

St Joseph's Catholic Church

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12th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

Sunday 21st June: 12th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 22nd June: Ss John Fisher, bishop, & Thomas More, martyrs, feast. No Mass today.

Tuesday 23rd June: Feria of 12th Week of Ordinary Time, or, St Etheldreda, Abbess, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 24th June: THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, solemnity. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 25th June: Feria of 12th Week of Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 26th June: Feria of 12th Week of Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 27th June: Our Lady on Saturday, or, St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop & Doctor of the Church, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 21st June: 8.30am for Tom Clarke RIP (Deidre Surtees' intention).

11.00am for Antonio Albanese RIP (Valentina Albanese's intention).

Tuesday 23rd June: 10.00am for Joseph Baulk RIP (Liz Rees' intention).

Friday 26th June: 10.00am for Martin Cawte RIP (Jill Cawte's intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Paula Holmes, Carol Bartlam, Joyce Delahunty, Graham Attridge, Angela Jordan, Elizabeth Skelton, 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: 14th June 2026: Plate collection £771.45; Poor Box £24; Candles £41.82; Repository £34. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 21st June: 12th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A (Fathers' Day).

Our Scripture readings for this Sunday challenge us to preach Christ through our words and lives without fear.

11am Mass: Children's Liturgy in the Hall for children of primary school age in Reception Class and above.

'A Day for Life'- The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, a *Day for Life* is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year's theme is *The Wonder of the Child in the Womb*. There is a **Second Collection** at Masses today, and funds go to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to help it advocate for life issue across the country. It is also possible to give via this link:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/day-for-life-second-collection-2026>

1.15pm: Baptism of Ricardo Fernandes. Congratulations!

First Holy Communion Cards & Gifts: these are available to purchase from our parish Repository after Masses. Please speak to Maureen Smith for more information.

Thursday 25th June: 10.30am - Grand/Mothers' Prayers for now will be held in members' own homes. If interested in attending, please speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

Friday 26th June: 7pm St Joseph's PARISH QUIZ NIGHT (Doors open 6.30pm), in the parish hall, £8 per player, maximum 6 persons to a team, with Raffle. Bring own refreshments; tea, coffee and scones available. To book, email kaylbinns@gmail.com

Saturday 27th June: (Armed Forces Day) Pray for our Armed Forces and their families.

12noon: Baptisms of Thea North Cryans and Rio Moreno-North. Congratulations!

Today, Newbury Choral Society Summer Concert 'Shakespeare in Music' at St Nicolas Church, Newbury. Doors open 6.45pm, concert starts at 7.30pm. *Bernstein: West Side Story Suite; Shearing: Songs & Sonnets; Vaughan Williams: Three Shakespeare Songs*. Tickets available from choir members or at

www.newburychoral.org.uk. Adults: £18, 12-18 years and full-time students: £10, Children under 12 years: £5.

Sunday 28th June: SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL (A) – First Holy Communion Sunday (2). At 11.00am Mass our remaining 9 children will celebrate their First Holy Communion.

2.00pm-4.30pm – ‘The Repair Café in the Methodist Church Hall, Northbrook Street. Save your useful and much-loved items from waste land-fill and bring them along for repair by experts!

Saturday 4th July: Safeguarding Training Session 10am to 1pm at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption in Thatcham. All those from St. Joseph's, who are required to complete the training every three years are either up to date or are registered to attend on that date. If anyone else would like to attend, please email Mary Barnard at the safeguarding email address on this newsletter.

Sunday 5th July: The Mayor of Newbury Summer Variety Concert 2pm at the Corn Exchange. Tickets £6.25 (per person). To book call 01635 522733, or go to cornexchangenew.com.

12th-18th August – Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Banneux Notre Dame in Ardennes, Belgium for the Feast of the Assumption. Coach and ferry from London. Bookings by 30th June. Contact Lisa Pirie on 07500 288384 or email banneuxndgb@gmail.com for more information.

Lourdes Pilgrims – TAKE NOTE! Clarity on Ryanair Boarding Passes – If you do not have a Smartphone or Tablet, they can receive a free boarding pass at the airport **PROVIDED THEY HAVE ALREADY CHECKED IN ONLINE**. Do so before departure on 30th June.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026-2027: The Confirmation programme will **begin on 14th September 2026** – open to those who are in year 9 or above (aged 14 – 18), and who are resident and participants in our Parish community. *Confirmation celebrates the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit on a baptised person, completing and strengthening the grace given by the Spirit in Baptism. It marks the Christian as a follower of Christ and a full member of the Church.* If interested, please contact the Parish Office at Wash Common as soon as possible giving your name, age and contact details. Information about the programme will be provided when we receive your application. Learning sessions will take place in St Joseph's Hall. **There is a payment of £126 which covers the entire cost of the retreat weekend (2nd-4th October) at St Cassians in Kintbury.** Parish Office: washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Telephone: 01635 40332.

Stop the Assisted Suicide Bill Returning! MP Lauren Edwards has announced that she is reintroducing Kim

Leadbeater's assisted suicide bill at Westminster. In the coming months, 'Dignity in Dying' (bill supporters), will receive huge donations from wealthy backers to help persuade MPs to back this extremely dangerous bill. 'Care, not Killing' (bill opponents) need to raise £45K in order to fund a summer campaign to fight the bill before it goes to a vote again in Parliament on 11th September. Go to <https://carenokilling.org.uk/donate/> Also, please take 30 seconds to email your MP today using the tool at: <http://action.notdeadyetuk.org/>

PAPAL COMMUNICATION: Pope Leo addressed Parliament in Spain last week - the first time a Pope has done so there. The Pope said freedom of thought, conscience, and religion are decisive issues for every truly democratic society. Central to his discourse was that every truly just society must be founded on the recognition of the inviolable dignity of the human person. Such dignity, he reaffirmed, precedes any concession of the State and cannot be subordinated to changing social consensus or the fluctuations of momentary majorities.

'ADOREMUS': National Eucharistic Congress - Saturday 10th October 2026, in London hosted by the Bishops' Conference, is set to deepen devotion to the Eucharist and encourage adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mass, a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction. Individuals / Groups intending to go should inform Canon Dennehy (mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) by *Wednesday 1st July 2026*, so that we can co-ordinate travel and book places.

300 Club Winners for June: 1st Prize (£100) Denise Dougan; 2nd Prize (£50) Willie Hartley Russell; 3rd Prize (£25) Shelley O'Neill. Congratulations!

From West Berkshire Foodbank: Leave donations in the box at the back of church at any time, ready for collection on alternate Wednesdays. Your kindness is appreciated.

St Joseph's Hall: To hire St Joseph's Hall 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: Use your debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate on our digital collection pads. 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: 'If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito'. The Dalai Lama