

NORTH WEST

HAMPSHIRE

PASTORAL AREA

Serving the Parishes of

ANDOVER, BASINGSTOKE, HOOK,
TADLEY AND BURGHFIELD COMMON



**St Michael's Parish, Tadley,
Kingsclere,
and St Oswald's Church,
Burghfield Common**

St Michael's Church
Bishopswood Road, Tadley
RG26 4HG

St Oswald's Church
Abbey Park, Burghfield Common,
RG7 3HQ

Parish Priest:

Rev Fr Patrick Tansey
0118 981 4572

Safeguarding Officers:

Mrs Kath Murtagh (Tadley)
0118 981 4658
Mrs Ellen Goodall (Burghfield Common)
0118 983 3332

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Barbara Davis
Email: tadley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

Covenant to the People

If you would like help from the Covenant to the People scheme, please call Bill Reilly on (0118) 9813784 during March.

NEWSLETTER

7th, 14th and 21st March 2021

The Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY NO 246871

CHURCH BOOKINGS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Father Patrick will be taking Church Bookings for:

Holy Thursday (8.00 pm 1st April at Tadley)

Good Friday (3.00 pm 2nd April at Tadley)

The Easter Vigil (8.30 pm 3rd April at Tadley)

Easter Sunday (10.30 am 4th April at St Oswald's Church)

Bookings can be made during the period Tuesday 23rd March to Friday 26th March from 10.30 am on the Tuesday to 12.30 pm on the Friday.

Bookings after that time cannot be guaranteed as he will not be dealing with them during Holy Week.

Parishioners are asked to arrive at least 15 minutes before any Masses, so that Masses can begin on time and music is not interrupted by late arrivals. It has become obvious that some are arriving at the last moment. Early arrival also gives people time to pray and to light candles with the 2 metre distancing being observed. Stewards should be in place 30 minutes before Mass, if possible.

Please remember that the Blessed Sacrament is to be consumed before returning to one's seat, immediately after reception. It must NOT be carried back to benches.

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SAINT OSWALD'S CHURCH RE-OPENING

Our Burghfield Common Church has been closed during January, February and March for the safety of many involved in Stewarding. It is good to announce that from Easter Sunday and the following Sundays it will be open for 10.30 am Mass, and people from Tadley may register for Mass there as Burghfield Common Parishioners have done for Tadley Masses during the closure. All the necessary regulations must continue to be observed. Father Patrick thanks Ellen Goodall and others for their helpful consultation with him since the beginning of 2021^{AD}. There will be no 10.00 am. Sunday Mass in Tadley from April.

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ADAPTATION OF MASSES DURING THE PANDEMIC FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The Vatican has issued adaptations to the Services to address the safety of Clergy and Parishioners during the pandemic. These will be clarified over the next few weeks, and all present Church

and Government protocols are to be observed during this Sacred Time.

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS DURING LENT

St Patrick's Feast falls on Wednesday 17th March and there is a 10.00 am Mass at St Michael's Church, Tadley.

The Solemnity of St Joseph is celebrated on Friday 19th March and there is a 10.00 am Mass at St Michael's Church. At the present moment we are keeping The Year of St Joseph at the request of Pope Francis, so try to attend Mass this day.

The Annunciation of The Lord (Lady Day) is also a Solemnity (everything except an Holy Day of Obligation) and again there is Mass at 10.00 am in St Michael's Church on Thursday 25th March.

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THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

On 8th December 2020, on the 150th Anniversary of St Joseph being declared Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis in his Apostolic Letter, 'Patris Corde' (With a Father's Heart) declared a yearlong celebration dedicated to the foster-father of Jesus.

The Pope declared: 'St Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is done to them all.'

When the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, she was completely open to God's grace, yet Joseph (who was not there at the Annunciation) was clearly in doubt at first. But Joseph did not rush to judgment or immediately act upon his hurt, disappointment, feelings, or even what seemed to be logical to the human mind. Instead, he took some time and he most likely took the situation to prayer. After the angel appeared to him in a dream, he knew the right path to travel. In any discernment, people are encouraged to act in the same manner. We all reason and we all apply logic, and these are a very important part of our human condition, however, we often must think and pray outside or beyond these things. In the end, reason and logic are expanded through our prayer and we too can encounter God who will ease our troubled minds.

Joseph listened for the will of God and did not presume it. In this way, he is a model for Priests who give their life in obedience to their Bishop, and their future Bishops whom they don't know on the day that they are ordained. They must strive for humility, as pride is one of the deadliest vices for anyone in any vocation. Acknowledgement to the Diocesan E-news for the above information.

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PASTORAL COLLABORATION AND OUT-REACH

Our Parish is engaging, alongside others in our Pastoral Area, with Sacred Heart Church, Hook in:

CAFÉ series—Let it be—Monday 26th April @ 7.30 pm

Sacred Heart Church will be hosting another Café Series course called 'Let It Be', which is about our Lady Mary. The café sessions involves watching a video and discussions in smaller groups. Here is the link to find out more—it is a 5 week course and will end on 27th May. [Let It Be—Catholic Faith Exploration](#)

If you are interested, please do get in touch with Joan Kent on jkent@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Our thanks for The Alpha Course organised by Geoff and Gina Poulter, which has received good support from across our Pastoral Area, and has been mentioned favourably in the Diocesan E-news.

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MISSION (Red Boxes) TADLEY

*We would like to continue to support the missionary endeavours of our Church and send off our Parish Donation before Easter. So over the next few weeks could you leave your Red Boxes at the Church. We know that in this time of Lockdown we are not out and about so that loose change fills our pockets and our Red Box becomes the resting place for all those coins. We might not have loose change but the needs of our missionaries do not go away even with our global pandemic. The Red Box will easily take notes or cheques so why not make this part of our 'Lenten Alms Giving' this year in a special way. Many thanks in advance for your generous offerings.
Gina and Geoff*

The boxes should not be left in the Church, but brought to the area near the Parish Rooms and given to Fr Patrick after Masses, keeping the 2 metre distance. Alternatively, they may be given to Geoff and Gina outside the church.

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MISSIO MAGAZINE

Mission Today (Spring 2021) is available after Masses at the church door leading towards the Parish Room area. Please come to the door, keeping the distance, to collect a copy, in which there is a Prayer Card for The Year of St Joseph.

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ASK YOUR MP TO SUPPORT A NEW AMENDMENT TO HELP STOP FORCED ABORTION IN XINJIANG, CHINA

There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions.

Lord Alton is currently championing a new amendment to the Trade Bill, to help put international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forced abortions and wider human rights abuses that evidence shows are being perpetuated against the Uyghur community. The amendment passed in the Lords on 23 February by 367 votes to 214, and is likely to be voted on in the Commons shortly. BBC Radio 4, in its first-class 10.00 pm news programme on 2nd March, had a disturbingly extended item on how Uyghur Muslims are being coerced into manufacturing items for worldwide sale, some of which are sold to UK firms. Whilst Chinese workers go home after their shifts, the Uyghur workers are held in the working areas until work begins again.

Not surprisingly, the Chinese Government is now preventing BBC News being broadcast in China, reacting to the

'genocide' many people believe is taking place against the Uyghurs.

The MP for Tadley is Kit Malthouse, at House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA

It is known that MPs take more notice of letters than of general e-mails, constituents having taken the time to write and stating their heartfelt feelings, expecting a personal reply from their MP.

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BASINGSTOKE FOODBANK THANKS!

Pauline Penfold asks that the following notice concerning The Foodbank be placed in our Newsletter. At the present time it will not be seen by many in our Tadley Church.

She reminds us that the volunteers are still busy feeding clients in the pandemic and would still appreciate any donations that the Foodbank is short of as listed on its website.



THANK YOU

Basingstoke Foodbank would like to thank

**St Michael's Catholic Church,
Tadley**

and its members

for your generous financial support
and food donations throughout 2020
weighing 207 kgs
which is equal to 493 meals!

In 2020, with your help, we fed over 8,500 adults & children
— a sharp increase due to the Coronavirus crisis.

We are currently distributing an average of 8 tonnes of food monthly to Foodbank clients, including food we provide for agencies feeding those in crisis outside of our opening hours in the Basingstoke & Deane region.

basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1154319)



Geoff and Gina Poulter write:

As part of your Lenten Almsgiving this year you might want to consider supporting our Local Foodbank who are helping more and more less fortunate members of the community at this difficult time. Any non-perishable foodstuffs, toiletries, and treats like crisps and chocolate are welcome and needed. Many thanks.

The donations should not be left in St Michael's Church porch, but should be delivered to the side door, where parishioners see Fr Patrick, after Masses. The food collection boxes are now in that area as items should not be left in the Church Area proper during the pandemic.

Thanks to all in our Parish, including the St Oswald community, who support the Foodbanks operating across it.

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BARBARA NOT AVAILABLE

Our part-time Secretary will not be available next week (7th-13th March) when the Office closes at 12.30pm on Friday 5th March. Emails will not be addressed in this period, so contact Fr Patrick by telephone, if there is anything urgent.

Barbara has a large amount of holiday time pending as she worked without a break from January 2020 to November 2020, ensuring that the Office was operating throughout the pandemic period, which parishioners greatly appreciated.

She will also be having a break from the end of Holy Week, and Fr Patrick will also be taking time out from Easter Sunday. More details in the next Newsletter.

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