

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR A

Sunday 24th May: PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR A.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 25th May: The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church, memorial. No Mass today.

Tuesday 26th May: St Philip Neri, priest & founder, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 27th May: St Augustine of Canterbury, bishop, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 28th May: Our Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 29th May: Feria of the 8th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 30th May: Our Lady on Saturday, or, Feria of the 8th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 24th May: 8.30am for Fr Jason Jones RIP (Paul Cunane's Int); 11am for Simon Turner RIP (Andrew Armour'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: 17th May 2026: Plate collection £853.02; 2nd Collection (*Catholic Communications Network*) £319.78; Poor Box £17.36; Candles £34.35. Thank you!

Sunday 24th May: PENTECOST (A) Fifty days after Easter the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and the Virgin Mary as tongues of fire. The frightened apostles were transformed into confident preachers and evangelizers and were given the gift of tongues by a special anointing of the Holy Spirit.

11am Mass: The Music Group will play today.

Prayer for the Holy Spirit at Pentecost: *Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

Novena preparing for the Day for Life on 21st June: The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, ***Day for Life*** is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. We are encouraged to pray a Novena will running from **Saturday 23rd May to the Feast of the Visitation (Sunday 31 May – this year, Trinity Sunday)**. This is the third year in which the Dioceses of England and Wales will join with those of Scotland and Ireland to pray this Novena. The Novena Prayers can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/novena-for-life/>

Open Church: Many thanks to Rosie Byrne for kindly supervising the opening of the church on Wednesdays 12.30-2pm. If you would like to volunteer to take over this important role, please speak to Fr Michael.

Wednesday 27th May: 2.00pm Film Matinée in the Parish Hall – the often over-looked epic Julie Andrews musical, ***'Star!'*** – **N.B.** note earlier start time.

Thursday 28th May: 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.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday 6th June: Family Quiz Night at St Francis de Sales. Proceeds to Justice and Peace charities. For details, please contact Trisha Craig (trishacraig@hotmail.com)

Sunday 7th June: St Cassian's Centre Open Day 12pm - 3pm. (Wallingtons Road, Kintbury, RG17 9SR). Learn about the Centre as it celebrates 50 years of running retreats for young people! Experience some of the activities, like archery and a low ropes challenge course, that are run for our schools and have a look

around the Centre and its grounds. Enjoy an afternoon tea in the dining room. All are Welcome!

Also, 7th June, COINS 30th Birthday Celebration (*Christian Outreach in Newbury Schools*). **4:30pm-6:00pm** at St Mary's Church, Shaw. All are welcome for worship, celebration, cake and COINS creative activities.

Saturday 13th June: 'The People's Emergency Briefing Documentary' (45 mins), at **2.00pm** in the Waterside Community Centre, Newbury - MP Lee Dillon will be present. The film focuses on the threats to life in Britain from ongoing damage to nature and to our climate, and features footage from last November's National Emergency Briefing, bringing together leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, national security and nature. Many well-known faces feature in a non-partisan initiative supported by organisations including the Church of England, National Trust, WWF, the Royal Meteorological Society. A discussion follows. Free tickets at <https://www.natureandclimatenetwork.co.uk>

Saturday 20th June: CELEBRATING A SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY? Celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? Bishop Philip invites you to a Celebration Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke on **Sat 20th June** at 11am, followed by a buffet lunch. Notify our parish office to attend.

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: Newbury Choral Society Summer Concert 'Shakespeare in Music' at St Nicolas Church, Newbury. Doors open at 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.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Turin and Assisi, 20th-26th July 2026. Learn about our two newest saints - St Carlo Acutis and St Pier Giorgio Frassati. Led by Bishop Philip. Flights - Outbound: London Gatwick to Turin; Return: Perugia to Heathrow; accommodation in central Turin and central Assisi; Breakfast & dinner; Local transfers in and around Turin and Assisi; Long distance coach day with stops on route; Visit Marian shrine in Oropa; the Royal Palace in Turin - site of The Shroud; the tomb of St Carlo Acutis. Prices 6 nights: £1,695 (per person sharing); £250 (single supplement). *Deposit when booking to secure place: £600 per person*. To book, contact Canon P.J. Smith - email fatherpj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Cause for Canonisation Opened: The Diocese of Salford has opened the cause of **Pedro Ballester 21**, a student from Manchester who died in 2018 of an aggressive cancer. By such a process, Church authorities seek to ascertain if an individual achieved a life of "heroic virtue": living a life of faith, hope and love surpassing ordinary human capabilities. Pedro grew up in a Catholic family and was known for his warmth, generosity and dedication. In his late teens, he committed his life fully to God as a member of Opus Dei, dedicating himself to its apostolic work. Following his diagnosis, he accepted his illness with remarkable faith, offering his suffering for the Pope, the Church and all souls, and bearing his condition with deep serenity and trust in God.

A Part-time Job Opportunity with COINS (*Christian Outreach in Newbury Schools*). Do you enjoy sharing Jesus with children and seek part-time work in schools? Would you like to be part of a supportive, creative team? COINS seeks a dynamic and motivated person to join their Primary School Team. COINS combine educational resources with a profound and personal faith linking schools, churches and the wider Christian community in Newbury. They provide resources, workshops, assemblies, lessons and school clubs to support Christian teaching in schools, and want a suitably qualified person to take up a paid position of 6-8 hours per week, term-time only. Applicants should have a passion for sharing their faith with primary school children in an inclusive, engaging and relevant manner. For further information contact Liz on lizahow@coinsnewbury.org Closing date for applications 10th June 2026. Interviews week of 15th and 22nd June and will include conducting a small group session with children. Starting date 7th Sept.

From West Berkshire Foodbank: Donated items can be left in the box at the back of church at any time, ready for collection. 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 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 Holy Spirit is the secret teacher of souls. Every step toward holiness is guided by the Spirit's gentle voice.