



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NEWSLETTER

MAIDENHEAD & TWYFORD



St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's edition
Issue #8

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
30/31st Aug 2025

Biblical hospitality, the kind Jesus offered and taught, means welcoming into our house and life the other, the one who is different from us, the stranger. For Jesus, hospitality extends beyond "your friends or your brothers/sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours." It's about "the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind," those who are different from us and have no power, ability, or resources to reciprocate, payback, take us out to dinner, or serve our interests. Kingdom hospitality leaves us feeling vulnerable and at risk. And for good reason – it tells us to open the door even before we know who is there. Let me be clear, however. I am not suggesting that we open the door to just anyone at any time of night. Jesus is not asking us to be reckless with our safety or the safety of others. And I don't want our children running up to any and every stranger they see on the street or road. That's not hospitality, that's foolishness.

Hospitality does not begin with opening the door of our house. It begins with opening the door of our heart. Hospitality challenges me to face the ways I've closed and locked the door of my heart. When we shut the door of our heart and exclude the stranger we also imprison ourselves. Strangers have a way of showing us ourselves and the doors we have closed. Hospitality isn't so much about who the other is or isn't but who I am and how I want to be. Instead of making a guest list of who is welcome maybe we should take an inventory and make a list of our own fears, prejudices, judgments, scepticisms, cynicisms, and profiling of others. Those are the locks on our heart's door. What does hospitality look like in your life today? To whom is your heart open and to whom is it closed? What locks are on your inventory?

Aug/ Sep 2025: Mass Times & Mass Intentions

Sat	30th	10:00*	
		11:00	Baptism: William (St Elizabeth's)
		18:30	John & Maureen Cooney, A
Sun	31st	08:00	
		09:15	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
		11:00	Agnes Cecilia Fernando, A
		12:30	Baptism: Jasmine
		17:00	Rian Chaundy, SI Maria Conchetta, A
Mon	1st	10:00	No Mass. Mother's Prayers in Church
Tue	2nd	10:00	Coleman Family, FM
Wed	3rd	10:00*	Rev John Lord Lewington, FM
Thu	4th	10:00	Peter Gomes, SI Sean McKel, A
Fri	5th	10:00	1st Friday Healing Mass (7pm in SEC)
Sat	6th	10:00*	Fredrick Withoff, RIP Josefa Tabios Tablizo, A

*Adoration before Mass (9-10am)

A: Death Anniversary; FM: Foundation Mass; RIP: Rest in Peace, SI: Special Intentions

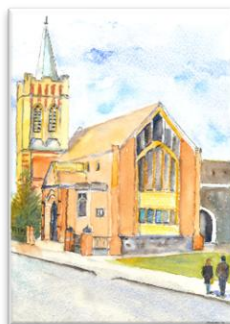
1st: Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29 Humble yourself so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord

Ps 68 R/ In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

2nd: Heb 12:18-24 You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14 Everyone who exalts himself will be humble, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.



St Joseph's Church by Fr Brian Oswald
Pre-order your cards now! Single cards @ £2 or pack of 3 for £5.
<https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/shop> See sample outside Parish Office (on the door).

All proceeds to support Thames Hospice. See/ Buy the original painting at an art exhibition being held at St Joseph's on the weekend of the 1st/2nd November this year.

Works of Mercy: Care for Creation

Catholic Social Teaching emphasises our responsibility to protect the environment as Stewards of God's Creation. The Church teaches that the earth is a gift from God and we are called to care for it through sustainable practices and respect for all life. In this year of Jubilee, Pope Leo has said, "In Christ, we too are seeds", and indeed, "seeds of Peace and Hope".

Let us, therefore, sow seeds of Peace and Hope in and around our wider Community with our Prayers, example and interaction with our neighbours and with Creation. (See next page for activities!)

As always, please pray for God's Creation and for our Brothers and Sisters who are suffering most from our changing Climate.

Fr Ephraim 07465 675985 eodhiambo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk | Fr Kevin 07476367316 | Fr Liam 07776 580596
Website: <https://holyfamilyparish.org.uk/> Office: Carolyn 01628783988 office@stjosephsparish.co.uk

PARISH NEWS

- **Sun 5pm Masses** Please let the office know if you would like to sign up for music or as a reader/ sacristan/ eucharistic minister!
- The **Children's Liturgy Team** hope that families have had a wonderful summer break. We look forward to seeing you for the new term from 7 Sept during the 11am Mass. All children from 3 years old (and parents) are very welcome to join. **Liturgists** - Please pick up new rotas from the top drawer of the filing cabinet in the kitchen. Please contact Tricia 01628 627265 for offers of help!
- **27 Sep 1045h Fire Marshal Follow up training** (SJ-specific). Topics: familiarisation with Fire Alarm Procedures and Evacuation Routes; Arrangements for the Mobility Impaired and a reprise of the Duties of the Marshal. The Register of Marshals will be updated on completion of the training. A light lunch will be available for all those attending.



SEASON OF CREATION

2025: Peace with Creation

is inspired by the text from Isaiah 32: 14 - 18. The symbol is a dove carrying an olive branch, bringing life to the Garden of Peace. In the Biblical story of the flood, the dove plays the role of the blessed messenger sent out by Noah. It returns to the ark with a fresh olive branch in its beak, signalling the receding flood which came to be known as a sign of "New Peace".

The Season of Creation runs from 1 Sept (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 Oct (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) – an annual celebration of Prayer and Action to care for our Common Home. Pope Francis, 10 Years ago, called on all people to take "decisive, urgent action" during the Season of Creation. This year, Pope Leo said: "On the tenth anniversary of the establishment of this Day of Prayer, which coincides with the publication of the Encyclical Laudato Si, we find ourselves celebrating the present Jubilee as Pilgrims of Hope." This year's theme appears most timely. Jesus often used the image of the seed. He applied that image to Himself, comparing himself to the grain of wheat that must die in order to bear fruit (cf. Jn 12:24). Seeds are buried in the earth, and there, to our wonder, life springs up, even in most unexpected places, pointing to the promise of new beginnings. In Christ, we too are seeds, and indeed, "seeds of peace and hope." The prophet Isaiah tells us that the Spirit of God can make an arid and parched desert into a garden, a place of rest and serenity - a spirit from on high will be poured out on us, and the wilderness will become a fruitful field, and the fruitful field a forest. Come enjoy time in Prayer and Reflection outdoors, surrounded by God's Creation, on

1 Sept 1015h St Edmund Campion Church (after 9.30 Mass)

6 Sept 1100h The Guard's Club Park (access via Oldacres Road) **13**

Sept 1100h in Ockwell's Park

OTHER COURSES / EVENTS

- **CAFOD School Volunteers needed** Supported by CAFOD with training and resources! For more information contact Jo Lewry jlewy@cafod.org.uk or phone 07710 09444
- Interested in **Practical Art**? Join U3A untutored Art Group. Bring your art materials and join in the fun every first & third Tuesdays 2-4pm in SJ Hall. Contact Peter 01628 674097 for more info

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

- ❖ **Saturdays Confessions** after 10am Mass / before 6.30pm Mass
- ❖ **2nd Sundays 2.30-5pm Loss & Bereavement Group** SEC
- ❖ **3rd Sundays 3.00pm Filipino Mass** in SJ
- ❖ **Wednesdays: 5-6pm Taiji** in SJ Hall.
- ❖ **Thursdays Zoom Room: 2pm** Rosary
- ❖ **6pm Journey together through Holy scriptures** www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp
- ❖ **Thursdays 7pm** Yoga with Una in SJ Hall
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC (term time)

THANK YOU for your continued support for our Brothers and Sisters in need, in our community, throughout the summer months. Your donations of clothing, toiletries, food and baby supplies have been appreciated, greatly, by all the recipients. The Sue Brett Foundation, The Salvation Army and The Baby Bank have distributed your contributions widely for the benefit of those in need. Thanks, too, to all our parishioners who have donated time, love and a helping hand for the benefit of our friends and neighbours. God Bless all of your efforts in this Jubilee Year as you help to bring Hope to all!

SACRAMENTALS

All **forms** for below can be found here:

<https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/newsletter/>

- **Baptism Course 2 Sep** For parents whose child is being baptised in M'head. Contact Fr Ephraim/ Norma / office.
- **First Holy Communion 2026** Your child must be at least in Year 4 in May 2026.
- **Confirmation 2026** Your child must be between 13 (by end April 2026) and <18 years of age by June 2026 and have already received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist (First Holy Communion). If they have not, please speak to Fr Ephraim.
- **OCIA 2026** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) For anyone who wishes to explore their faith, as adults, with a view to possibly becoming a Baptised and Confirmed member of the Catholic Church next Easter. Programme runs from Oct 25- Apr 26). Talk to one of our priests or OCIA catechists. More info on Holy Family Parish Website.
- **Getting Married? 6 Sep Preparing Together Day.** Church of St Peter and St John (1, Caesar's Camp Rd, Camberley, GU15 4ED). See www.marriagecare.org.uk for more info/ book. Phone queries: 0800 389 3801 (Mon-Thu 0900-1800h)