winchester Martyrs. Winchester was the place he resided in as Bishop, not Portsmouth, and in 1954 was granted the personal title of Archbishop (ad personam). He is buried in the Winchester Catholic Cemetery.

He never learned to drive, but enjoyed travelling by train. In his last years he sported a fine beard because of his problems with eczema, and he enjoyed red wine.

May he rest in peace.

Pilgrimage to Rome prayers

Father John Lee, leading a group of 48 young people & their teachers from our Parish Area, including some from our Parish, were planning to travel from Heathrow Airport tomorrow to visit Assisi & Rome, during this Jubilee Year of Hope.

I was very sad to hear from Fr. John this afternoon that the closure of Heathrow Airport, due to the sub-station fire today, may create problems for their departure.

He asks that we pray that they may be able to get away tomorrow. We pray that Our Lady of Walsingham will petition the Lord, alongside ourselves, for them.

This Weekend's Mass arrangements

Saturday 22 nd March:	6.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Sunday 23 rd March:	9.00am at St. Michael's Church, Tadley – With Children's Liturgy!
Sunday 23 rd March:	11.00am at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

Note: The special National collection dedicated to supporting Jubilee initiatives & projects at the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham, will take place at all Masses this weekend.

REMINDER: First Holy Communion

Next preparation session: Tuesday, 25th March at 4.30pm - 5.30pm, St. Michael's Church, Tadley

My availability

For the upcoming week, I shall be generally available - with the exception of my normal day off on Monday.

Message from our Parish Administrator, Dan

Fire Safety:

Father Patrick & I are delighted to announce that Christine Caren & Ben Rowden have very kindly agreed to volunteer as Fire Wardens at St. Michael's, covering regular Masses on Saturday and Sunday. They will be receiving relevant training to equip them for this role. Other work to update & improve Parish compliance with fire safety has also begun.

Volunteer Opportunities:

St. Michael's - Despite Christine & Ben stepping forward, we still have a requirement for additional volunteers willing to become Fire Wardens, in order to ensure both weekend Masses have adequate cover in case of absence.

St. Oswald's - We currently have no Fire Wardens & therefore still on the hunt for volunteers to step forward. If you are interested, please do let me know, as now would be a great opportunity to arrange & complete the training required for both churches in one go - you would be very welcome & we would be very glad of your assistance!

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Lent – Events & resources

FINAL REMINDER: Lenten afternoon of recollection at St. Joseph's, Basingstoke - Sunday 23rd March

Times: 2.00pm – 5.00pm. In the light of God's Word and of the call to grow in hope in this Jubilee Year, this Pastoral Area afternoon Lent retreat wants to help us live Lent as a journey of hope, rooted in Christ. The retreat will include a reflection meditation, time for personal prayer, opportunity to avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and sharing.

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Archangels' Events

Archangels Meeting at St. Michael's – Thursday 27th March at 7pm

The Archangel's will be meeting in the Parish Room at St. Michael's. All are welcome! Equally, if anyone has any ideas for social events that they would like to see in our calendar, then please let Pauline Penfold (07749 409920) or Mary Lee (07821 254100) know and we'll raise them with the team at this meeting.

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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.casop Portsmouth.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,

Father Patrick

Fr. Patrick Tansey

Parish Priest

Email: tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

A registered charity number 1199568

St Michael's Church, Tadley

St Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

Tel: 0118 981 4572

Registered office: Diocesan Office, St Edmund House, Bishop Crispian Way,
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