

St Francis de Sales Church
Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash
Common, Newbury RG14 6NH

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

Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn

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There are no public Masses here until further notice
and the Church is no longer open for private prayer

<i>Date</i>	<i>Feast of the Day</i>	<i>Mass Intention</i>
Sat 18 April		
Sun 19 April	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER of Divine Mercy, Year A MASS ONLINE 10am, see note below	People of the Parish
Tues 21 April	St Anselm , Religious, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	
Wed 22 April		
Thurs 23 April	ST GEORGE , Patron of England	
Fri 24 April		
Sat 25 April	ST MARK , Apostle	People of the Parish
	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
Sun 26 April	MASS ONLINE 10am, see note below	Jeanette Honeyman R.I.P.

Sunday Mass is streamed live via our website, at <http://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk/mass-live> and starts at 10am each Sunday.

EASTER OFFERING if you would still like to make an Easter offering you can do it via the bank account (details on second page of the newsletter) and mark it Easter Gift.

Please pray for Fin (Finbarr) Webster who died recently, for Tarnia his wife, and also for the family; his funeral will take place on Tuesday 28th.

An Act of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

The Prayer Support Team

Every person is called to a vital and personal relationship with the living God: prayer is this relationship. Sometimes, when we are exhausted, or stressed, or alone, it is difficult to pray. The Diocese have put together a prayer support team, to pray with you or provide a listening ear, or to pray for you.

Prayer Support If you would like someone to pray with you or for you over the phone, contact us and follow the link.

Key Workers Are you a busy key worker in need of prayer? Get in touch with us and follow the link and our prayer team will pray for your intentions.

Spiritual Listening Are you in need of a listening ear? Contact us and a member of our team will get in touch <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/prayer-support>

A humble soul does not trust itself, but places all its confidence in God.

Saint Mary Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938)

"Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe"

There have been many interpretations of this text throughout the years, most of them focusing on the obvious challenge to Thomas and his final coming to believe: "My Lord and my God!" . . . Thomas recognises Jesus by touching his wounds. This is probably not an experience of compassion on Thomas's part, but only an amazed testing by him of reality. Yet this reality - what Thomas comes to see as Jesus - carries wounds that the disciples (including Thomas) had run away from at the time they were inflicted. The wounds have become the signature mark of the one who had loved them, been lost to them, and who returned with the good news of God's forgiveness, acceptance, and salvation.

But why the wounds? Why not recognise Jesus by his face? his stature? his voice? These wounds are somehow at the heart of the Christian gospel. They tell Thomas not only that this is Jesus whom he has touched but that this is the God who came to be with and for them, even in suffering and death. Here is Jesus, with wounds eternally healed, still among them. Here is Jesus, who had predicted he would take on the pain of all humankind, among them. Here is Jesus, whose wounds must represent, then, the wounds of all humankind, still among them. Here is Jesus, the face of God for them.

Margaret A Farley: Compassionate Respect

If you would like to be included in the Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office. Please pray for **Courtney Andrews, Anton Barber, Ann Bowyer, 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. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Our J&P group have made a donation of £580 to the **Sue Ryder Duchess of Kent Hospice** in Reading following an appeal by one of their nurses. As a result of Covid-19 all their shops have closed and nearly all fundraising activities have stopped resulting in a massive drop in income. Our donation will fund a nurse for four days. Please consider making a donation yourself www.sueryder.org/donate. Every pound you give could make the difference to whether they can continue to be there when it matters for local families in the future

MASS INTENTIONS Fr Zbigniew continues to say daily Mass and to include all booked Mass Intentions. If you would like Fr Zbigniew to include a Mass intention please contact the office.

Divine Mercy Sunday has been celebrated for years as a private devotion. But in the year 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II, who himself was an extraordinary instrument of God's mercy, put this feast on the Church's official calendar as he raised Sister Faustina to sainthood.

Saint Faustina was a member of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Krakow, Poland. She died in 1938. She came from a simple and poor family of farmers, had only three years of simple education and performed the humblest of tasks in her convent. But she also was a mystic who was privileged to have many private revelations from our Lord which she recorded in her diary of Divine Mercy.

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, intensely reflect upon the abundance of this gift that God wishes to pour forth upon us. There is no limit to how much we are loved by our God of perfect mercy. And today, on this the eighth day of Easter, we should especially be aware of the fact that the floodgates of Heaven are opened to us to an unimaginable degree. Turn your eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bestow.

Lord of Mercy, help me today to begin to understand what mercy is all about. Help me to first be open to the mercy You wish to bestow upon me. As I receive Your own Divine Mercy, help me also to be an instrument of that mercy for all to see. Jesus, I trust in You.

Collections If you usually put money in the collection at Mass, we encourage you to donate direct to the parish account. Details of this are:

Our Parish Bank Details

Lloyds Bank 30 93 04 00882993
PRCDTR Newbury St Francis de Sales
Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

Reconciliation is by request only at this time - please phone the office to agree a time with Fr Zbigniew

The Parish Office is closed. Please ring and leave a message if you need to contact Fr Zbigniew

Bookings for the Hall & Parish Rooms All use of the Parish premises is cancelled until further notice.

SAFEGUARDING: If you have any safeguarding concerns re a child or vulnerable adult please contact Maureen Hudd, Parish Safeguarding Representative on 07880 730691. Please be aware that the Parish cannot offer organised support to vulnerable people in terms of personal care, handling money, etc. unless volunteers have been DBS checked. Private arrangements and friends helping friends is not affected by this.

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