

**St Mary's Catholic Pre School will soon be carrying out their intake for September 2017. If you would like your child to attend the Pre School please apply as soon as possible as there are limited spaces.**

Please note Cleaning of the Church is this Thursday 2nd March

**Are you thinking of getting married?** Please note that the Church is now asking for twelve months' notice in order that necessary paperwork and other marriage preparation can be completed. In the first instance, please contact the Parish Office to make an appointment to see Father John.

**Baptisms:** Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 12.30pm. Parents are expected to take part in a two evening preparation programme held on the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 7.45pm to 9.30pm. Please contact the Parish Office for more information. Please note Baptisms are celebrated during the Season of Lent.

**First Holy Communion 2017:** Can parents please note that the program is now closed for this year. In late summer this year we will take names for the 2018 program.

**Safeguarding Update:** A team of Safeguarding Representatives for the two churches in our parish has now been formed. The team will begin work after DBS clearance checks have been completed.

**Keys:** If you have keys belonging to the Parish, can you please return them to the office so they can be registered, numbered and then reissued. This is really important as we need to make our Church more secure.

**2017 Interfaith Dialogues:** Next meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February in Maidenhead Synagogue, *How can we be happy?* from 7pm – 9pm. Please see the notice board for dates in February and March or visit the website: [www.wamcf.org](http://www.wamcf.org)

**RCIA:** The Journey of faith – meeting takes place each Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the presbytery. If you or if you know anyone that wishes to find out more about the Catholic faith, please call the Parish Office for more information.

**Postage Stamps:** If you have any used stamps please leave them with Joan Boland or Shauna in the office. Last year with your help, Joan was able to pass these on and help raise over £2,500 for charity.

**Parish Social:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in the Parish Centre. Live music by Stephen and Megan. Tickets are £10 and available from both the Parish Office and the Centre Office. All proceeds go towards the Lenten Project. Full bar on the night. Nibbles available on the night, No food required

**The Parish Website:** <http://www.stjosephsparish.co.uk/> is being updated regularly. If you would like to update any existing information please do so via the Parish Office.

**Notices for next weekend:** should be posted or emailed to the Parish Office by 12.00pm on Wednesday.

**If you wish to speak to the Parish Priest in confidence on any matter, please contact Shauna at the Parish Office for an appointment. Fr John is always happy to visit you at home if so desired.**

**Contact Us:**

Parish Priest: **Father John Lee**  
The Presbytery, 36 Cookham Road,  
Maidenhead, SL6 7EG  
Tel: 01628 783988  
email [jlee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jlee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Secretary: **Shauna Hamilton**  
Monday to Friday  
09.00 to 13.00  
01628 783988  
email [maidenhead@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:maidenhead@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Centre Administrator: **Gloria McQueen**  
Monday to Friday  
09:00 to 12:00  
01628 636312  
email [stjoecentmhead@btconnect.com](mailto:stjoecentmhead@btconnect.com)

Head Teacher: **Mrs Janice Laycock**  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7EG  
01628 622570  
[www.stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stmarys-maidenhead.org.uk)



**PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR  
ST.JOSEPH'S, MAIDENHEAD &  
ST.ELIZABETH'S, COOKHAM**

Number 117 – 25<sup>th</sup> /26<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, (psalter week 4)

**Weekly Mass Times and Intentions**

Sat	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00	Terence Hanrahan, RIP
		18:30	Figueira Family, SI
Sun	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	08:00	People of the Parish
		09:15	Terry Webb, SI
		10:45	Panayiotis Grammatopoulos, SI
Mon	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00	Morning Prayer
Tue	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11:30	Funeral Mass, Ethna Officer RIP
Wed	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	10:00	Anna Dirkin, A
		19:30	Ash Wednesday – St. Elizabeth's
Thu	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	10:00	Murial Veronica Roberts, FM
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	10:00	Funeral Mass
			Gerard McGuinness RIP
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10:00	Franco Bigoni, A
		18:30	Deceased members of Figueira Family
Sun	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	08:00	People of the Parish
		09:15	Chris Brown, SI
		10:45	Helga Zollner, RIP

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 10:00am Mass Tuesday to Saturday. Confession - Saturday immediately after 10:00 Mass and later between 17:30 and 18:15.



Not by Might, Nor by Power, but by  
My Spirit says the Lord!  
Zechariah 4:6

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017



**Look at the  
birds of the air; they  
neither sow nor reap  
nor gather into barns,  
and yet your heavenly  
father feeds them.**

**Matthew 6.26**

**Matthew 6:24-34**

Today's Gospel reading is from part three of the Sermon on the Mount's three-part instruction by Jesus on the way of life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Part three deals with trusting God and performing deeds of loving service to our neighbour.

The Aramaic word *mammon* does not have a negative connotation. It means "property" or "money." What Matthew is pointing out is that since human beings are not self-sufficient, we are dependent on something outside ourselves. It should be God, not the material goods we own. This is not to say that we don't need material goods. But the reading goes on to remind us not to be anxious. Look at the beauty of nature. The birds do not sow or reap. The flowers do not work or spin cloth. Yet they are provided for by God. Human beings are worth much more than these. How could God not provide for us as well? If what we place first in our lives is God's kingdom and his justice, we will have what we need.

Matthew concludes by reminding us to address each day's problems as they come, confident that we are in God's loving care. He is a loving father who holds the whole world in his hands. He will certainly care for us.

**St Joseph's Maidenhead and St. Elizabeth's Cookham are part of the Great Park Pastoral Area of the Diocese of Portsmouth which includes:**  
St Edmund Campion - Maidenhead: St Edward's - Windsor: St Mark's - Dedworth: St Thomas More - Twyford: Our Lady of Peace - Wargrave

**Please pray for** all those who are sick or housebound within the Parish, including: Mary Toovey, Johnny Pereira, Tony and Rosa Ruffolo, Lena Watson, Maura Gray, Margaret Gallagher, Josie Dooley, Cecilia Leauge, Betty Buckley, Evelyn Withey, Alexandra Donaldson, John Webb, Alex Holden, Maria Wiggins, Joe Ball, Denis Sullivan, Veronica Heavers and Vincent Ray.

If you know of anyone who is sick and/or housebound please let Shauna know in the office as soon as possible so that a visit can be arranged. Thank you.

**If you are going into hospital or know someone that is, please inform the hospital chaplain on arrival. Please also let Fr John Lee know so that arrangements can be made for a visit. Please note that under the Data Protection Act, hospital staff cannot disclose patient information. We rely on Parishioners to keep us in the loop.**

**Please Pray for the souls of;** Jim Buckley RIP, Anna Keohane RIP, Willie Knowles RIP, Ragonda Neville RIP, Christopher Treacy, Kathleen Connolly and Bridget Puzio.  
*Ethna Officer RIP*, Funeral Mass Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Church.  
*Gerard McGuinness RIP*, Funeral Mass Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 10am in St. Joseph's Church.  
*Nabil Ishaq Fanous RIP*, Funeral Mass Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 12noon in St. Joseph's Church.

Please pray for all of the Holy Souls who still need your prayers. Just one short prayer will earn you their Eternal gratitude. Imagine what you could do with two prayers. Have you tried this yet? Or are you too busy?

**Choir:** Ben, our choirmaster, will be leaving us in the next few weeks as he and his wife, Shan, will be moving out of the area. We would very much like the choir to be able to continue – singing is such an important part of our liturgy and worship and the choir is a great asset to the parish. Ben has offered to carry on until Easter but would like to hand over responsibility before this if possible, so we are now looking for someone to take over. If you have experience of running a choir and would be interested, or if you know someone who you think might be, please speak to Father John or to Ben.

**Growing an Engaged Church:** Last Sunday Fr John launched a Gallup Project which will last until the end of April. What would you like your Parish Church to look like? How could you create this kind of change? Are we doing all that we could be doing? Are we doing the *right* things? Are we doing the *most important* things? The purpose of the Survey is to address these questions and help form some directions for the future. Please complete a *Gallup Member Engagement Survey* after Mass this Sunday and leave in a special box that you will find at both entrances to the Church. *Your thoughts, feelings and opinions count! We want to hear from you!* *Saturday evening Mass attendees will be invited to complete the survey next weekend 25<sup>th</sup> February.*

**Magnificat: Did you know?** This is one of the best publications around for following scripture readings for daily Mass and every Sunday. There are also many interesting articles to help you in your spiritual life. If you would like a copy please get in touch with Shauna in the Parish Office to arrange. The Magnificat is only £4 per month. March now available

**Day by Day:** Available in the church at all times. Please leave the £1 in the candle box.

**Mother's Prayer Group:** meets each Monday at 10.am in St Joseph's church. All welcome. You are invited to leave your petitions in the Blue Book on our Lady's altar and they will be prayed for on a Monday.

**CAFOD Lent Fast day Friday 10th March:** Florence is a hard working mother who has been helped by CAFOD's partner in Zambia to learn to become a fish farmer and so provided for her family, and give her children a brighter future by enabling them to go to school. Please support the CAFOD Lent fast day and ensure that more people like Florence can turn tiny fish into something amazing. Many thanks.

**Confirmation 2017:** Please continue to pray for our Confirmation candidates and their families. Candidates will be formally enrolled in their Programme of Formation during the 10.45am Mass this Sunday.

**House Masses:** Fr John Lee is more than happy to celebrate a House Mass for any family or group of families who would like one during Lent. If you are interested please email Fr John or telephone the Parish Office.

**Ash Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017:** Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. It is also a day of fast and abstinence. Two Masses will be celebrated at 10am in St. Josephs and 7.30pm in St. Elizabeth's. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at each Mass. Fr John will also distribute ashes in St. Marys School at 2.20pm

**Women's World Day of Prayer.** This year Maidenhead's meeting will take place at the United Reform Church in West Street at 2pm on Friday March 3rd( the back of Marks and Spencer) The service has been written by ladies in the Philippians and will feature a ritual dance performed by Catholic ladies from the Philippians who live in Reading. They are taking time from work so please support them. All welcome including gentlemen

**The National Novena to St Joseph** will take place from 10 - 18 March 2017 at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are all invited to attend. Masses are on Friday 10 March at 7.30pm, Saturday 11 March at 10.00am, Sunday 12 March at 10.45am, Monday 13 to Friday 17 March at 7.30pm and Saturday 18 March at 10.00am. If you are unable to attend but would like to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer, you are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet. Please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email [novena@millhillmissionaries.com](mailto:novena@millhillmissionaries.com).

**Are you celebrating** a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or Anniversary over 60 years? If so Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of Celebration. This will take place at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on Saturday 24th June 2017 at 11 am. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. If you would like to come, please visit the Diocesan website <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries/> and complete the on-line form, Or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Please note this address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient. Or contact Liz Murphy at St Bede's Parish office on 01256 465214 To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a COPY of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you complete the form. Alternatively send via email to above email address or by post to the following address: St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. Please mark envelope Significant Wedding Mass

**Offertory Collection:** Last week's collection was £1714.35

**Maryfield Convent** – Catholic Residential Care Home, London Rd., Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9LA Tel: 01256 762394. Maryfield is a residential care home that provides care and comfort to members of all religious denominations. Mass is celebrated daily in the convent chapel and the sisters and staff provide continuous, quality care, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. We presently have vacancies. If you would like to arrange a visit, or require further information, please call: 01256 762394 and speak to Trish Davies

**'Preparing ourselves for Easter'** - Retreat from Tuesday 11th April until the 17th (Easter Monday) at Cold Ash Centre of Franciscan Spirituality. Directed by Sister Margaret Taylor FMM Counselling Psychologist, Dip. Psych., Spiritual Director, HV Cert, SCM, SRN. Please get in touch with us: Tel 01635865353. Email: [coldashcentre@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:coldashcentre@hotmail.co.uk). Find more, Website: [www.coldashcentre.org](http://www.coldashcentre.org)

**Lenten Project:** Keith Bartell (an actor) will be here next weekend to speak at each of the Mases on the work of Marys Meals, our chosen charity for this year Lenten Project. Keith will also present a one hour illustrated talk in St. Josephs Parish Centre at 6pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**A Second Collection** will be taken throughout Lent for Marys Meals, except for March 11th and 12th when the collection will be for CAFOD. Donations to the Lenten Project can be gift aided. Please use either a spare numbered envelope or a white envelope which shows your name or envelope number and is marked 'Lenten Project' for your donations.

**Goan Community Retreat in Konkani:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March from 2pm to 6pm in St. Josephs Church  
**Lenten Project Great Big April Fool's Quiz.** Saturday 1st April at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Bar and raffle available. Price £10. Tickets can be obtained from Parish Office, Centre Office or call Gerry on 07770423688 or Eddie 07786114332.