



St Francis of Assisi Church

Windsor & Ascot Pastoral area
Coronation Road, Ascot, SL5 9HG
Priest in Charge: Fr Phillip Harris
stfrancisascot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
01344 620 591 / 07851 092 431

St Francis School Head Teacher:
Mrs Rhona Miccoli
safeguarding: Jaycie Warren 07961 800804

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Charity number 1199568

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

Newsletter 7th July 2024

Fr Phillip writes...

Our First Reading presents us with God reaching out to his people through the prophet Ezekiel. They had not been following the Lord and the prophets were sent to guide them along the right path – Ezekiel is sent to them, “Whether they listen or not...”, and indeed, soon they would be exiled in Babylon.

In our Second Reading, St Paul reflects briefly on the extraordinary revelations God has given him and the trials he is suffering with “a thorn in the flesh” and the “weaknesses, ...insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ’s sake.”

Jesus in the Gospel passage visits his home town and is “amazed at their lack of faith.”

All three readings present us with reality of the world in which we live. It is a challenging world where God is frequently either rejected or ignored. And yet, God still cares for us and wants to reach out to each one of us. We, as people who do have faith, like Ezekiel, like St Paul, find ourselves today as the ones called to bring his good news to others. We have met Jesus and, unlike the people of his home town in the Gospel, we do have faith.

At the end of every Mass, we are sent out into the world and, despite all our weaknesses, our difficulties, pains and struggles, we have been touched and transformed by God’s love for us in Jesus Christ, nourished with his Body and Blood, given new life through his saving sacrifice. Let us reach out and help others in our world today to come to him and to have faith in him.

Mass Times and Intentions this Week

- ✦ **Saturday 6th July, 5.30pm: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (People of the Parish)
- ✦ **Sunday 7th July: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am: (Charles Cunniffe Anniversary R.I.P.)
10am: (Eileen Berkeley R.I.P.)
- ✦ **Monday 8th July: NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS**
- ✦ **Tuesday 9th July, 6.30pm: Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time**
- ✦ **Wednesday 10th July, 10am: Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time**
- ✦ **Thursday 11th July, 6.30pm: St Benedict** (Mary and John Looney R.I.P.)
- ✦ **Friday 12th July, 10am: Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time**
- ✦ **Saturday 13th July, 10am: Our Lady on Saturday**
- ✦ **Saturday 13th July, 5.30pm: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (John Kirwin Anniversary R.I.P.)
- ✦ **Sunday 14th July: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am: (People of the Parish)
10am: (Deceased members of the Berkeley Family R.I.P.)

13/14 July:
*Collection for the
Apostleship of the
Sea (Stella Maris)*

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

Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Sea Sunday is Sunday 14th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. Thank you.

Readings at Mass

To see the Mass readings for Sundays and weekdays, go to www.universalis.com/mass

Baptism Saturday 13th July

Please pray for baby Atlas Griffin Dias, who will celebrate the sacrament of Baptism next Saturday. May the Lord bless him always!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

✠ Christopher Barry Sillett, who died recently and whose funeral will be on **Friday 26th July at 12 pm** here at St Francis.

Ordination – Stephen Patterson

Stephen's Ordination to the Diaconate will take place in **Portsmouth Cathedral on 27 July at 11:00** - all are welcome. Update: the coach has been changed and they have 10 extra spaces, so contact Windsor Parish Office if you'd like to go. Please keep him in your prayers. Many parishioners have been asking how to contribute to Stephens's Ordination to the Diaconate – we have therefore set up a **'giveasyoulive' page** for those who wish to contribute in this way: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/collection-for-stephen-patterson>

Events: Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass

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 7th September at 2pm. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please send an email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to request a form for you to complete and return. Please note this address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact your own Parish office, who will have the form you need to complete. To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a COPY of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you return the form. Again, if you have no access to the internet, you can post a COPY along with completed form by post to the following address: St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. Please mark envelope "Significant Wedding Mass".

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024

Dates announced: The dates for the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes have been confirmed as 22nd – 26th July 2024. See poster on notice board at the Church for more information. Also, find some copies of the form to complete for the trip in the Church porch.

Gardening & DIY Services

One of our Parishioners would like to offer his gardening and DIY services. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

The New Lectionary Books

Thanks to your donations, we already have raised £388! We appreciate your further donations so we can achieve the remaining amount of £582. 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. 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 is 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 welcomers at Mass and offertory counters. If you can help, kindly contact the Parish Office.

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.

Ascot Music School Concert 13th July at 3.45 pm

End of term concert, in St Francis Church, all welcome. Tickets available for purchase on the website: <https://www.ascotmusicschool.co.uk/>

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 8th July - FRI 12th July 2024

ZOOM ID : 853 0696 1368

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 - High Wycombe - Cockfosters - Hemel Hempstead -

Enfield - Stevenage - Hoxton Square - Yeading - Whitton - Wembley - Thames Valley