

The Parish of The Holy Trinity and Our Lady Fleet & Church Crookham



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Charity No. 1199568



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Our Lady (OL): Kings Road, Fleet, GU51 3ST;
The Holy Trinity (HT): Aldershot Road, Church Crookham, GU52 8JU
Parish Administrator: Awaiting Recruitment

Mass Times & Venues

17th September 2023 — 23rd September 2023
Psalter week 4

Sun 17th Sept: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am (HT): People of the Parish
10.45am (HT): Mass said in Polish
11.00am (OL): David Parry's Intention
Mon 18th Sept: Feria
9.30am (OL): Carlos Alves & Deceased Fam
Tue 19th Sept: Feria
9.30am (HT): Fatima Alves' Intention
Wed 20th Sept: *Sts Andrew Kim & Comp*
9.30am (OL): Herbert Flanagan RIP
Thur 21st Sept: *St Matthew, Apostle*
9.30am(HT): Jaso Cruze & Deceased Fam
7.00pm (HT): Mass said in Polish
Fri 22nd Sept: *Feria*
9.30am (OL): Tina and Theresa Higgins RIP
Sat 23rd Sept: *St Padre Pio*
9.30am (OL): Thanksgiving to God
6.00pm (HT): To Start on 1st October

Sun 24th Sept: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am (HT): People of the parish
10.45am (HT): Mass said in Polish
11.00am (OL): Pat Lavelle's Welfare & Home

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 10:15am – 11:15am and by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Daily Before weekday Masses
Thursday Exposition – TBC

Baptisms, Funerals & Weddings – By appointment

Sacrament of the Sick & Anointing – Please speak with the parish priest or contact the parish office and leave a message if there is no reply.


LET GO AND LET GOD

For my personal retreat this year, I took with me a book written by the American - Lysa Terkeurst, which has become #1 New York Times Bestseller - **FORGIVING WHAT YOU CAN'T FORGET**. In this book, Lysa exposed the subjects of hurts, wrongdoings, abuse, and forgiveness. According to Lysa, hurts, wrongdoings and abuse are experiences all of us have passed through at some point in our lives; they are crippling experiences and for many of us, their scars are always apparent. For Lysa, no matter the experience we might have borne, we have two options: To Forgive and let go, or To Harbour resentment and plot our revenge. According to Lysa, if we do not choose to forgive, we hold ourselves in the prison of perpetual anger even when those who hurt us might not know or have forgotten what they did. However, when we forgive, we are not exonerating those who hurt us, we are simply setting ourselves free from our prisons and handing the entire situation to God to be the judge. This is exactly the lesson we are summoned to appropriate from this Sunday's readings.

In today's Gospel, when Peter asked Christ how often he ought to forgive those who hurt him, Christ replied - *Hebdomekontatis Hepta* - either 77 times or 70 x 7 times. In ancient Greece, the number 7 represents perfection, completion, and efficiency. By using it, Christ admonishes us to forgive countless times. Today's First Reading tells us why forgiveness is important thus - Forgive your neighbour the hurt he/she does to you and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. My friends, a lot of us are hurting in our parish presently, it is important to acknowledge those hurts, hand them over to God and begin the process of healing. If we do not forgive, how can we boldly recite 'THE OUR FATHER' and ask God to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Forgiveness is the hardest part of being Christians but equally the most holistic part of it.

Fr Johnpromise

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

 Fiona Person, Fatima Alves, Robin Tinsley, Anne Wilcox, Rosemary Tyndall, Geoff Neal, Stuart Neal, Terry McIntyre, Betty & David Hopkin, Kerry Scares, Anthony D'Costa, Mary Gibbons, Val Nicholas, Tony Mallins, Chris Bennett.
O Mary, health of the sick, pray for them

PARISH NOTICES

HEALING MASS FOR HURTS & WRONGDOINGS – Thank you all for joining in our 9 Days Novena to the Holy Spirit, it was a profound spiritual exercise that will bear fruit in our parish. I would like us to have a Parish Healing Mass for hurts and wrongdoings. Since we do not have a PPC at the moment to consult regarding dates and times, I am throwing it to all our parishioners to suggest likely dates and times that might fit in with most people. I will publish the dates and times I would receive and we will choose from there. Do email me regarding this, please.

MOVING FORWARD AS A PARISH: After our 9 Days Novena, Sunday Consultation and listening to you our parishioners, I have mapped out 7 Teams that need to be revived or established to help move our parish forward:

- ◆ Parish Evangelisation Strategy Team AKA (PPC)
- ◆ Parish Finance Committee
- ◆ Parish Catechetical Team
- ◆ Parish Hospitality Team
- ◆ Parish Liturgy Team
- ◆ Parish Spirituality Team
- ◆ Parish Social & Charity Team

The Parish Evangelisation Strategy Team replaces PPC and is the official leadership team of the parish. The Parish Finance Committee looks after the finance and properties of the parish. The Parish Catechetical Team prepares people for Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, RCIA and Weddings. The Parish Hospitality Team deals with welcoming ministry, offertory collectors and money counters. The Parish Liturgy Team has oversight with planning liturgies and assigning ministries in our parish. The Parish Spirituality Team coordinates all the spiritual activities, initiatives and groups in our parish. The Parish Social & Charity Team organises our parish social events and charity works.

Some of our parishioners have indicated to serve in some of the above ministries, I am compiling the lists presently and will publish them next week for more parishioners to sign up. According to Canon Law, membership of some of the above Teams have to be by appointment from the parish priest. I will approach some of our parishioners to help me in those Teams and I will publish my appointments and publicly commission everyone for service and not for power.

SUNDAY OFFERTORY COLLECTION: From this Sunday, we revert to passing the collection bags from pew to pew during the offertory part of the Mass. The offertory collection is our own gift to God at Mass which the priest offers up to God together with the Bread and Wine. Some of our parishioners have volunteered to get this going both at Holy Trinity and Our Lady's, until we complete the revamping of that ministry.

MASS INTENTIONS: The minimum donation for any Mass Intention is £10; you can give more if you so wish. We do have lots of free spaces; why not contact the office or approach me and book Mass/Masses.

HIRING THE HALL: Our parish halls can be hired for various events; it is one way we raise money for the work of evangelisation within our community. To hire the hall, do approach Ewa who still helps us out until we find a parish secretary. There is a small token to be paid when hiring the hall to ensure we pay for the electricity, water, and further maintenance. We will certainly waive the fee when the hall is being used for parish activities.

SATURDAY EVENING MASS: Following our Sunday Consultation and your request to reinstate the Saturday evening Mass, I have decided to reinstate that from 1st October 2023. We are beginning in October so as to disseminate the news and enable everyone to prepare adequately for that.

MY WEEKLY DAY OFF: In addition to the One Month Holiday given to all priests in Canon 533 #2, the Portsmouth Diocesan Clergy Handbook states: "...priests are encouraged to take a day off each week." Since I resumed my service for you, I have not had any day off because I did not want to change anything immediately. However, to serve you well, I need one day off each week to avoid burn-out. To that effect, starting from October 2023, Monday, would be my day off. This means there would not be any Mass in the parish. This is not done out of bad will but good will.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT: This weekend, we start the annual four weeks Mass Count for our parish. Do not worry if you see people counting numbers in the church. We need to get it right.

DECEASED IN OUR PARISH: Let us pray Michael Rowntree whose funeral takes place at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham, at 1pm. For Ann Mann whose funeral takes place at Park Crematorium Aldershot, at 10am. For Terry Macintyre who died last week. Our condolences to their families and loved ones.

GIFT AID: If you are a UK Tax payer, we would be delighted if you could fill in a Gift Aid Form to enable us get back the taxes you have already paid on the money you give us, at no extra cost to you.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA ANNUAL SPONSORED WALK: The Farnborough Knights of St Columba Annual Sponsored Walk takes place on Sunday 15th October and this year members are looking to raise funds for Stepping Stones DS & Parity for Disability. These are two local Charities which support our community as follows. Stepping Stones looks to enhance the lives of individuals with Downs Syndrome and help their families. Your support will empower children & people with Downs Syndrome to achieve their full potential and foster an environment of acceptance within our community. Parity enables individuals with complex disabilities by giving them personal growth, skill development, and community integration.

Sponsorship Forms will be available in the Church Porch, or a local Brother will be asking you to sign up to support him/us. This year it is 10Km walk starting at St Swithun's Yateley at 10am and returning there some two hours plus later. To sponsor them direct, please make an online payment to 30.90.09 a/c no. 01793918 Knights of St Columba Council 185. For more details, please contact either Michael Gallagher (077480 57684), Ray Harden (545742), or Frank Stanley (07866 688846). Thank you.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Our Lady's and Holy Trinity Churches are open daily from morning till 5pm.

FIRST COMMUNION 2023-24

The First Communion programme will be starting in November. The introduction for Parents will be on 7th November at 8pm in Our Lady's Hall. The sessions for Reconciliation will begin on November 11th at 10.15am 'till 11.45am in Our Lady's Hall. A full timetable will be sent via email to all participants. Several people have already registered their interest to the Parish Office. Could everyone please fill in the registration form on the Parish website. Click on the Forms tab and then on First Communion. Children must be 7 years of age by August 31st 2023 and above. It is very important that children attend all the sessions and also attend either of the parish Masses on Sunday. A record of attendance will be kept this year.

CLOSING DATE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023