

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY - YEAR A

Sunday 19th July: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 20th July: Feria of 16th Week in Ordinary Time,
or, St Apollinaris, Bishop, Martyr, *optional memorial*. No
Mass today.

Tuesday 21st July: Feria of 16th Week in Ordinary Time,
or, St Laurence of Brindisi, Religious, Doctor of the
Church, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 22nd July: ST MARY MAGDALENE, *feast*.
Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 23rd July: St BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, Foundress,
Patron of Europe, *feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 24th July: Feria 16th Week in Ordinary Time, or, St
Sharbel Makhluf, Priest, Religious, *optional memorial*.
Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 25th July: ST JAMES, Apostle, *feast*. Mass at
10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 19th July: 8.30am for intentions of Joan Castellás
(Una O'Doherty's intention).

11.00am for intentions of Monika Rackham.

Tuesday 21st July: 10.00am for intentions of Evelyn Briand
(Una O'Doherty's intention).

Wednesday 22nd July: 10.00am for Alan Lesser RIP (Stella
Lesser's intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

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: 12th July 2026: Plate collection £687.66; Poor
Box £24.30; Candles £40.77.

2nd Collection '*Apostleship of the Sea*' (Stella Maris)
£358.25. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 19th July: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A.

We need to practice patience and show mercy. Let
us patiently and lovingly treat the “weeds” in our
society as our brothers and sisters and do all in our
power to put them back on the right road to Heaven,
especially by our good example, encouragement,
and fervent prayer for their conversion.

24th-27th July: THE 'WE BELIEVE' FESTIVAL at St Mary's
College (Seminary), Oscott – outside Birmingham. The
festival brings thousands together to encounter Jesus
Christ in his Church, and is an unmissable opportunity to
discover the traditions and charisms that flow through
the Catholic Church, to grow in authentic community,
and to encounter the transforming love of God. It is a
feast of the True, the Good and the Beautiful. Tickets
provide access to all festival content, facilities and a pitch
on the campsite - should you need it, but do not include
food or accommodation. Go to the website
<https://www.webeliefestival.com/tickets>

If you would like to come, but are in need of a sponsored
pass, please apply by writing to
info@webeliefestival.com.

Saturday 25th July: ADoRE Spiritual Mini-Retreat

10.00am-1.00pm on Zoom. "HIS BANNER OVER US IS
LOVE." Responding to God's invitation to His heavenly
banquet. Mini retreat morning Including Mass,
Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the
Holy Spirit and inspiring talk from guest speaker Russ
Fairman, Member of the National CHARIS renewal team.
ADoRE is a part of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal,
dedicated to the encouragement of a personal
relationship with God, through Jesus, in the power of the
Holy Spirit. Register in advance
at **<https://bit.ly/ADOREJUL2026>**.

More details at **www.altonrenewal.com/july_2026**.

17th-21st August: 'Fanning the Flame' Summer Camp – at St. Cassian's. This popular camp is run by the Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph and will be at St. Cassian's Centre, Kintbury RG17 9SR for youths age 11-17. For more information and to book, please visit: <https://www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp-2026> or email contact@fanningtheflame.co.uk

300 Club Lottery: July Winners: 1st Prize (£100) Liz Kellar; 2nd Prize (£50) Chris and Carol Bartlam; 3rd Prize (£25) B.M. Bowsher. Congratulations!

2026-2027 – Thank you to all participants in the 2025/26 300 Club lottery. The first draw of the 2026/27 lottery will take place in September. From this Sunday, **application forms are available** to buy tickets for the coming year. To buy one or more tickets, please complete an application form before returning it, together with a cheque or cash (or ask for details to make an electronic bank transfer), to the parish office before the end of August.

The Evangelium Conference - 21st - 23rd August 2026 A conference on Catholic faith, life and culture to help make faithful young Catholic adults effective for mission. Over the years, hundreds have ignited their faith through Evangelium. Many have met lifelong friends and spouses, joined apostolates or discovered a vocation. **Cost (All inclusive:** Conference attendance, full-board accommodation, refreshments **£165**; Students and unemployed concession **£149**. Location: THE ORATORY SCHOOL, READING, RG8 0PJ. To book, go to - www.evangelium.co.uk

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026 -2027: Our next Confirmation programme run together with St Francis de Sales' Parish 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 (5th – 7th February 2027) at St Cassians in Kintbury.** Parish Office: washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Telephone: 01635 40332.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2026-27. The parish's preparation programme for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will begin in September this year. The programme is open to children in our parish community who will be in Year 4 or above in September 2026. To register your child on the programme, please email the parish office to request an application form.

MARRIAGE IN A RUT? Or need help with deeper issues? *Retrouvaille* has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd - 4th Oct. Tel: 0788 7296983. www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info

CENTENARY of St Joseph's Church 2027: Next year is the centenary of the building of our parish church in 1927! We wish to mark this milestone with events, celebrations and initiatives next year. Thoughts and ideas are invited, and it is hoped to form a *Centenary Committee* to plan our celebrations. Please share your interest and ideas with Fr Michael and the Parish Office!

From West Berkshire Foodbank: Donated items can be left in the box at the back of church at any time, ready for collection on alternate Wednesdays. 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: "Let a man walk ten miles steadily on a hot summer's day along a dusty English road, and he will soon discover why beer was invented." G. K. Chesterton