Parish of St. Michael, Tadley and St. Oswald, Burghfield Common

Priest-in-Charge: Father Stephen Vooght
Parish Administrator: Dan Wisniewski

Safeguarding (St. Michael's Church): Christine Caren
safeguarding.tad.sm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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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	7th Nov	1st Saturday	9.30am	St. Michael's	
		32nd Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm		Canon David Mahy RIP
Sun	8th Nov	32nd Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	Sam & Luke Carslyle and Maureen Tull
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	
Mon	9th Nov	NO MASS			
Tues	10th Nov	St. Leo the Great (M)	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	Derek Taplin RIP
Weds	11th Nov	St. Martin of Tours (M)	9.30am	St. Michael's	Josie Sewrey RIP
Thurs	12th Nov	St. Josaphat (M)	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	13th Nov	Feria	7.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sat	14th Nov	33rd Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	15th Nov	33rd Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	Rowan & Oliver Helm
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	Patricia Butler & Frank Fallon

Children's Liturgy at St. Michael's will take place at the 9.00am Mass this Sunday 8th November
Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary after Mass.
Confessions: Before Weekday Masses, Saturdays 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

REMEBRANCE SUNDAY

This Sunday, 8th November is Remembrance Sunday when we commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and since.



THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS

As we approach the end of the Church's liturgical year, this Sunday's Gospel of the wise and foolish virgins (Matthew 25:1–13) invites us to reflect on the end of time and the importance of being spiritually prepared to meet the Lord.

Jesus describes ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom to arrive. Five are wise because they bring extra oil for their lamps, while the other five are foolish because they fail to make adequate preparations. When the bridegroom finally arrives, only those whose lamps are still burning brightly are ready to accompany him into the wedding feast. The bridegroom represents Christ, and the wedding feast points towards the eternal happiness of God's Kingdom, when Christ will be united with His Church in the heavenly marriage feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7–9).

The oil in our lamps can be understood as representing the spiritual life that sustains our faith: our prayer, love of God and neighbour, faithfulness to Christ's teaching and perseverance in living according to His will. It reminds us that it is not enough simply to call ourselves Christians; we must continually nourish our relationship with God through His grace.

The foolish virgins remind us that we cannot postpone our spiritual preparation or rely on the faith of others. Each of us must take personal responsibility for keeping the light of Christ burning within us. We do not know the day or the hour when the Lord will come. Our calling, therefore, is to live each day ready to welcome Him, so that we may enter joyfully into the eternal wedding feast He has prepared for us.

SYCAMORE COURSE

The sixth session of the course takes place at 7.00pm – 9.00pm this Tuesday 10th November in the Parish Room of St. Michael's Church, Tadley, and is entitled:
THE BIBLE: *What is the bible? Can we trust the bible? How the bible can change your life.*
All are welcome to attend.

DIOCESAN LAY LEADERS CONFERENCE: SATURDAY 21st November, 9.00am - 3.30pm

Inspired by our ten-year Mission Plan, *You Will Be My Witnesses,* the Lay Leaders Conference will take place on Saturday 21 November the Solent Hotel Whiteley near Southampton and run from 9.00am to 3.30pm. It will offer an opportunity to share experiences, explore fresh ideas and consider how clergy and laity can work together to strengthen our parishes and bring more people to know Jesus Christ. As we look to the future of our Diocese, we want as many people as possible to be part of this important conversation.

Whether you are involved with liturgy, catechesis, pastoral councils, outreach or any other aspect of parish life, this conference is for you.

There is no charge for attending though you will need to register in advance via this link:
Lay leaders conference 21 November 2026 registration form

ADoRE ONLINE RETREAT: SATURDAY 28th November, 10am-1pm GMT on Zoom

The theme this month is "THE POWER OF LOVE- How to have victory in spiritual warfare". Mini retreat morning including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and an inspiring talk from guest speaker Joe Livingston, Catholic Evangelist and author with a healing ministry.

Register in advance at: bit.ly/ADORENOV2026 More information at: www.altonrenewal.com

PRAYER AND REFLECTON FOR ADVENT - ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BASINGSTOKE: SUNDAY 29th Nov., 2pm - 4pm

All parishioners in our Pastoral Area are invited to this event, which will be led by Sr. Issy from the Verbum Dei community, with reflections on MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS, Mark 1: 1-8 (Gospel for the second Sunday of Advent: Proclamation of John the Baptist: Prepare the way) and Psalm 80 (psalm of the first Sunday of Advent: Let your face shine on us, that we may be saved).

ON THE WAY: MISSIONARY LEAD

If you are joining the series here, **B.E.C.O.M.E.** is our simple way of describing the journey from spiritual curiosity towards following Jesus and helping others follow Him: Belong in Community, Encounter Christ, Commit to Growth, Ongoing Renewal, Missionary Led and Evangelising Witness.

The **M** in **B.E.C.O.M.E.** is Missionary Led.

Missionary leadership begins with service. It is about helping other people hear Christ's call and giving them the encouragement, formation and trust they need to respond.

Our parish needs priests, deacons, lay leaders and volunteers, each serving in their own role and sharing responsibility for one mission. Healthy leadership does not gather every task into the hands of the same few people. It notices gifts, helps people grow and creates room for new leaders to emerge.

There are already encouraging signs. The Leadership Team has gradually moved from discussing the practicalities of becoming one parish and individual projects towards discerning the kind of parish we are trying to become. When leaders from different church communities work together, relationships grow and people discover gifts and experience in another community which can help their own.

The new Parish Pastoral Council, which will bring people from across the parish together for shared listening, discernment and advice, will be another important step. Beyond formal structures, our Local Mission Plan seeks a broader leadership culture. Alpha, where people can explore Christian faith, and Called & Gifted, which helps people recognise the gifts God may have given them, should increasingly connect people with volunteering and ministry, where potential leaders can be noticed, accompanied and supported.

Our volunteering work begins by understanding and valuing what already exists across all five churches. We will map ministries, identify local contacts, improve communication and build a parish-wide network. Over time, people should be better supported, properly safeguarded and able to share skills across the parish.

The aim is not simply to fill positions. It is to form servant leaders who help others hear and respond to Christ's call. A missionary leader does not only complete a task. A missionary leader helps another person discover that they too have a part to play.

Whose gifts could you encourage, and what part might Christ be asking you to play?

Next week: Evangelising Witness.

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Mingle @ St Michael's

Please join us on Wednesday 18 November in the Parish Room from 2pm to 4pm. All welcome!

People's Emergency Briefing – Thursday 12 November

A film screening and discussion with our local MP and councillors on the climate and nature crisis at St. Paul's Church, The Green, Tadley, RG26 3PB on Thursday 12 November from 7pm to 9.15pm. Tickets are free, but limited and must be booked in advance at:
https://www.tickettailor.com/events/churchestogehteraroundtadley/2383608

CTAT Ladies' Breakfast – Saturday 14 November

The next Ladies' Breakfast will take place on Saturday 14 November at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, RG26 3NJ, from 10am to noon, when Nick Bhugeloo of A&N Wellbeing Services will speak about "The Art of Looking After You": *Small changes, healthier boundaries, a more balanced life.* If you missed his May session on "The Sandwich Generation", you can view it on his YouTube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSrrv4uQqWg All welcome!

CTAT Forum - Thursday 19 November

We will be hosting the next CTAT Forum at St Michael's on Thursday 19 November, refreshments in the Parish Room from 7pm for the meeting to start at 7.30pm. All welcome!

CONTINUED OVERLEAF…..

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Discover the Missing Piece – Saturday 21 November
Advent begins this year on 29 November and with it the busyness of the run-up to Christmas, but, amidst all the activity, an important piece of the jigsaw can easily go missing! We are invited to discover the missing piece on Saturday 21 November. Choose from a range of ways designed to help us reflect on the true meaning of Christmas in the peace of Silchester Methodist Church, Pamber Road, RG7 2NY (opposite Soke Road). All welcome from 10am to 12.30pm - please drop in for an hour or go for the whole morning. There is no charge to experience this oasis of peace in preparation for Advent.

Tickets for the TCM Panto: Treasure Island
Tickets will go on sale at 2pm on Monday 2 November and may be booked online at:
https://www.ticketsource.com/christchurch-players
Performances of Treasure Island will take place at Tadley Common Methodist Church, Newchurch Road, RG26 4HN on Friday 27 November from 7pm – 9.30pm; Saturday 28 November from 5pm – 7.30pm; Friday 4 December from 7pm – 9.30pm; Saturday 5 December from 5pm – 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 for under 12s and £8.50 for all others.

HAMPSHIRE HOIMA HOSPITAL FUNDRAISING EVENT: FRIDAY 13th NOVEMBER

The Hampshire Hoima Hospital Charity is organising a Bollywood themed fundraising event, with dancing and Indian food, at St. Mary Hall, Overton, from 7.00pm on Friday 13th November.



You may recall that the Hoima Hospice in Uganda featured in our Newsletter for the weekend of 11th Oct, when we described Jo Mellor's visit to the Hospice where the £410.60 previously raised by our Archangels Social Group was formally handed over.