

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

Priest-in-Charge: Father Stephen Vooght

Parish Administrator: Dan Wisniewski

Safeguarding (St. Michael's Church): Christne Caren
safeguarding.tad.sm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding (St. Oswald's Church): Ellen Goodall
safeguarding.tad.so@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Pastoral Facilitation Team: Gerry Penfold (Chair)

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

Address: St. Michael's Presbytery, Bishopswood Road, Tadley, RG26 4HG

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	1st Aug	1 st Saturday	9.30am	St. Michael's	
		18 th Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm		Patrick & Doris Duffy RIP
Sun	2 nd Aug	18 th Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	Marc Mildenhall
Mon	3 rd Aug	NO MASS			
Tues	4 th Aug	St. John Vianney (M)	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	
Weds	5 th Aug	Feria	9.30am	St. Michael's	Mary Brooker RIP
Thurs	6 th Aug	Transfiguration of The Lord (F)	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	7 th Aug	1 st Friday	7.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	8 th Aug	19 th Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Amanda Togher RIP
Sun	9 th Aug	19 th Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass					
Confessions: Before Weekday Masses, Saturday at St. Michael's 11.00am - 12 Noon, or by appointment					
Mass Intentions: If you would like a Mass Intention, please contact Dan in the Parish Office					



THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

The miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand marks the beginning of a new section in St Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus reveals, through his mighty deeds, the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Following his rejection at Nazareth and the death of John the Baptist, Jesus responds not with discouragement but with compassion. He feeds the hungry crowd, revealing that God's saving plan continues despite human opposition. While the miracle satisfies physical hunger, its deeper meaning points to an even greater truth. Throughout the Old Testament, God taught his people that true life comes from him alone. As Moses reminded Israel after the gift of manna in the wilderness: *"Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God"* (Deuteronomy 8:3). The manna sustained Israel's bodies, but it also taught them to depend daily upon God's loving providence.

By miraculously feeding the multitude in a deserted place, Jesus reveals himself as the new and greater Moses, who not only provides bread for the body but offers himself as the true Bread of Life. The abundant food, with twelve baskets left over, signifies the overflowing generosity of God's Kingdom, where there is always enough for all who come to him in faith.

This miracle reveals that God alone is the true source of both our earthly sustenance and our eternal fulfilment, for only he can satisfy the deepest hunger of our soul. Material things, valuable though they are, can never satisfy the deepest longings of the human heart. Only God, who gives us life and nourishes us with his Word and the Holy Eucharist, can satisfy our hunger for truth, love and eternal life.

Diocesan Catechist Day – Portsmouth Diocese **Saturday 10 October | 9:30am–1:30pm | St Bede's, Basingstoke**

Calling all our Catechists (regardless of whether you have had any formal training or not). Join Catechists from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer, inspiration, and practical formation as we reflect on our shared mission to form missionary disciples. Inspired by Jesus' words, *"Go therefore and make disciples..."* (Matthew 28:19), we will explore how catechists can lead others to Christ, hand on the living faith of the Church, accompany people in conversion, and help build vibrant missionary parishes. Whether you are an experienced catechist or new to the ministry, you are warmly invited to attend.

To register your interest please go to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email Meghan, Formation for Mission Team Leader at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) – Article 18 petition

ACN have informed us that they are running a petition in support of Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees everyone the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion. Yet across the world, this fundamental right is under threat.

They plan on taking this petition to the UK government around March of next year, in support of their campaign for religious freedom. Internationally, ACN wants to ultimately present the petition to the United Nations to help protect people's freedom to practice the religion they choose.

Click here for details: [Sign our Article 18 Petition | Aid to the Church in Need](#), or see the poster in our churches.

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Parish Afternoon Walk and Tea on Sunday 16 August

The Archangels' Annual Parish Walk, led by Pauline Penfold, will take place in Silchester on Sunday 16 August. The plan is to:

- meet at Silchester village playground car park at 2.30pm
- walk to St. Mary the Virgin Church down The Drove, passing the old museum. It's about one and a quarter miles, so should take about 40 minutes. This is a flat walk with no stiles.
- there will be tea/coffee and cake to buy at the Church and we can sit and chat. Non-walkers who would like to join the group at the church for the tea and chat, should aim to arrive around 3pm. There is some parking available.
- then the walkers will retrace their steps back to the car park the same way, unless some want to go back a different way alongside the outer wall on a green narrower undulating path - which is about a quarter of a mile longer route back.

Please register on the sign-up sheets in our church porches for the walk and/or the tea by Sunday 9 August, so that we can give St Mary's notice of the numbers expected for tea. Please make a note of Pauline's mobile number - 07749 409920 - in case your plans change on the day, so that you can let her know if you won't be joining her on the walk after all. Many thanks!

Picnic Tea & Rounders in Silchester – Sunday 6 September

This is now being run as a CTAT event, led by St Mary the Virgin Church community. Please see 'Praise, Pitch & Pastries!' below for details and sign up on the form in church porches to join in this fun afternoon and hopefully form a St Michael's team for the rounders - but spectators are equally welcomed!



Praise, Pitch & Pastries!

Please come along to Silchester Playing Field, RG7 2NJ, on the afternoon of Sunday 6 September for a picnic tea from 3pm, followed by a game of rounders at 4pm. There will also be the opportunity to join with other CTAT churches in the marquee at 5pm for a joint worship service to round off the day. Please bring your own picnic. St Mary's will provide some hot and cold drinks.

Please sign up on the sheets in church porches, if you plan to come along and indicate if you would like to join in a rounders team – it would be great if we can form a parish team! No obligation to play though, spectators equally welcomed!

CTAT Ladies' and Men's Breakfasts

There will be no meetings in August. The next Ladies' Breakfast will take place on Saturday 12 September and the Men's Breakfast on Saturday 26 September, both at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, RG26 3NJ, from 10am to noon.

Refreshments at St Mary the Virgin Church, Silchester in August

The church will be open for the purchase of refreshments from 3pm – 5pm every Saturday and Sunday in August – tea, coffee, cold drinks and cake. All welcome

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.casoportsmouth.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/>