

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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Vulnerable Adults in St Joseph's Parish. Telephone 0777 616 3856.

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Parish Admin/ Hall Bookings email: rcoutinho@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY - YEAR A

N.B. Fr Michael will be away on leave from 23rd July, and back for Sunday 2nd August. Fr Peter Codd should only be contacted in the event of an emergency. Leave messages with the Parish Office if necessary.

Sunday 26th July: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 27th July: Feria of 17th Week in Ordinary Time.
No Mass today.

Tuesday 28th July: Feria of 17th Week in Ordinary Time.
Mass at 10:00am

Wednesday 29th July: Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus,
memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 30th July: Feria of 17th week in Ordinary Time,
or, **St Peter Chrysologus**, Bishop, Doctor of the Church,
optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 31st July: St Ignatius of Loyola, Founder,
memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 1st August: St Alphonsus Liguori, Founder,
Bishop, Doctor of the Church, *memorial*. Mass at
10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Confessions.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY - YEAR A

Sunday 2nd August: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 3rd August: Feria of 18th Week in Ordinary Time.
No Mass today.

Tuesday 4th August: St John Vianney, Priest, memorial.
Mass at 10:00am.

Wednesday 5th August: Feria of 18th Week in Ordinary Time,
or, **Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major**,
Rome, *optional memorial*, or. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 6th August: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD, *feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 7th August: Feria of 18th Week in Ordinary Time,
or, **St Sixtus II**, Pope, & Companions, *optional memorial*,
or, **St Cajetan**, founder, *optional memorial*. Mass at
10.00am.

Saturday 8th August: St Dominic, Founder, *memorial*.
Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Saturday 26th July: 8.30am for Mary Hobbs RIP (Philip & Catherine Hobbs intention)

11.00am for J.J. Smith RIP (Anne Dowling's intention)

Tuesday 28th July: 10.00am for Anthony Baulk RIP (Liz Rees' intention)

Thursday 30th July: 10.00am for John Senior, John Junior and Kathleen Dick RIP (Paul Dick's Intention)

Friday 31st July: 10.00am for Denis Ignatius Dougan RIP (Denise Dougan's Intention)

Sunday 2nd August: 8:30am Inge Hunter RIP (Stella Lesser's Intention)

Tuesday 4th August: 10.00am Anthony Brooke-Smith 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: 19th July 2026: Plate collection £594.75; Poor Box £2.02; Candles £27.32. 2nd Collection ('Stella Maris') £5. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 26th July: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A.

The readings teach us that Faith in Jesus as our God and Saviour, and sacrificing everything in life to do the will of God, are equivalent to discovering and possessing the most valuable treasure, or the "*pearl of great price*".

Sunday 2nd August: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A.

The readings remind us not to focus too much on things that do not last, but to trust God, be generous, and focus on what really matters—our life with Him.

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. Bowsheer. 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.

RCIA PROGRAMME 2026-27: If you or someone you know is feeling called to explore the Catholic faith, we invite you to join us on this journey of prayer, learning, and spiritual growth.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process through which adults are introduced to the Catholic faith and prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. It is open to anyone who is:

- Unbaptised and seeking to become Catholic
 - Baptised in another Christian tradition and interested in becoming Catholic
 - Baptised Catholic but never received First Communion or Confirmation
 - Those without any faith background, but who may be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith.
- The RICA Programme will commence on Wednesday 9th September at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall at St Francis de Sales', Wash Common. Speak to Fr Michael and also email Francis Connolly (fjcon@btinternet.com). The programme is run jointly for the Pastoral Area.

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: The world is full of nice people. If you can't find one, be one.