

Parish of Tadley (with Kingsclere) and Burghfield Common - PARISH NEWSLETTER
8th June 2025 (PENTECOST SUNDAY)

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

Dear All,

In the coming week I am not available until the weekend 14th/15th June, when I shall be celebrating all three of our usual Masses. Having a break as planned earlier in the year & especially in need of rest having had trouble with my asthma over the last few days.

The week after, I shall also not be available, except for two existing parish commitments & the weekend Masses. Following this, my time will primarily be given over to organising my retirement up until I leave the presbytery in September.

My apologies for any inconvenience caused, but as advised by our Diocesan team, my retirement must now be my priority. Therefore, from now on our Parish Administrator, Dan, will update you on matters if I am unable to do so because of my forthcoming commitments.

Below you will see a photograph of a surprise farewell birthday and retirement tea at the Reverend Karen West's home in Silchester. I agreed some years ago to be a link with the Silchester Churches Together Around Tadley (CTAT) group, which has facilitated holiday clubs and other ecumenical events in that part of our Parish Area, and I'm grateful to Peter Hughes of our Silchester community for his Catholic representation on the group alongside me. On Tuesday, I attended what I believed to be my last meeting with the group. Well, the meeting was a delightful gathering of fellow Christians from the Anglican, Methodist and Community Church traditions which Peter and I had met with over the years to forward together the work of Christ. Thank you to the Reverend Karen for hosting this moving celebration. It was good to have the Reverend John Banks of the Methodist Church and Ed Vassie of the Community Church there, alongside Jan (Peter's wife) a member of Saint Mary's church in, Silchester, and also Gill Lawson & Kathy Evans of Silchester Methodist Church.

Thanks to them all, and to others involved with the group over many years, for their work for ecumenism and our Christian fellowship in following Christ. Happy memories! Hopefully any new priest will engage also with this work. Our thanks to Peter Hughes for the photograph.



First Communion Sunday Report

"Last Sunday, Davidas, George, Isabella, Lea, Luka, Maya, Olivia and Susanna received the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time at Mass in St. Oswald's Church, celebrated by Father Patrick, assisted by Deacon Tony Darroch.

During the homily, Father Patrick reminded us that the Eucharist fills us with grace and heavenly blessings, and unites us to Jesus and to one another.

Thanks to our music groups from both churches for their fine liturgical music and those ladies of St. Oswald's church for the beautiful floral arrangements.

After Mass, everyone was invited for refreshments organised by parishioners of the St. Oswald's community and the cutting of the magnificent celebration cake made by Mel."

Our special thanks to Marion Evans and Jenny Seaborn for their ministry over many years in assisting me in our Parish First Communion programmes, enabling many young people to grow closer to Jesus our Saviour. And thanks to Ellen Goodall for the group photograph & to Mel Stevens for the photo of her cake.



Pastoral Area - Ten Year Mission Plan

Don't forget! There is a meeting for all parishioners of this Parish in the Leonard Rooms, adjacent to St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common, on **Monday 30th June from 6:30 PM**, to provide feedback from the Saint Bede's meeting concerning the move of our Pastoral Area to become one Parish. Will you be there? Please let Dan in the Parish Office know ASAP if you plan to attend.

Anne Heavey RIP - Funeral Arrangements

The Funeral will take place on Tuesday 10th June at 12:00 PM at Saint Mary's church, Upper Woolhampton, followed by committal at West Berkshire Crematorium at 2:00 PM. May Anne rest in peace.

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This Weekend's Mass arrangements

Saturday 7th June: 6.00pm at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Sunday 8th June: 9.00am at St. Michael's Church, Tadley
Sunday 8th June: 11.00am at St. Oswald's Church, Burghfield Common

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2nd Collections in June

15th June: Day for Life
29th June: Peter's Pence

Gift Aiders: Please be sure you use the correctly labelled envelope located at the back of your box.

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Parish Office Update

St. Michael's Church Roof

In addition to the planned works reported in our previous Newsletter, we now have a leak during periods of heavy rain from the top of the West Window in the Sanctuary area. A bucket has been positioned to catch the drips, so please avoid this area. Our Diocesan insurers have been notified & a contractor visited on Thursday to assess the situation, so we now await their findings & quote for remedial works.

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Archangels Social Group Events

"Fete on The Green" on Saturday 14 June:

Please visit the Archangels' stalls to raise funds for St Michael's Hospice at St Paul's 'Fete on the Green' on Saturday 14 June from noon to 4pm – all very welcome! There will be lots of stalls and activities for all the family to enjoy, either on The Green or in St Paul's Church opposite.

Many thanks to those who have already donated sweets and/or wine for prizes for two of our games or given the Archangels a cash donation instead – all very much appreciated! There is still time to donate wine and sweets in the marked donation boxes in our church porches this coming weekend, 7/8 June. The sweets are used to make up colourful mixed sweet jars of different sizes. Sadly, it is best to avoid chocolate, so they don't melt together and stick to the inside of the jars, unless they are small, wrapped chocolates that will fit in a jar. Wrapped boiled sweets, chews and lollipops are usually fine. The wine will be used for a game to 'Find a Bottle of Wine in a Bottle Bag' (over 18s only!). All funds raised from our various games and stalls will go to St Michael's Hospice in Basingstoke to fund its vital work.

Mingle at St Michael's:

The June Mingle will take place on **Wednesday 18 June from 2pm – 4pm** in the Parish Room or hopefully outside on the patio – please join the Archangels then for a warm welcome and tea/coffee, cake and conversation!

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CTAT

REMINDER: June CTAT Ladies' Breakfast cancelled owing to the 'Fete on the Green'. The next Ladies' Breakfast will therefore take place on **Saturday 12 July**.

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2025 BACCA Summer Fete

The Basingstoke African Caribbean Catholic Association (BACCA) invites you to the 2025 Summer Fete at St Bede's School field on Saturday, 28 June 2025. Ticket sales will commence after Mass from May 2025. For any questions, please contact BACCA: bacca.unitedkingdom@gmail.com.

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Diocesan Annual Report 23/24 now published:

The Diocese's annual report and annual set of accounts for 2023/24 have now been published & you can access them via this link: [Catholic-Diocese-of-Portsmouth-2024-Annual-Report.pdf](#)

In his commentary on the year, Bishop Philip reflected that this year in our Diocese was punctuated with numerous milestones, including the 40th anniversary of the Bishop's ordination as a priest. It was also the Golden Jubilee of our special link with the Archdiocese of Bamenda in Cameroon.

"The many significant and special moments that have categorised this last year prompt us to honour the past, to embrace the present, and eagerly to anticipate the future," said the Bishop.

The report covers many of the wide-ranging activities that took place across the Diocese between September 2023 and August 2024, including an update on the Closer to Christ Campaign, the work of our hospital and ethnic chaplaincies, the work of the Bishop's Spiritual Formation Team and a look at the pivotal role of Parish Finance Committees.

REMINDER: Diocesan Formation Days for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and for Readers –18 October 2025

Fr Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy Formation, will be running further formation days for readers and EMHC. The EMHC day will include a session on taking HC to the sick and housebound. The Readers' Day will include a session on Lectio Divina. They will take place at St Bede's Church/Hall in Basingstoke. Anyone interested is encouraged to register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Caritas: Summer Newsletter

The Summer issue of the Caritas newsletter is now available: [The Summer Issue](#)

CAFOD - Update

Jo Lewry from CAFOD Portsmouth writes:

Thank you for all you do to follow Jesus' example of loving our neighbour. Whether through donations to Lent Family Fast Day, the Myanmar earthquake appeal or through prayer and campaigning, thank you for helping to build a better world that reflects the Kingdom of God.

Pope Leo XIV reminds us that his ministry has begun in the *'heart of the Jubilee Year, devoted in a particular way to hope'*. Describing Jubilee as a time of conversion and renewal, he emphasised how Jubilee is *'an opportunity to leave conflicts behind and embark on a new path, confident that, by working together, each of us in accordance with his or her own sensibilities and responsibilities, can build a world in which everyone can lead an authentically human life in truth, justice and peace.'* In this year of Jubilee, 'Pilgrims of Hope', all are invited to return to a right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. We have lots of resources which can be found on our [Jubilee webpage](#).

We are joining with Missio, Aid to the Church in Need and Stella Maris in this Jubilee Year to pray the **"Rosary of Hope"** online on **Tuesday 10 June at 7pm**. You can [register here to get the Zoom link](#). Please promote in your bulletins – all are welcome as we pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary together.

Sea Sunday – Stella Maris Sunday

As you know, this is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and kindly takes a second collection for the work of Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea), which this year falls on **12/13th July**.

Related to that, all parishioners are warmly invited to an **online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19th June from 7:30pm to 9pm**. You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year or so, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year. To attend this webinar, please sign up at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar

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West Berks Foodbank - Update

The WB Foodbank writes:

As we approach the school holidays, families should be looking forward to a time of joy and relaxation. However, for many this brings the worry of putting food on the table. When schools close, free school meals stop. For the 10th consecutive year, West Berks Foodbank is addressing this issue with the Hungry Holidays project. 87 Schools in West Berkshire, primary and secondary, have been contacted and asked to identify families that they know are going to be struggling over the summer holidays. So far 46 schools have replied (48 in 2024) so we will be providing support to at least 478 households (555 in 2024) with 1,026 under 18 year olds (1,276 in 2024) – so the this year's figures are very comparable to last year's. The food will be sent to the schools, who will distribute it before the end of term. This is a major undertaking and we really need your support to make it successful. Donations and purchased goods are not matching the stock distributed. Last year the stock sent out in July alone, which included the Hungry Holidays parcels, totalled 23,000 kgs! With your help, this year's Hungry Holidays project can succeed in supporting all these families. Attached is a list of items that are urgently needed and will email an updated list in a couple of weeks. Cash donations are also needed as for the schools with large deliveries, an order will be sent directly from a supermarket paid for by WBF. Details for giving can be found on the website at [West Berks Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis](#)

Ambient Sponge Pudding

Biscuits

Cereal

Cereal Bars

UHT Milk Full Fat or Semi-skimmed

Instant Noodles

Jam

Long Life Juice

Sugar

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Meat Meals Spag

Bol/Curry/Stew

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/>

Best wishes for the weekend & Happy Pentecost!

Father Patrick

Fr. Patrick Tansey

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Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

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