

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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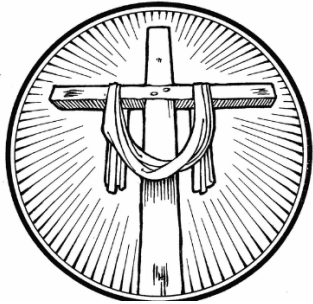
Website: www.stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: Mary Barnard: Telephone: 0777 616 3856

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St. Joseph's School Telephone: 01635 43455

Hall Bookings/Information email: office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk



EASTER SUNDAY - **YEAR A** **CHRIST IS RISEN -** **ALLELUIA!!**

Sunday 5th April: EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR A. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 6th April: Monday within Octave of Easter. No Mass today.

Tuesday 7th April: Tuesday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 8th April: Wednesday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 9th April: Thursday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 10th April: Friday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am

Saturday 11th April: Saturday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 5th April: 8.30am for Alan Hobbs RIP (Philip Hobbs' and Catherine Hobbs' Intention).

11.00am for Batty Murphy RIP (the late Oliver Conway's Intention).

Tuesday 7th April: 10.00am for Desmond Seward RIP (Stella Lesser's Intention).

Wednesday 8th April: 10.00am for Arthur Rackham RIP (Monika Rackham's Intention).

Thursday 9th April: 10.00am for Amala Rani RIP (Vijay Samuel's Intention).

Friday 10th April: 10.00am for Teresa Wisener RIP (Christina Castle's Intention).

Saturday 11th April: Desmond Seward RIP (Stella Lesser's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Chris Turner, Carol Bartlam, Graham Attridge, Angela Jordan, Elizabeth Skelton, Kate Kennington, Jonathan

Sheridan, Deanna Knight, Eric and Beryl Thompson, Lesley Smith, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, Joshua David, Marie O'Sullivan, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael.

Collections: 29th March: Plate collection £652.51; Poor Box £24.55; Candles £29.16; Repository £47. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 5th April: EASTER SUNDAY (A).

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast of the Church year. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. Easter is the feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows, fears, and

tears. Easter reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus — in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament, and in Heaven — that gives meaning to our personal as well as to our shared prayers.



Wednesday 8th April: 10.00am Mass. Open Church 12.30pm – 2pm. The church will be open for quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome at any time while the church is open.

Thursday 9th April: 10.30am Grand/Mothers' Prayers every Thursday at *Newbury Grove Care Home*, 370 London Rd, Newbury RG14 2QH. For more information, speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

Sunday 12th April: 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) 'Divine Mercy Sunday': 11am Mass: Children's Liturgy in the Hall for children of primary school age in Reception Class and above.

3.00pm: Divine Mercy Service at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Hungerford, for the Pastoral Area, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and opportunity for Confessions with priests from our parishes. Followed by Tea and refreshments. All welcome.

From the Diocese – Easter Offerings: As is customary at Easter, offerings can be made directly to your parish clergy through the plate, or card pad collection at Easter Sunday Masses, or via the following link specifically for Saint Joseph's, Newbury -

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/newbury-st-joseph-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2026>

Palm Crosses – ‘Thank you!’ We are grateful to Kiki Morley and helpers who created our 650 palm crosses last Sunday: including Trish, Anjali, Sharon, Julia, Sophia, Veronique, Tim, Michelle, Sue, and George.

Fr Padraig Faughnan’s Funeral: His Requiem Mass will be at **11.00am on Wednesday 15th April** at St Joseph’s. His body will be received into the church at 4.30pm the previous afternoon (14th) – all welcome for the short rite of reception. The Funeral Directors have set up an on-line ‘Tribute Page’ of photographs. If you have good photos of Fr Pat, please forward them to - peter@wbfd.co.uk

Papal Direction: Pope Leo XIV invited Christians who bear responsibility for war to make a serious examination of conscience during a recent meeting with participants in the 36th Course on the Internal Forum, organized annually by the Apostolic Penitentiary. Further details are available at: www.indcatholicnews.com/news/54563

Prayer Initiative for Peace: Christians around the world have pioneered a rota for Peace Prayers, asking that people in different countries commit to praying for peace for one minute at the same time every day. Christians in the UK are asked to **pray for one minute each day at 9pm**. You are urged to set an alarm on your phone to remind you to pause for one minute of prayer every day. The power of such prayer around the world is immense!

Child Stair Gate: Does anyone have an old Child Stair Gate that they no longer need? We require one to bar access to the upper gallery in the Parish Hall. We would be most grateful if anyone could provide one. Please speak with Fr Michael if you can help. Thank you.

Bishop’s Statement on Decriminalisation of Abortion: In March, the House of Lords backed legislation to decriminalise abortions up to birth. The current legal limit of 24 weeks will remain for doctor-induced abortions, but it will soon be legal for mothers themselves to abort their unborn child up to full term. When first legalised in 1967, abortions in England and Wales were few, yet by the end of the 1990s, almost 175,000 a year were taking place. Today there are over 300,000 a year – one in every three babies conceived. Abortion has been normalised. As Catholics, we know that every human being has been created and willed by God. We must calmly but insistently work to protect the unborn child in the womb and to protect women from abortion, and continue to

witness to the truth about human life and campaign to change people’s hearts and minds. Bishop Philip’s [full statement](#) can be found on the Parish website www.stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

Debt Management & Money Coaching Course: CAP (Christians Against Poverty) are running a new course, **Wednesday 15th, 22nd and 29th April**, 10.00am-12 noon at Newbury Baptist Church. It is an excellent course for anybody wishing to take control of their personal finances. To register, call David Clark on 07803 838917.

Kenya Project: This new charity project to assist young women in Urenga, Kenya, has started well in St Joseph’s parish. As a result of St Joseph’s efforts joining the St Francis de Sales team, 115 new Dignity Packs have been shipped out to Kenya this month. This project for girls is ongoing, and so we urgently need more people to offer to cut the fabric for us. If you can spare some time to cut out, please look into the hall after Mass. There is plenty of fabric ready for you to take and cut out at home, then return the following week. We need your continued help!

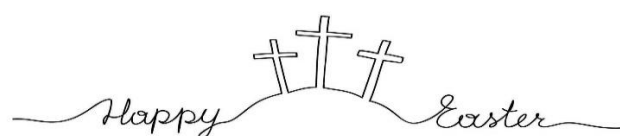
MARRIAGE SUPPORT: If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – *Retrouvaille* could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

From West Berkshire Foodbank: Donated items can be left in the box at the back of church at any time, ready for collection on Wednesday 22nd April. Your generosity is appreciated.

St Joseph’s Hall: Interested in hiring St Joseph’s Hall for an occasion or a class? Please contact the parish office to enquire about availability, and to book. A provisional cost of £25 per hour has been set at present, subject to confirming the new heating and utility costs following the hall’s major refurbishment. Office Tel: **01635 40167**; E-mail office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

Contactless Donations: Please use your debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate your chosen amount on our digital collection pads for Sunday collections. Gift Aid details need only be entered once and will be retained for future donations.

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email each week, please contact the parish office.



AND A FINAL THOUGHT: Easter is a time when life, love, and peace are all newborn, and joy has triumphed over loss and pain.