

St Francis of Assisi Church

Windsor & Ascot Pastoral area
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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Charity number 1199568

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

Newsletter 23rd June 2024

Fr Phillip writes...

Our First Reading presents us with a very short glimpse of the Lord speaking to Job from the heart of the tempest (Job 38). Job had been subjected to trials and temptations to his faith but finally the Lord speaks to him and places everything in its right context, for he is the creator of the whole universe including us. All things therefore are in his hands.

In the Gospel, the disciples experience great fear as a storm threatens to overwhelm them and the boat they are travelling in across the lake with Jesus who is fast asleep in the stern. When they wake him, he simply rebukes the wind and calms the sea. In this moment their eyes see something of the wisdom and power which God had spoken about to Job made visible before them. They ask themselves, "Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him."

Jesus' question to them, "Why are you so frightened? How is it you have no faith?", really puts their question in context before they ask it – they need to have faith in him. Soon they would see even more proof of who this could be when they experience Jesus' Crucifixion, death and Resurrection.

In Jesus, God chose to come among us in order to rescue us from all the trials and turmoil that surround us. He did this because he loves us. Love is the reason why God created us in the first place, love is the reason that he came among us in Jesus; love is the reason why he gives himself to us in the Blessed Sacrament and on the Cross. When we reflect on this, we can see why St Paul says in our Second Reading that the "love of Christ overwhelms us". Let us be overwhelmed by God's love in all the challenges we might face, because his generosity of love means that we need never fear anything, but simply always to have faith in him and trust in his love.

Mass Times and Intentions this Week

- ✠ **Saturday 22nd June, 5.30pm: TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (People of the Parish)
- ✠ **Sunday 23rd June: TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am: (Sheila Hayes R.I.P.)
10am: (Deceased Members of the Berkeley Family R.I.P.)
- ✠ **Monday 24th June: NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS**
- ✠ **Tuesday 25th June, 6.30pm: Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time** (Emanuelle Silva Anniversary R.I.P.)
- ✠ **Wednesday 26th June, 10am: Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time** (Barbara & Marcin R.I.P.)
- ✠ **Thursday 27th June, 6.30pm: Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time**
- ✠ **Friday 28th June, 10am: St Irenaeus**
- ✠ **Saturday 29th June, 10am: Our Lady on Saturday**
- ✠ **Saturday 29th June, 5.30pm: SS PETER & PAUL** (Private Intentions)
- ✠ **Sunday 30th June: SS PETER & PAUL**
8.30am:
10am: (People of the Parish)

*Next Weekend of
29/30 June:
Collection for
"Peter's Pence"*

Weekly Events

- 📖 **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction:** Every Friday, after 10 am Mass.
- 📖 **Confession:** After 10 am Mass on Saturdays, or by appointment.
- 📖 **Rosary:** said every Saturday at 9.30 am, before Mass.
- 📖 **Little Franciscan Toddler Group:** Every Tuesday, term-time only, from 11 am to 12.45 pm. All welcome!
- 📖 **SVP Table Sales:** in the Narthex, from Wed to Sun. Thanks for your support. All donations gratefully received.
- 📖 **Children's Liturgy:** Every Sunday, during the 10 am Mass (term-time only). We accept children from 3yo to Year 3. Enrolment forms available in the Narthex. For further inquiries, email Sue Roche: sue.roche1@btinternet.com

We pray for the sick and housebound of our community: 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, Malgorzata Cordoba & Anne Weatherall.

News This Week

Ordination – Stephen Patterson

Stephen's Ordination to the Diaconate will take place in Portsmouth Cathedral on 27 July at 11:00 - all are welcome from Windsor and Ascot. A coach has been booked to take anyone who would like to go to the Mass and reception afterwards. Parishioners from Ascot are most welcome, and the coach will make a pickup from St Francis. The suggested donation towards the cost of the coach is £15 a head. If you would like to travel on the coach, please contact Lisa Franklin as soon as possible, via email lisafranklin730@gmail.com, or call her on 07769 249568, alternatively contact the Windsor Parish Office - 01753 865163.

General Election (from Bishops' Conference)

The Prime Minister has called a General Election for 4th July 2024. The Bishops' Conference have created a webpage about the issues important to Catholics. For more info, access link <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)

There are leaflets available in the Church porch that you can use to check if your candidates' intentions are aligned to the Catholic Faith and also to contact SPUC directly.

Gardening & DIY Services

One of our Parishioners would like to offer his gardening and DIY services. If you need anything done, kindly contact the Parish Office and I'll give his contact.

Parish Outreach Group

We are hoping to form a small group of people between the communities of Ascot and Windsor to reach out to every household in our parishes. We will focus on three or four roads every week and will deliver a card to every home. If you'd like to be a part of this exciting Mission in the life of our parishes then please either come to the information evening on the **25th June at St Edward's Parish Centre, Windsor**. (The follow-up meeting will be in Ascot) It would be a short meeting beginning at **7 pm**. (There is the option coming to mass at 6:30 pm before). If you cannot make this date, but would like to be a part of the group, please contact either parish office or just turn up at the meeting.

The New Lectionary Books

Thanks to your donations, we already have raised £318! A massive thanks to you all! We appreciate your further donations so we can achieve the remaining amount of £652.

From Advent 2024, the new Lectionary (the book we take the readings from at all Masses) is being introduced in every Catholic parish in England and Wales. We will need to purchase the new copies in time for this in St Francis. The existing books will no longer be able to be used. The new Lectionary books come in several volumes: Vol.1 Sundays, Solemnities, Feasts of the Lord; Vol.2 Weekdays – Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter, Proper of Saints (I); Vol.3 Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Proper of Saints (II); Vol.4 Ritual Masses, Various, Votive, Masses for the dead; the Book of the Gospels also will need replacing.

Please would you consider making a donation towards these? The cost of the Ambo edition (the books the readers read from at Masses) is £695 for all 4 volumes and the cost of the Book of the Gospels (which the priest proclaims the Gospel from at Sunday Masses) is £275.

There's a button named "Lectionary Books" at the DONA Terminal in the back of the church for those donating by card. You can also donate by cash using the designated envelopes available at the Church porch.

There will also be People's editions coming out, so if you usually like to have your personal Daily or Sunday Missal, you can order the new version and, if you know someone who might appreciate one, buy one for them too as a gift. Details of these can be found at: www.newlectionary.org/#peoplesmissals

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of more offertory counters. If you can help, kindly contact the Parish Office.

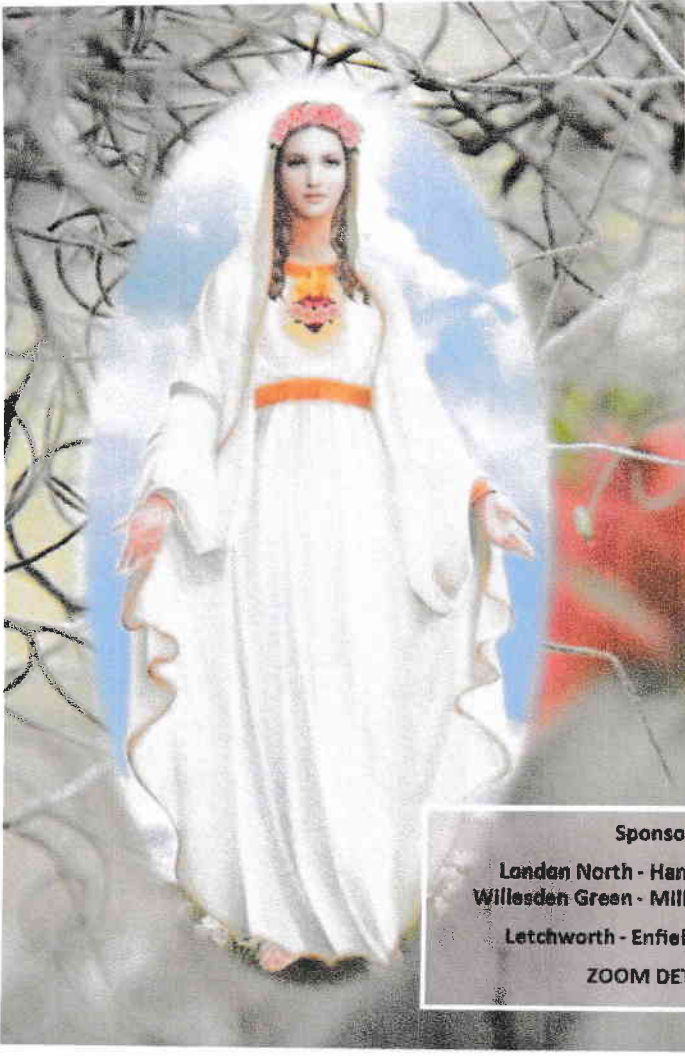
Accommodation Plea

Self-catering accommodation needed for a little family for approx. one month (approx. July), Ascot area (2 adults, 1 child, 1 little dog). Budget: £800. Contact Parish Office via email if you can help. Many thanks.

St Francis Summer Garden Party

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the organisation of a possible summer garden party in August. Please, contact Parish Office if you can help.





ST FRANCIS ASCOT FATIMA DEVOTIONS
KSC HOME PRAYER GROUP
30 Minutes of praying the Rosary
As requested by Our Lady
ZOOM ID & PASSWORD BELOW
Monday - Friday at 1.30pm
MON 24th June - FRI 29th June 2024
ZOOM ID : 846 1596 7852
PASSWORD : rosary



Sponsored by the KNIGHTS of ST COLUMBA - Province 41 WESTMINSTER
London North - Hanwell - Edmonton - Palmers Green - Sudbury - Harrow - St Albans - Uxbridge -
Willesden Green - Mill Hill High Wycombe - Wood Green - Chiswick - Cockfosters - Hemel Hempstead -
Letchworth - Enfield - Stevenage - Hoxton Square - Yeading - Whitton Wembley - Thames Valley
ZOOM DETAILS ALSO AVAILABLE ON - www.stfrancisascot.co.uk/NEWSLETTER