

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



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Charity No. 1199568
Our Lady (OL): Kings Road, Fleet, GU51 3ST;
The Holy Trinity (HT): Aldershot Road, Church Crookham, GU52 8JU



Parish Priest: Fr Johnpromise Umeozuru, email: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Holy Trinity Presbytery Landline: 01252 974664

Parish Deacon: Rev James Snyder, email: jsnyder@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Parish Administrator: Jacqueline Bradley-Green, office@htaol.org.uk (Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)

Mass Times & Venues

10th December 2023 — 17th December 2023
Year B (II) Psalter Week 2

Sat 9th Dec:	2nd Sunday of Advent
6.00pm (HT):	People of the Parish
Sun 10th Dec:	2nd Sunday of Advent
9.00am (HT):	Walter O'Dea RIP Kieran Pollard's 94th Birthday
10.45am (HT):	Mass celebrated in Polish
11.00am (OL):	Majorie Parsons RIP
Mon 11th Dec:	NO MASS — DAY OFF
Tue 12th Dec:	Our Lady of Guadalupe
9.30am (HT):	Alan McCurrach RIP
Wed 13th Dec:	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
9.30am (OL):	Alison Berry's Intention
Thurs 14th Dec:	St John of the Cross
9.30am(HT):	Antonio Da Cruz RIP
7.00pm (HT):	Mass celebrated in Polish
Fri 15th Dec:	Feria
9.30am (OL):	Ruby & John Parsons RIP
Sat 16th Dec:	Feria
9.30am (OL):	Edna, John, Norah, Lone McGa. RIP
6.00pm (HT):	Bernard & Eva Chancellor RIP
Sun 17th Dec:	3rd Sunday of Advent
9.00am (HT):	People of the Parish
10.45am (HT):	Mass celebrated in Polish
11.00am (OL):	Ellen Gotel's Intention

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 10:15am — 11:15am (OL), Saturday 5pm — 5:45pm (HT) 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.

COMFORT YE, MY PEOPLE

The 1st Classical Music that my dad got me to learn and sing was - 'Comfort Ye, My People', by George Frideric Handel. It took Handel 24 days in 1741, to complete this 260 paged Oratorio that is termed - *Messiah*. According to musical accounts, it seemed Handel was under a profound artistic inspiration directly from God that he refused to leave the house until he had finished the Oratorio. The texts of the Oratorio were prepared by Charles Jennens at a time when England was wrapped in consumerism and secularism and needed a huge dosage of comfort. Jennens intended *Messiah* to be a statement of faith in Christ's Divinity, in contrast to the increasing popularity of rationalised atheism of the time. Handel was so taken up by this divine inspiration that at the end of composing the Oratorio he wrote: "*SDG - Soli Deo Gloria - To God alone the glory.*" He equally told his close friend: "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God Himself seated on His throne, with His company of Angels." Yes, 'Comfort Ye, My People' is a musical piece to listen to this Season of Advent.

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we are reminded of **WHAT** God would be bringing to us. In our First Reading from Isaiah Chapter 40, which is referred to as Deutero-Isaiah, the Lord told Prophet Isaiah to bring consolation to His people Israelites, who were suffering the hardship of exile in Babylon. Yes, in their time of desolation, the Lord brought them consolation. It is the same motif we encounter in today's Gospel from Mark Chapter 1; we are reminded that what Jesus Christ would be bringing us is Good News (*Euangelion*). Yes, Christ is coming to us with one message alone - That of Comfort and Joy. Even when He challenges us out of our comfort zones, He does that because He loves us and wants us to be one with Him. My friends, now is the time to bring comfort and consolation to all those around us. May our presence, words and actions never put down anyone; on the contrary, may they be comforting/soothing/calming balm to our parishioners, families, friends, neighbours and indeed everyone. As Handel reminds us—"Comfort Ye, My People, Saith your God." Fr Johnpromise



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

Fiona Pearson, Fatima Alves, Robin Tinsley, Anne Wilcox, Geoff Neal, Stuart Neal, David Hopkin, Kerry Scares, Anthony D'Costa, Mary Gibbons, Val Nicholas, Tony Mallins, Chris Bennett, Anna & Phil Day, Daphne Weeks, Graeme Healey, and Ray Swinburne.

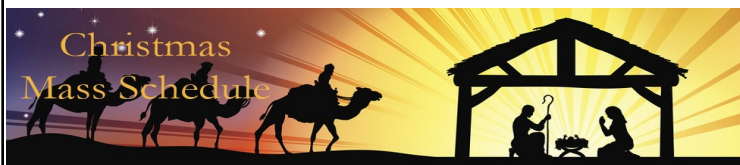
PARISH NOTICES

PARISH HEALING MASS & INTERNATIONAL SUPPER



Many thanks to everyone who helped in the planning and execution of our just concluded Parish Healing Mass and International Supper and indeed to all parishioners for turning up and participating actively. It was a memorable day that none of us will forget in a hurry. May the good Lord who has started His healing work in our parish, bring it to fulfilment. Do collect your containers/plates/dishes from the parish hall if you haven't done so.

OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS WEEK MASS SCHEDULE 2023



19th December 2023 - Parish Penitential Service: 7pm at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham.

23rd December 2023 - 4th Sunday of Advent Mass: Saturday Evening: 6pm at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham.

24th December 2023 - 4th Sunday of Advent Masses: 9am at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham & 11am at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

24th December 2023 - Christmas Vigil Mass for Children: 6pm at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

24th December 2023 - Christmas Midnight Mass: 8:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Church Crookham.

25th December 2023 - Christmas Day Mass: 10am at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS - WHATEVER AGE OR ABILITY: The first Mass of Christmas is the Children's vigil Mass at Our Lady's at 6pm on Christmas Eve. It is always a joyous occasion for all in the parish and if you would like to help the music liturgy by playing your instrument, please contact Katherine Lewis at pilgrimsofhart@gmail.com with your details and instrument (for children, parents please provide age and rough playing ability so I can get the right music for your child). Music will be provided in advance and there will be a practice before Mass on Christmas Eve. For safeguarding purposes, children will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

CAKE SALE FOR PURPLE COMMUNITY FUND: Jane Walker of Purple Community Fund is with us this weekend and would be speaking at all Masses on Saturday 9th December and Sunday 10th December 2023. Jane will be selling PCF gifts and we will be selling cakes after Sunday Masses at Holy Trinity and Our Lady. All proceeds will go to PCF.

COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: There will be a Second Collection on the 17th of December for flowers that would be used to decorate our churches during Christmastide. It is important that our churches wear festive looks during the festive season.

PARISH ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Our Advent Penitential Service with the opportunity for individual confessions takes place on **Tuesday the 19th of December at 7pm at Holy Trinity.** I have invited some priests to help me out in this regard. This is a great way to prepare spiritually for Christmas.

DECEASED IN OUR PARISH: Let us pray for Mary Theresa Messer whose Funeral Mass takes place on Friday 15th December 2023 at Holy Trinity Church at 10:30am and committal at Aldershot Part Crematorium at 12:15pm. Our condolences to her family and loved ones. May she rest in the peace of Christ, Amen.

ROSARY FOR PEACE: The Knights' Monthly Rosary is on Wed 13th Dec at Our Lady's Kings Road Fleet at 7.30pm with Benediction. Please do come and join us as we continue our prayers for Peace and for those that are unwell.

FLEET ORCHESTRA CONCERT: This is a Christmas Concert by Fleet Orchestra, to be performed at Ss Philip & James Church on Wednesday 13th of December at 8pm. The concert will feature music by many famous composers including Bach, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Schubert and Rogers & Hammerstein. This is a free concert with a retiring collection for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. Our own Aileen Smith is be playing in this concert and it would be great to be there and support her. GO AILEEN!!!

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, BRIDGE ROAD ALDERSHOT: Please be advised that portal for Reception 2024-2025 applications is now open. Applications are to be completed online via your local council website. The deadline for all applications is Monday, 15th January 2024 at midnight.

PILGRIMS CAFÉ AT LIVINGSTONES: The last get together before Christmas will be on Thursday 14th December from 10.30-12.00. There will be a further opportunity to buy a raffle ticket in aid of FACCTS. The draw for the raffle will take place on 14th December. Pilgrims Café resumes on 18/01/2024

APPRECIATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS: We have received some appreciation letters for supporting some charities these past few Sundays.

FROM MISSIO: We raised £355 during this year's World Mission Sunday.

FROM STELLA MARIS: We raised £375 during this year's Sea Sunday.

FROM CHRISTIAN AID: The just concluded Christian Aid Carol Concert raised £1215.30 from all who attended. Thank You for your generosity. **God Bless U**

PARISH CONFIRMATION 2024

We are hoping to run a Confirmation Program for our teenagers who have not been confirmed. Forms are available on the parish website. Book Your Place now!!