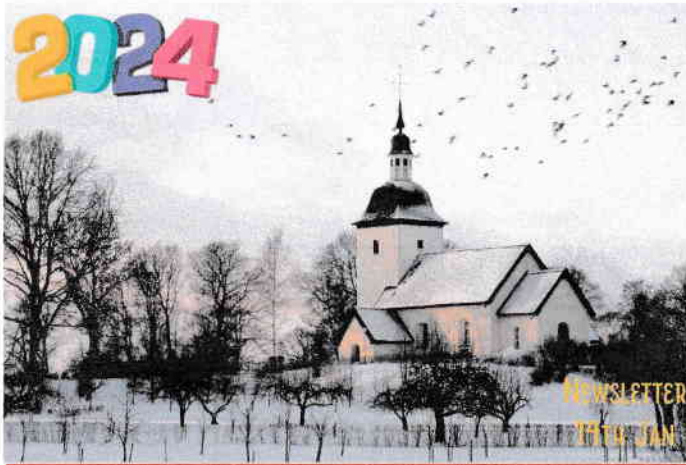


2024



St Francis of Assisi Church

Windsor & Ascot Pastoral area

Coronation Road, Ascot, SL5 9HG

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Bidgood

stfrancisascot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

@stfrancisascot

01344 620 591 [Tue to Thu: 9.30am to 1.30pm & Fri: 9.30am to 12.30pm]

St Francis School Head Teacher:

Mrs Rhona Miccoli

safeguarding: Jaycie Warren 07961 800804

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Charity number 1199568

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

Fr

Kevin writes...

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

FOLLOWING OUR CELEBRATION OF ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND THE EPIPHANY - WE NOW ENTER - UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF LENT, THE PERIOD KNOWN AS 'ORDINARY TIME'. AND THERE COULD BE NO BETTER SUBJECT TO REFLECT UPON AS THIS NEW YEAR BEGINS, THAN THAT OF 'BEING CHOSEN' FOR SOMETHING UNIQUE AND LIFE CHANGING. IF WE SAY TO OURSELVES, 'WELL, I'VE NEVER BEEN CHOSEN FOR ANYTHING SPECIAL IN MY LIFE' - WELL THINK AGAIN! OUR BAPTISM MADE US UNIQUE AND SPECIAL PEOPLE; IF WE'RE MARRIED, THEN WE ARE CHOSEN TO BE SPECIAL PEOPLE - AND SO, ALL OF US CAN REFLECT FOR A MOMENT ON THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO US ALL. AND IF WE'RE STILL NOT CONVINCED - BEAR IN MIND THAT BEING LOVED BY GOD AND SAVED THROUGH CHRIST MAKES EACH ONE OF US SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL INDEED!

* THE OPENING PRAYER ASKS GOD OUR FATHER TO HEAR US: "... AND BESTOW YOUR PEACE ON OUR TIMES ... "

* OUR OLD TESTAMENT READING IS FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL. WE HEAR HOW THE GREAT LEADER IS CALLED BY THE LORD AS HE SLEEPS ... FINALLY WHEN SAMUEL REALISES THAT THE LORD IS SPEAKING TO HIM, HE RESPONDS BY SAYING: "... SPEAK, LORD, YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING ... SAMUEL GREW UP AND THE LORD WAS WITH HIM AND LET NO WORD OF HIS FALL TO THE GROUND ... "

* THE SECOND READING IS FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS. THE APOSTLE CELEBRATES THAT CHRISTIAN PEOPLE FORM PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST: "... YOUR BODIES ARE MEMBERS MAKING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST; ANYONE WHO IS JOINED TO THE LORD IS ONE SPIRIT WITH HIM ... "

* OUR GOSPEL READING IS ST JOHN'S ACCOUNT OF HOW ST ANDREW, WHO WAS A DISCIPLE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, FINDS JESUS AND THEN INVITES HIS BROTHER SIMON PETER TO COME AND MEET JESUS AS WELL : "... ANDREW MET HIS BROTHER AND SAID TO HIM 'WE HAVE FOUND THE MESSIAH ... AND HE TOOK SIMON TO JESUS ... '"

OMNIS TERRA ADORET TE, DEUS ...
ALL THE EARTH SHALL BOW DOWN BEFORE YOU, O GOD ...

*Live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/@rp54996/streams>

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

✠ SAT, 13TH JAN, AT 5.30 PM: VIGIL: 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ SUN, 14TH JAN, AT 8 AM AND 10 AM: 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ TODAY IS A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE ☮

✠ MON, 15TH JAN: NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS

✠ TUE, 16TH JAN AT 10 AM: 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ WED, 17TH JAN AT 10 AM: SCHOOL SPRING TERM MASS

✠ WED, 17TH JAN AT 7.30 PM: ST ANTHONY OF EGYPT, ABBOT, MEMORIAL

✠ THU, 18TH JAN AT 10 AM: 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ FRI, 19TH JAN AT 7.30 PM: 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ SATURDAY, 20TH JAN AT 10AM: OUR LADY ON SATURDAY

*CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS

*THIS WEEKEND: COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL

PLEASE, PRAY FOR THE BAPTISM OF BABY OLIVIA MARIA DA SILVA WYLLIE, ON SAT 20TH JAN AT 12PM. MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT BLESS HER WITH A LONG-LASTING FAITH, LOVE, AND HOPE.



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

MARIA WILLIAMS, BRIAN LYNCH, PAT SASSI, SIMON SAINT, ERNESTO AND NAPOLEON MANNOIS, JANE THOMAS, DANIEL OFFER, MARIE HALL, NINA MULLINS, GEORGIA MACKINLEY, EILEEN HOARE, SR. JOSEPHINE COLLIER, PAULINE PAINTER & GERALD GRIFFITHS.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADD A NAME TO THIS LIST, WITH CONSENT, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE A NAME REMOVED, KINDLY EMAIL OR PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE. WHATSAPP: 07851 092431



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

- ✦ SAT, 13TH JAN AT 5.30 PM: HUMPHREY DOODY R.I.P
- ✦ SUN, 14TH JAN AT 8.30 AM: FOR THE PEACE IN THE WORLD
- ✦ SUN, 14TH JAN AT 10.00 AM: VIOLET GRIFFITHS R.I.P
- ✦ TUE, 16TH JAN AT 10.00 AM: BRIDGET CUNNINGHAM ANNIVERSARY R.I.P
- ✦ WED, 17TH JAN AT 7.30 PM: CHARLIE COOPER R.I.P
- ✦ THU, 18TH JAN AT 10 AM: COOPER FAMILY INTENTIONS
- ✦ FRI, 19TH JAN AT 7.30 PM: PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
- ✦ SAT, 20TH JAN AT 10 AM: FOR HOLY FAMILY PARISH IN GAZA

THIS SUNDAY FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S FAMILY MASS - 12.30PM

THE PARENTS AND CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FHC THIS YEAR WILL BE ATTENDING A SPECIAL INFORMAL FAMILY MASS LED BY FR KEVIN. TODAY MARKS THEIR START POINT AT THE FHC PROGRAMME. LET'S ALL PRAY THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDE THEIR STEPS AND KEEP THEM CLOSE TO JESUS' SIDE.



☎ TO LEAVE A VOICE OR TEXT MESSAGE FOR THE PARISH OFFICE KINDLY WHATSAPP US ON 07851 092431 THANKS!



LITTLE FRANCISCAN TODDLER GROUP
DURING TERM TIME, EVERY **TUESDAY** FROM
11AM TO 12.45PM. ALL WELCOME!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
HAPPY NEW YEAR! WE'LL RESUME OUR
ACTIVITIES THIS SUN, 14TH JAN, DURING
THE 10AM MASS.

WE ACCEPT CHILDREN FROM 3Y-0 TO
YEAR 3. ENROLMENT FORMS AVAILABLE IN
THE NARTHEX. FOR FURTHER QUERIES,
EMAIL **SUE ROCHE** ON:
SUE.ROCHE1@BTINTERNET.COM

PRAYER GROUP: WALKING WITH GOD



EVERY **WED AT 6.15PM** AT ST
FRANCIS CHURCH, FOLLOWED
BY MASS AND ADORATION OF
THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

[NO PRAYER GROUP WED, 17TH JAN]

**ROSARY SAID EVERY
SATURDAY AT 9.30
AM, BEFORE MASS, AT
THE SHRINE OF OUR
LADY OF FATIMA.**



LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF
YOUR PEACE. WHERE THERE IS HATRED,
LET ME SOW LOVE; WHERE THERE'S
INJURY, PARDON; WHERE THERE'S
DOUBT, FAITH; WHERE THERE'S DES-
PAIR, HOPE; WHERE THERE'S DARKNESS,
LIGHT; WHERE THERE'S SADNESS, JOY.



NEW OFFICE HOURS

- **TUE TO THU: 9.30AM TO 1.30PM**
- **FRI: 9.30AM TO 12.30PM**
- **WHATSAPP: DROP A TEXT OR VOICE
MESSAGE TO 07851 092 431**

THANKS!

Principal Celebrations for ANNO DOMINI 2024

- **ASH WEDNESDAY: 14TH FEBRUARY**
- **PALM SUNDAY AND THE BEGINNING OF HOLY
WEEK: 24TH MARCH**
- **HOLY THURSDAY: 28TH MARCH**
- **GOOD FRIDAY: 29TH MARCH**

- **EASTER SUNDAY: 31ST MARCH**
- **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: 8TH APRIL**
- **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: 9TH MAY**
- **PENTECOST SUNDAY: 19TH MAY**
- **HOLY TRINITY: 26TH MAY**
- **CORPVS CHRISTI: 2ND JUNE**
- **SACRED HEART OF JESUS: 7TH JUNE**

INVITATION TO AN ONLINE COURSE ON PRAYER

*ALLEGRA MUTANDA, DIRECTOR OF EVANGELISATION AND LEADERSHIP AT ST PETER AND THE WINCHESTER
MARTYRS CHURCH WILL BE LEADING HER A COURSE ON PRAYER THEMED 'LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY'.*

*THESE SESSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE ONLINE OVER SEVEN EVENINGS FROM MONDAY, 15TH JANUARY
2024, 7.00PM-8.30PM. SESSIONS INCLUDE HOW TO PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE, AND PARTICULARLY THE
PSALMS, INTERCESSORY PRAYER, SILENCE, AND JOURNALING PRAYER. THE TIMING IS APT ESPECIALLY AS
WE PREPARE TO ENTER INTO A YEAR OF PRAYER AS ANNOUNCED BY POPE FRANCIS AND AHEAD OF LENT.
TO REGISTER, CLICK [HERE](#). TO OPEN THE LINK PRESS "CTRL" + LEFT CLICK ON THE MOUSE.*

CAFOD SEEKS A DIOCESAN SCHOOL VOLUNTEER

DO YOU ENJOY WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE? COULD YOU HELP TO INSPIRE AND EMPOW-
ER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR LOCAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BY DELIVERING AN ASSEMBLY OR A
WORKSHOP? SUPPORTED BY CAFOD WITH TRAINING AND ALL RESOURCES PROVIDED PLEASE CONSIDER
THE ROLE OF CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEER. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JO LEW-
RY JLEWRY@CAFOD.ORG.UK OR PHONE 07710 094447

NEXT UCM MEETINGS

THURSDAY, 25TH JANUARY AT 7.30 PM.
THURSDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY AT 7.30 PM.



CARITAS PROJECT - OFFERING A WARM SPACE WITH A HOT MEAL AT THE PARISH

WE ARE ENTERING THE COLDEST AND MOST DIFFICULT TIME OF YEAR FOR PEOPLE
WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH FINANCIAL INSECURITY. THIS YEAR MANY MORE PEOP-
LE ARE HAVING TO MAKE DIFFICULT DECISIONS ABOUT WHETHER TO PAY BILLS,
HEAT THEIR HOMES OR EAT. OUR PARISHES CAN SUPPORT BY PROVIDING WARM
SPACES AND HOT FOOD AND IT IS VERY SIMPLE TO DO.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW TO ORGANISE OR HAVE EXPERIENCE
TO SHARE ON RUNNING A WARM SPACE / COMMUNITY MEAL PROJECT IN YOUR PARISH DO JOIN CARITAS PORTS-
MOUTH FOR OUR FIRST NETWORKING EVENT ON **TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY FROM 12:30-1PM**. AN OPPORTUNITY
TO LEARN FROM OTHERS EXPERIENCE, SHARE BEST PRACTICE AND SEE HOW CARITAS PORTSMOUTH CAN SUP-
PORT YOU GET YOUR PROJECT OFF THE GROUND. YOU CAN REGISTER [HERE](#) AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING
YOU. **TO OPEN THE LINK PRESS "CTRL" + LEFT CLICK ON THE MOUSE.**

IF ANYONE IN THE PARISH WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO GET THIS PROJECT GOING, PLEASE CONTACT THE PAR-
ISH OFFICE VIA EMAIL. MANY THANKS!

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS—CAMBERLEY & BAGSHOT PARISH

STARTING ON WED, 17TH JAN IN THE EVEN-
ING, DOORS OPEN AT 7.30 PM FOR REFRESH-
MENTS; SESSIONS BEGIN AT 8 PM. THE SEMI-
NARS ARE OPEN TO ALL. EVERYONE IS WEL-
COME! FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGIS-
TER YOUR PLACE, PLEASE CONTACT: DAVID
CONNELLY (d.a.connelly999@gmail.com)
or tel: 07877 513556.



BRACKNELL FOOD BANK

WE KNOW IT'S A DIFFICULT TIME FOR EVERYONE, BUT WE'D LIKE TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THOSE IN
NEED, AND IF EACH ONE OF US CAN DONATE ONE ITEM, IT WILL MAKE A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE
BECAUSE WE'RE MANY. SO IF YOU CAN REMEMBER TO PURCHASE ONE ITEM ON YOUR WEEKLY SHOP-
PING TO DROP IN THE CRATE IN THE CHURCH PORCH, WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL! THEY ALWAYS NEED DO-
NATIONS OF UNOPENED TOILETRIES FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN; AND SANITARY PRODUCTS FOR
WOMEN. THE FOODS THEY MOSTLY REQUIRE ARE: TINNED RICE PUDDING; LONG LIFE SPONGE PUDDING;
TINNED CUSTARD; TINNED MEAT, LONG GRAIN RICE; TINNED FRUIT; TINNED OR DRIED POTATOES.
THANKS!

**ST FRANCIS
FATIMA DEVOTIONS**

KSC HOME PRAYER GROUP

**Monday - Friday at 1.30pm
30 Minutes of praying the Rosary
As requested by Our Lady**

**ZOOM ID & PASSWORD BELOW
MON 15th January - FRI 19th January 2024**

ZOOM ID : 725 6252 6468

PASSWORD : rosary



**Sponsored by the KNIGHTS of ST COLUMBA - THAMES VALLEY
Ascot - Bracknell - Windsor - Maidenhead - Staines - Wokingham
Email : council984@hotmail.com Website www.council984.co.uk**