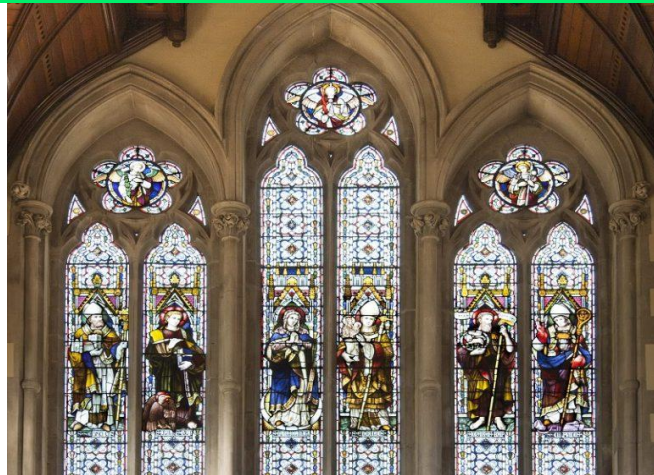


St Francis de Sales Church
 Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash Common,
 Newbury RG14 6NH
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory Road,
 Hungerford, RG17 0AF
 Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
 Registered Charity Number 246871
 Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
 telephone: 01635 40332
 Email:
washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes				
TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C				
	Time	Place	Feast of the Day	Mass Intention
Sat Aug 16	6:00pm	St F	MASS	Joaquim Paul De Souza RIP
Sun Aug 17	09:00 am	OLOL		Geraldine Dyson RIP
	11:00 am	St F		The People of the Parish
Mon Aug 18			St Clare, Foundress	
Tues Aug 19	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	St F	Adoration & Reconciliation MASS	
Wed Aug 20	9:30 am 10:00 am	OLOL	Adoration & Reconciliation MASS St Bernard, Abbot, DOC	
Thurs Aug 21	9:30 am 10:00 am - 10:30 am	St F	MASS Adoration & Reconciliation St Pius X, Pope	
Fri Aug 22			The Queenship of Mary	
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C				
Sat Aug 23	6:00 pm	St F	MASS	
Sun Aug 24	09:00 am	OLOL		The People of the Parish
	11:00 am	St F		

Please help us to continue God's work by
 supporting us financially Lloyds Bank 30 93 04
 a/c number 00882993 CDP Newbury StFrancis
 de Sales Ref: St Francis de Sales/Your name

If you would like to set up a new Standing
 Order or Claim Gift Aid, please contact the
 Parish Office

The Parish Office is open on Tuesday,
 Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm Parish
 Administrator Yvonne Eaton

Please note there are no refreshments in the
 Hall after Sunday Mass during August.

If your child needs to leave the church during
 Mass, they MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Luke 12:49-53

The words of Jesus in the gospel can sometimes be quite shocking. How is it possible to believe that Jesus has come to bring not peace, but conflict? The prophet Jesus uses blunt and challenging language. His words convey a profound truth, for the consequence of his preaching will be division, even within families. His uncompromising preaching about God and human life produces opposition and division, which both Jesus and his followers must face.

Fire is nevertheless a disturbing image. It is used in the Jewish Scriptures to symbolise punishment and destruction. Jesus is using the strong language common among his contemporaries to speak of the judgement of God in stark terms. He speaks also of his coming baptism. In Christian baptism we undergo a kind of dying to reach new life. Baptism for Jesus is the baptism of the cross, his death leading to resurrection. Jesus is anxious to continue his journey to Jerusalem and to complete his mission.

Jesus explicitly says he has not come to bring peace. These words speak of the inevitable consequence of his message. Divisions are foreseen, and divisions and conflicts have been a constant reality because the Christian gospel makes great demands. The challenge is to continue to speak the truth with love despite opposition.

The reading about the prophet Jeremiah which accompanies this gospel illustrates the persecution often faced by the prophets. Jeremiah's intentions are misrepresented: he 'does not have the welfare of these people at heart'. He is thrown into a well and sinks into the mud. He is eventually rescued by someone who is willing to stand with him and risk persecution himself. As the Letter to the Hebrews says, we are supported by 'a great cloud of witnesses' as we continue the race of faith which we have begun.

Saturday 6th September: Diocesan Formation Day for Ministers of Children's Liturgy. This has been rescheduled from Saturday 7th June. Please register your interest by emailing liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. There will also be a Readers' Day on Saturday 18th October. Further details for both dates to follow.

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

If you would like to be included in the Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office

Please pray for Lily Brooke, Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Lucy Curtis, Mary Dykes, Chris Dykes, Emma, Joe Emery, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Elizabeth Sage, Arthur Mitchell, Malcolm Higgins, Sofia Joseph, Corbert Joseph, Gillian Spencer, Krzysz Zablocki, Margaret McGuire, Sandy Hebden, Sean Early, Tony Lavers, and John Huckle who ask for our prayers. Please let the Parish Office know of any changes.

Would you like to become an Altar Server?

It's that time of year again when we welcome a new group of Altar Servers to the team. If you've made your First Holy Communion, whether recently or not, then I would like to invite you to become an Altar Server. Please contact Andrew

andrewpolland@gmail.com by 14th September.

Could you help?

We are looking for extra volunteers to help with our First Holy Communion team. You don't need to be an expert—whether you'd like to help lead sessions, support others, or just lend a hand getting the kids involved in services. It's a great way to support the children in our parish as they take a step in their faith journey. If you're interested in helping, please contact Andrew at fhc3.newbf@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

First Holy Communion 2026

We are now starting the early preparations for next year's First Holy Communion Programme and would like to welcome registrations for the course. The course will start in October 2025 with the age for receiving the Sacrament being eight years of age or above (children in Year 3 to 6). please register at the following link: <https://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk/news/first-holy-communion-2026>

INVITATION Perhaps God is also calling you to become a Catholic. If you are interested in exploring the Catholic Faith as well as adult Catholics seeking Confirmation you are invited to speak with our priests or contact the parish office or email fjcon@btinternet.com The next RCIA courses starts with the first meeting at St. Francis de Sales on Thursday 25th September at 7.30pm and all will be welcome.

West Berkshire Pastoral Area
St. Francis de Sales, Wash
Common/Our Lady of Lourdes
Hungerford.

DATE	DAY	OLOL	St.F
Sat 16th/Sun 17th Aug 20th Ordinary	Mass	0900	1800/1100
Sat 23rd/Sun 24th Aug 21st Ordinary	Mass	0900	1800/1100
Sat 30th/Sun 31st Aug 22nd Ordinary	Mass Anniversaries Blessings	0900	1800/1100
Tuesday 2nd Sept	Mass in Latin		1900
Sat 6th/Sun 7th Sept. 23rd Ordinary	Mass African Mass	0900	1800/1100 1300
Tuesday 9th September	Pastoral Council		1930
Sat 13th/Sun 14th Sept. Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Mass J&P Food System, walk & picnic	0900	1800/1100 1230
Sat 20th/Sun 21st September 25th Ordinary	Mass	0900	1800/1100
Thursday 25th September	RCIA – Journey in Faith. Initial meeting		1930
Sat 27th/Sun 28th Sept. 26th Ordinary	Mass Anniversaries Blessings	0900	1800/1100
Sat 4th/Sun 5th October 27th Ordinary	Mass African Mass	0900	1800/1100 1300
Sunday 5th October	Harvest Festival Lunch CAFOD Collection		1200
Tuesday 7th October	Mass in Latin		1900
Sat 11th/Sun 12th Oct. 28th Ordinary	Mass	0900	1800/1100
Tuesday 11th November	Pastoral Council		1930
Sat/Sun 22/23rd Nov.	J&P Christmas Fayre		
Sunday 25th January 2026	Annual Parish Meeting		1200