

**St Francis de Sales Church
and Parish Office**
**Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash
Common, Newbury RG14 6NH**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory
Road, Hungerford, RG17 0AF**

Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
Parish Administrator: Judith Aylmer
The Parish Office is open on Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm.
Telephone: 01635 40332
Email: washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 246871

Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes
This Sunday: Welcome to our Mass, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - Psalter Week 4

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Feast of the Day</i>	<i>Mass Intention</i>
Sat 21 Dec	10 am	St F	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6 pm	St F	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Robin Horscroft R.I.P.
Sun 22 Dec	9 am	OLOL		For Pete & Sandy Grey
	11 am	St F		For the Parish
Mon 23 Dec	7.30 pm		PENITENTIAL SERVICE at ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH	
Tues 24 Dec	4 pm	St F	Feast of the Nativity of the Lord (Carols precede Midnight Mass)	For the Parish
	9.30 pm	St F		Joseph & Mary Carroll R.I.P.
	11.30 pm	St F		Intentions of Clare Huckle
Wed 25 Dec	9 am	OLOL		
	11 am	St F		Intentions of Kathleen Smith
Thurs 26 Dec	12 noon	St F	St Stephen	
HOLY FAMILY - Year A - Psalter Week 1				
Sat 28 Dec		St F	NO Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6 pm	St F	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	For repentance, thanksgiving & blessing
Sun 29 Dec	9 am	OLOL		
	11 am	St F		For the Parish

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR SUNDAY

St. Joseph was faced with an extraordinary mystery as he discovered his wife was pregnant. He knew her to be a woman of exceptional virtue and holiness and had to reconcile that with her surprising pregnancy.

Our Blessed Mother was also invited by God to face her pregnancy in faith. Her response was perfect, "Let it be done to me according to your word." She could not explain nor understand what was happening but she knew deep in her soul that God was in charge leading all to His glory.

Both Mary and Joseph are wonderful models of faith and obedience. They were obedient to the will of God despite the fact that the will of God drew them into an incredible and unfathomable mystery. They were first-hand witnesses to the salvation of the world and to the greatest act ever known. And they both embraced this mystery and accepted it in faith.

Reflect, today, upon your own invitations from God to embrace the mysteries of life. God's ways are often more than we can comprehend and figure out. Mary and

Joseph give us the witness of how we are to handle every mystery God invites us to participate in. Say yes to the will of God just as this holy couple did.

<https://mycatholic.life>

DIARY

23 Dec - 7.30pm - St JOSEPH - Penitential Service

Wed 1 Jan - 12 noon - St F - Mass of Healing followed by refreshments

Sat 4 Jan 2020 - 10 am to 12 noon - Coffee morning - OLOL

Thurs 14 Jan - 7.45pm - Meeting room, St F - J&P Group planning meeting - ALL WELCOME

Thank you to everyone who supported the J&P Christmas Fair at St Francis de Sales. It was a very enjoyable occasion and a great success, with £521 being raised for the parish charities. Thank you!

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY 26TH AND FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER.

NEWS & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Complaints are being received about people not being able to park at St Francis as too much space is being left between cars. **PLEASE PARK TIDILY** as we are running out of room. Could you walk or car share? **Is there a volunteer to open up the overflow car park for Park House School any Sunday or just for any of the Masses at Christmas? Contact the Parish Office.**

NEW YEARS DAY - Feast of Mary Mother of God - 12.00 noon Mass of Healing with the Sacrament of the Sick at St. Francis de Sales. Fr. Zbigniew will be assisted by Canon Peter Turbitt. ALL are welcome. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the hall.

Pope's Intention for December

That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

There seems to be a shortage of newsletters to go round. Please share your newsletter with family members and those around you for the readings during Mass.

COLLECTION AT CHRISTMAS Please remember that the collection at Christmas goes to Fr Zbigniew and be as generous as you can. We owe a great debt of thanks to him and all priests for their solitary lives of servitude.

RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS Sunday 29th December is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. All married couples will have the opportunity to renew their Marriage Vows during Mass on this feast day.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Through Jesus we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all. Romans 1:5

How many people have you told about Jesus today?

Clare has a **mid-sleeper bed** (cabin bed) to give away. Contact her on 01635 550428.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER Go to the website www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk and scroll down to the bottom of the front page. Tick the box for Sunday newsletter and enter your email address. Click subscribe and you are there!



Advent sees the start of the Year of the Bible, called '**The God who Speaks**,' and will be an opportunity for all of us in the Diocese

to promote the Bible and renew the place of the Word of God at the centre of our Catholic life and faith. Part of this year is to run **Diocesan Reader Workshops**, comprising two workshops of 3 hours each, held on separate days, providing liturgical, biblical and practical formation for all diocesan readers. The workshops enable readers to gain a *recognitio*, signed by the Bishop and their Parish Priest. Currently, the nearest one for us is at St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs church, Winchester, SO23 8RY. The first workshop will be on 11th January, 10 am to 1 pm and the second will be on 25th January, 10 am to 1 pm. There are more details on the diocesan e-news - see below to subscribe. **For more details, contact Chris Peacock on readers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

If you would like to be included in the Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office. Please pray for **Courtney Andrews, Anton Barber, Anne & Bill Bower, Olwyn Brian, Lily Brooke, Bronek (father of Anna Brooks), Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Emma, Joe Emery, Maria Hall, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Clare Huckle, Bernard & Victoria Kilkenny, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Mary Russell, Elizabeth Sage & Linda Verner** who ask for our prayers.

If writing cheques, please make them payable to PRCDTR Newbury St Francis de Sales. Requested by the bank!

Contribute to our Website You can now request access to add content to our website. If interested, please fill in the simple form on the website to request access - <http://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk/user/register>. Any queries, feel free to contact Andrew at andrewpolland@gmail.com

Do you get the Diocesan e-news? Weekly e-newsletter containing teachings and happenings as well as news from around the diocese. Subscribe at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews

Bookings for St Francis Hall and Parish Rooms Please book the hall with Maureen for all events on 01635 30108 or email Maureen.hudd@btinternet.com

ROTAS AT ST FRANCIS

WELCOMING:

Tues 24 Dec - 4pm: Dykes and Taylor families

Tues 24 Dec - 9.30pm: tbc

Tues 24 Dec - Midnight: Angela Spellman

Wed 25 Dec: Lola Emetulu & Middleton family

Sat 28 Dec: Michael Boyle

Sun 29 Dec: Goree family

CLEANERS:

Fri 27 Dec: Margaret Fielding & Angela Spellman

COUNTER:

Sun 22 Dec: Angela Spellman & Paul Cobb