



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

Office Hours: Tue to Thu: 12.30 to 3.30pm & Fri: 10am to 12.30pm
[June to August only]

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 Phillip writes...

“With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption” – words from our Responsorial Psalm this week. Many in contemporary society might ask why we should need this mercy and redemption. The answer is summed up succinctly in the First Reading from Genesis which describes Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In this description of our fallen human condition, we hear Adam blaming Eve and Eve blaming the serpent for their disobedience to God. It is a wonderful reflection on our awareness of sin and how easily we can fall into blaming others.

The news this past week has been full of the 80th Anniversary commemorations of the D-Day Landings. So many people gave their lives to put an end to the terrible war that was raging, and we give thanks that this heroic effort proved successful. And yet there have been and still are many other violent conflicts shrouding our world. Our fallen humanity continues to show itself: hatred, violence, persecution; and on the smaller scale: anger, jealousy, greed, lack of love and so many other ways.

Thankfully, God knows this! Thankfully, God saves us! In Jesus we are promised, “...all men’s sins will be forgiven” (as we hear in today’s Gospel). He is the one through whom we receive mercy and fullness of redemption. How is this? It is through his sacrificial giving of himself on the Cross – as Son of God – that our redemption is won. That saving Sacrifice bridges the gulf that sin leaves between us as created beings and God our Creator. That saving Sacrifice returns humanity to the condition God intended right from the start, in fact even more so, for through Christ’s redeeming Sacrifice we become not just friends once more of God, but sons and daughters. Let us rejoice therefore that, “With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.”

Mass Times and Intentions this Week

- ✠ **Saturday 8th June, 5.30 pm: TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (Private Intention)
- ✠ **Sunday 9th June: TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - 8.30 am: (People of the Parish)
 - 10 am: (Ernest Deighton Anniversary R.I.P)
- ✠ **Monday 10th June: NO MASS AT ST FRANCIS**
- ✠ **Tuesday, 11th June, 11.30 am: Funeral Mass for Kathleen Berry R.I.P**
- ✠ **Tuesday 11th June, 6.30 pm: St Barnabas**
- ✠ **Wednesday 12th June, 10 am: Tenth Week in Ordinary Time**
- ✠ **Thursday 13th June, 6.30 pm: Tenth Week in Ordinary Time** (Holy Souls R.I.P)
- ✠ **Friday 14th June, 10 am: St Anthony of Padua** (John Casey R.I.P)
- ✠ **Saturday 15th June, 10 am: Our Lady on Saturday** (David Styles R.I.P)
- ✠ **Saturday 15th June, 5.30 pm: ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (People of the Parish)
- ✠ **Sunday 16th June: ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - 8.30 am:
 - 10 m: (Eileen Berkeley R.I.P)

PLEASE NOTE THAT NEXT WEEK, DUE TO THE ROYAL ASCOT WEEK, ALL MASSES FROM 18TH TO 22ND JUNE WILL BE AT 9AM. NORMAL MASS TIMES WILL RESUME FROM THE VIGIL MASS ON SATURDAY, 22ND JUNE.

Coming Baptisms: Magnus John Manduca-Hutchings, Sat 15 June at 12 pm. May the Lord bless this child with long-lasting faith, love and hope.

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! Please, note **there will NOT be** toddler sessions on **11th and 18th June**.
- 📖 **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

Government Consultation on Lifting Cap for Catholic Children

The Government has opened a consultation on lifting the cap, that for the last 14 years, has limited the number of Catholic children that can be admitted into any new Catholic school. Please open the link and respond to the consultation (only name and email address are required). Responses are crucial if Catholic families throughout the country are not to continue to be deprived of a Catholic education. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/>

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. There is more information here and you may wish to put this link into your newsletters. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

Day for Life 2024 (from Bishops' Conference)

Please find attached the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Day for Life, received from the Apostolic Nuncio this week. The celebration of Day for Life will take place over the weekend of 15/16th June 2024. Resources for the Day can be found here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>

Saturday 15th June, Day of Catechists, St Edward's Parish Centre, Windsor

All involved in sharing the faith in St Francis are invited to attend the Day for Catechists for the parish. Sister Hyacinth, a Dominican Sister from the New Forest, will lead us in reflecting on the importance of what it is to be a teacher of the faith in the parish and in prayer. Saturday June 15th, 9:30am ending by 12 noon (lunch will be available for those who wish). Just so we can cater for numbers, please confirm via email to Sharon Cole, youthcoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

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. To achieve this, we will focus on three or four roads every week and will deliver a card to every home. If you would 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

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

Bracknell Foodbank

The Foodbank is in need of toilet rolls. If you can help, kindly bring them to our collection point in the Church porch. Many thanks.

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 (July), Ascot area (2 adults, 1 child, 1 little dog). Budget: £550. Contact Parish Office via email if you can help. Many thanks.

Coming Funerals [Please remember in your prayers]

✠ Kathleen Berry R.I.P, whose Funeral Mass is on Tuesday 11th June at 11.30 am.