

## 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>					
<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Feria, Memorial (M), Feast (F), Solemnity (S)</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Mass Intention</b>
Sat	28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Palm Sunday – Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Palm Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	Kelvin Scott RIP
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Palm Sunday	11.00am	St. Oswald's	Lambert Hopwood RIP
Mon	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	NO MASS			
Tues	31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	NO MASS – Fr. Stephen will be attending the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral			
Weds	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	Holy Week	9.30pm	St. Michael's	Terry & Norman Lee RIP
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	St. Michael's	
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Good Friday Liturgy Service	3.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter Vigil	8.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	Teresa Murtagh RIP
Sun	5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter Sunday	11.00am	St. Oswald's	

*The annual Diocesan Holy Places collection will be taken at the Good Friday Liturgy Service*

*Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass, except Tues/Fri in Lent*

*Stations of the Cross: After Tuesday & Friday Masses in Lent*

*Confessions: Before Weekday Masses; Saturdays in Lent 11.00am-Noon at St. Michael's or by appointment*

### **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. It commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem when the rejoicing crowd used palm branches to lay on the ground before him. This was because they believed he was their messianic king. Traditionally, palm branches were used like this on occasions of festivity and were seen as symbols of joy and triumph.



The full title of this Sunday is 'Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord' because the narrative of the Christ's Passion is read out. The liturgy begins in triumph, but the shadow of Cross quickly looms large. This reflects how short-lived Christ's joyous entry was into Jerusalem. As we enter Holy Week, the reading of Christ's Passion helps to focus our hearts and minds on the critical events of our salvation that are about to be played out in the liturgy. It puts us in the right frame of mind and encourages us to more intense fasting, spiritual reading, and prayer. This allows us to be drawn more fully into a deep contemplation of the dramatic final days of Jesus' terrible suffering and shameful crucifixion. It is in the Passion of Jesus that we witness and come to understand the fullness of God's love and mercy for us.

In this final week of Lent, let us be mindful of the following words spoken by Jesus to St Maria Faustina, the Apostle of Divine Mercy: "There are few souls that contemplate my passion with true feeling. I give great graces to souls who meditate devoutly on my passion." (*Diary of St Faustina #747*)

## CHURCHSUITE and Parish Directory

Many thanks indeed to all parishioners who have already registered their details on CHURCHSUITE. We estimate that at least 1/3 of our parishioners have already done so. The feedback we've had so far indicates that it all pretty straightforward, so we'd like to encourage all remaining parishioners to sign up as soon as possible. Please see the links in the item later in this Newsletter.

There are paper copies of the Registration Form AND the new Parish Directory available at Masses this weekend. **Please kindly only take the paper copies if you are not able to access the internet** (remember, you automatically get an electronic copy of the Parish Director when you register online). Please return completed paper Registration Forms to the Parish Office. Thank you!

## LENTEN OBSERVANCES



### Parish Stations of the Cross

Immediately after the 7.00pm Friday Mass at St. Michael's  
and the 12 Noon Tuesday Mass at St. Oswald's

### Parish Confessions

- Before each of the Weekday Masses
- Saturdays in Lent 11.00am - Noon at St. Michael's
- By appointment via the Parish Office



### Pastoral Area Lenten Reconciliation

The Pastoral Area Lenten Reconciliation will take place at 7.30 pm on Friday 27th 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.

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER LITURGIES IN OUR PARISH

### PALM SUNDAY

Saturday 28th March: 6.00pm - Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
Sunday 29th March: 9.00am - Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
Including Solemn Procession with Blessed Palms  
Sunday 29th March: 11.00am - Mass at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

### HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday 2nd April: 7.30pm - St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
Mass of The Lord's Supper  
Followed by Watching Before The Blessed Sacrament until 10.30pm

### GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 3rd April: 3.00pm - 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 4th April: 2.00pm - Blessing of Polish Easter Baskets – St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
8.00pm - St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
The Easter Vigil, lighting of the Easter Fire, Sacred Readings & the 1st Mass of Easter

### EASTER DAY

Sunday 5th April: 9.00am - Mass at St. Michael's Church, Tadley  
Sunday 5th April: 11.00am - Mass at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

### EASTER, CHRISTMAS & MASS OFFERINGS

Parish priests in our diocese can choose between 2 types of stipends (i.e. salary) options. They can either choose to receive a basic monthly payment which is then supplemented throughout the year by also receiving the Easter, Christmas, and Mass offerings. This was the type of stipend that Fr. Patrick received.

Alternatively, the other type of stipend the priest can choose to receive is one whereby they accept a higher monthly payment (which offers a more assured amount of income) and in so doing they then accept not to receive any other supplementary stipends throughout the year (i.e. Easter, Christmas or Mass offerings). Fr. Stephen receives this higher monthly payment stipend and so this means the Easter, Christmas and Mass offerings go towards the parish income.

As Fr Stephen's monthly stipend is paid by the parish, then going forward if we continue to make our offerings as before, we will ensure that the parish does not suffer a shortfall. If you have any queries, please speak to Denis Murtagh (Chair of the Parish Finance Committee) or Eamonn McArdle (Parish Treasurer).

**NOTE: Easter donations can now be made using "Give As You Live" via this link: [Parish Easter Collection](#)**

### GIFT AID UPDATE

Gift Aid envelopes for Tax Year 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2027 are to be made available after Masses this weekend & next weekend. Please add your name to your envelope box if it is not already listed. Thank you.

### NEW PARISH DATABASE SYSTEM – CHURCHSUITE

The Parish is now using a new system called CHURCHSUITE. This is a modern parish database management system that allows Parishes to more effectively store parishioner information, communicate with parishioners (e.g. Newsletter distribution), organise church rotas, manage Gift Aid, etc. It enables all parishioner information & data privacy consents to be safely secured in one place & provides full compliance with GDPR Privacy Law. It has been sourced & provided by the Diocese & is currently being adopted across all Parishes in our Pastoral Area.

As a result, we therefore need to renew all the information we hold about parishioners. Therefore, to ensure you remain registered as a parishioner and to continue to receive communications from the Parish, including the Newsletter, please do kindly fill out a new Registration Form at the earliest possible opportunity. There will eventually be a cut-off date when Newsletters will only be sent via CHURCHSUITE & this will be announced in advance. Please note the following:

- There is a separate adult and child registration form.
- Once you have submitted your completed Registration Form, you will receive a confirmation email with an electronic copy of our **Parish Directory** attached for you to download!
- If you **ONLY** wish to register to receive our Newsletter & don't want to provide your full contact details, you can choose to just simply provide your email address when completing the Registration Form.
- Printed forms will be made available in both our Churches from next weekend for Parishioners who have difficulty in accessing the internet. Please kindly arrange for completed forms to be returned to the Parish Office.

**The Adult Registration Form is available via the following link:**

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/fqeaeshz>

or via this QR Code:



**The Child Registration Form is available via the following link:**

<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/hislzxwa>

or via this QR Code:



### Called and Gifted - Registration Open!

A reminder that Called & Gifted is returning to our Pastoral Area!

C&G is a great way to prayerfully discover your spiritual gifts (called Charisms) and use them in your everyday life. As a result, you become more fully the person that God created you to be, leading to deeper peace and joy and greater confidence in being a channel of God's love for others. For a short video (1m 30s) from the authors of C&G, the Catherine of Siena Institute, click here: <https://vimeo.com/322254299>

There will be four 90 minute sessions on Monday evenings, 13, 20, 27 April and 11 May from 7:30 to 9:00pm at St Bede's Hall. These sessions will enable you to learn about the charisms and get an initial insight as to which ones you may have. You will then have the opportunity to book a personal discernment meeting with a trained member of the Called and Gifted Team to deepen your discernment. Finally, you will have the opportunity to join a small group of people with similar charisms to you to help you complete your discernment and start using your charisms. For more info on C&G, please see [www.calledandgifted.org.uk](http://www.calledandgifted.org.uk)

The cost per person is £30 which covers the learning, discerning and using stages above plus a comprehensive workbook that covers the whole journey and access to a library of online resources. **To register, please email Joan Kent at [jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) with your name, contact details and the church you attend.**

### Life in the Spirit seminars

Life in the Spirit is being run again in the Portsmouth Diocese starting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. There are seven sessions with the last one being on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, due to Ascension Day and half-term. Note that these sessions are now all being held online. For more details and to register, please see: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/Ontyh8dxTF6b72BXv1LByg>  
Or use the QR Code.



### ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

#### Lenten Soup Lunch Update



Many thanks to the parishioners who came along last Tuesday to enjoy each other's company over a soup and bread lunch, whilst raising funds for Little Hospice Hoima in Uganda – and to those who could not attend but sent donations. Later this year, Jo Mellor will be returning to Hoima to work with their hospice team, who provide essential palliative care services to patients and their families facing life-limiting illnesses in this rural area. The hospice is solely funded by voluntary contributions.

A further £250.55 was raised on 24 March, bringing the grand total to £410.60, which will be greatly appreciated by Little Hospice Hoima and make a real difference. Thank you for your generosity!

Thanks also to the team of Archangels who made and donated the soups, provided the bread and butter and served the soups at the lunches, also creating opportunities for parishioners to socialise together.

**CONTINUED OVERLEAF....**

### **“Life of Christ” – Saturday 20 June – 10am – 3.30pm**

The Archangels will be organising a trip to the Wintershall Estate, near Guildford, to see an open-air performance in their grounds by over 100 actors of their three-act play of the “Life of Christ”: the Nativity; scenes from the Ministry of Christ; the Passion of Christ. The Passion element has been performed on Good Friday in the centre of Guildford and in recent years in Trafalgar Square. It is an immersive theatre experience where the action unfolds around the audience, particularly in Acts 2 and 3. It runs from 10am to 3.30pm on Saturday 20 June. We highly recommend the experience! On previous trips, we have travelled by coach from St Michael’s at 8.15am. Please see a short ‘Life of Christ’ promotional video at this link: <https://youtu.be/bhvEV8zxhe8?si=c1tHoTfOOEP6VHP9>

Due to the nature of some scenes, they recommend parental guidance for children under 5 years old. Ticket prices for the performance are Adult: £40; Child (3-18) £20; Family (2 Adults, 2 Children) £110, but if we have a group of over 30, we should be able to negotiate a discount, if we book early enough. Please note that coach or minibus travel will be **an extra cost**. People are invited to take folding chairs, rugs and packed lunches. Toilets are dotted throughout the site.

The Estate will provide free transport for people with reduced mobility from the car park to the opening setting and then between the main locations of the action around the estate and back to the coach. Interest was expressed by members of other CTAT church communities at the CTAT Forum, so the opportunity to book is also being offered to CTAT members. To gauge interest to enable us to negotiate a ticket discount and obtain suitable transport quotes, please sign up on the forms in the church porches **by Sunday, 12 April**, or contact Mary Lee on 07821 254100 or email her at [maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maryt.lee@yahoo.co.uk). A price to cover tickets and transport from St Michael’s will then be advised and those who have registered an interest will be able to confirm their participation.

## **CTAT**

### **Palm Sunday in Silchester**

From the Village Hall through Roman Calleva to St Mary’s church via the amphitheatre. Gather outside the Village Hall for a 9.30am start. Remember it is the day that the clocks change! Parking available in the Pavillion car park.

### **CTAT Good Friday Service**

Friday 3 April, 10am, outside St Mary’s Church, Newchurch Road, Tadley, public witness to our local community, together with our fellow Christians, to the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Ladies’ Breakfast – Saturday 11 April**

The next Ladies’ Breakfast will be held at the Tadley URC’s Immanuel Centre, RG26 3NJ, on Saturday 11 April from 10am to noon. We shall be joined by the popular local folk duo, Thistledew, who will perform a mixed selection of serious and light-hearted songs to raise funds for Basingstoke Foodbank.

### **Praise Event - Saturday 18 April – 2pm – 5pm**

This will take place at St Paul’s Church as part of their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. The bands of all CTAT communities have been invited to participate in a celebration of their favourite hymns and songs. Please come along and join in praising God!

## **Basingstoke Foodbank**

Basingstoke Foodbank has a few vacancies. Do please call/email them if you'd like to find out more:

- 1) We have 1 or 2 spaces in our centre teams to welcome and chat with clients as they visit our centres. As many of you already know, we do like to be able to offer a short prayer for our clients when sensitively possible, so our centre volunteers will be Christians who would want to do this because they know that prayer can change people's situations.
- 2) We have 2 driver spaces on a Monday morning. Our van goes out to our St Michael's Foodbank Centre at about 9.15/30 and collects spare goods after it closes at 12.30pm. In between, the van team will often collect donations from 1 or 2 of our supermarket collection crates, and sometimes will help in the warehouse.
- 3) Trustees. We continue to build our Trustee team, and are looking for a Christian who has experience of running a charity, and who has a good understanding and experience of all aspects of charitable governance, especially fundraising, and policies. The Board of Trustees meet bi-monthly. Again, do contact me if you want to hear more.

Paula Vallance (Development Manager) [paulavallance@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:paulavallance@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk)  
07941 336464 and 07722 673645