

FINANCIAL APPEAL:

Reminder to fill in a gift a form if you are a UK taxpayer so that the SJB can reclaim 25p from every £1.00 donated by you. Forms are in the foyer. Please return to the parish office or pop them into a collection basket at the Offertory.

When setting up a standing order or direct debit, the parish bank account to be used is

NAME: 'CDP Woodley St. John Bosco Covenant'

Account:
DETAILS: 30-93-04
00964906.

SDS OPEN MORNING:

SDS welcome prospective **new**

parents to their last **Open Morning :**

- ◆ **9.30am-11am Friday 10th January 2025.**
Closing date for school applications is 15th January 2025.

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GOING INTO HOSPITAL

On admission, all Catholics must inform staff if they wish to receive Holy Communion or see a priest.

Catholic Chaplaincy **RBH**

0118 322 7105
Arrangements are patient-led



To be considered as a baptised catholic for school admissions a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) must also be completed and returned to the school before **15th January 2025** (with original baptism certificate included). **This also applies if you have a sibling already in school.** Each school place is offered on a case by case basis.

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM FR. LEO. THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND GIFTS. I WISH YOU A VERY JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

DIOCESAN VACANCIES:

Please follow the link for current vacancies

[Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.](https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)
[portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

ST. DOMINIC SAVIO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Western Avenue,
Woodley RG5 3BH
Tel. 0118 969 3893

Head Teacher:
Mrs. Laura Hulland
Website:

www.stdominicsavio.co.uk

St. John Bosco Church

56 Western Avenue,
Woodley, Reading.
RG5 3BH

Parish Priest
Fr. Leo Odomeja

Priest (in residence)
Fr. Jude Mbonu

Parish Administrator
Debs Gibson

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9.30am - 2.30pm
Tel: 0118 969 3423

Email
office@stjohnbosco.co.uk

Website
stjohnbosco.co.uk

Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1455918784702101>

Safeguarding Minister
Julie Hamblin
07950 978592

Adoration
9.30am - before weekday Mass

Holy Days of Obligation:
10am & 7.00pm

Confessions
After weekday Masses &
Saturday at 5.45pm

Tea/Coffee
After Wed & Sun Mass

Priest's Mass Intentions
Please complete a brown envelope in the foyer and arrange with the office

Part of
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
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Diocesan Newsletter
www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews/current.php



ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN BOSCO, WOODLEY

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT - YR C
22nd DECEMBER 2024



TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT-YEAR C.

On this fourth and last Sunday of Advent, the third purple candle is lit. It signifies **PEACE!** One of the names the Archangel Gabriel did say the baby Jesus will be called by once He's born, was Prince of Peace! If God is King of Heaven and He is Peace, it follows then that His only begotten Son, consubstantial with the Father as He is, is everything the Father is. Little wonder then that the angel choirs sang on Christmas night: "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to people of goodwill". We will resume singing these very words again in the Gloria on Christmas night. Jesus, our Emmanuel (God-with-us), "God made man", knew who He was, hence when He appeared to His disciples after His resurrection, He greeted His disciples with the words: "Peace be with you", because He knew that their peace was disturbed by witnessing His Passion and death. This has

since become our greeting to each other as brothers and sisters of Jesus, both at Mass and when we visit each other at home. When we pray for peace in our world, it is because there are still many out there and perhaps even in our Churches, who have heard and do know a bit about God but do not truly know Him. It is difficult to see the good in a person if one's heart hasn't developed the openness that leads to acceptance. Acceptance, which is an outcome of openness/being receptive, is key to the acquisition of knowledge. When we truly welcome the Christ-child into our hearts and lives this Christmas and at every Mass, we become infused with His peace and radiating same, we are then better able to spread the goodness of God's kingdom on earth. So, let's be brightly shining candles of peace this weekend and beyond! Perhaps, when we have our family time this Christmas, we can try getting some candles of peace lit, resolve any/ every tension in the family with the love of Christ and give peace a chance ahead of the New Year? It will be really worth our while!
Fr. Leo

This is a 3 week newsletter.

Today's Psalm Response: Bring us back, O God; Let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

9.30am Adoration before weekday Masses

SUN 22ND DEC	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT		17.50PM 18.30PM	ROSARY Kathleen + & Arthur + Pearl
Mon 23rd	Liturgy of the Day		10.00am	George Bentley +
Tues 24th DEC	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD		17.00pm 19.30pm 20.00pm	Children's Vigil Mass Carols Midnight Mass (Christmas Carols) Alan + & Audrey + Hall
Wed 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY		10.00AM	
Sat 28th			No am Mass	
SUN 29th DEC	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH		18.30PM 10.00AM	Parishioners of SJB <i>Fr. Brian Oswald (MHM)</i>
Sat 4th			No am Mass	
SUN 5TH JAN 2025	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (solemnity)		18.30PM 10.00AM	Parishioners of SJB Elvira Monopoli + <i>Fr. Brian Oswald (MHM)</i>
Sat 11th			No am Mass	
SUN 12TH JAN 2025	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (feast)		18.30PM 10.00AM	Alphonsus + Maria Huntridge - B'day <i>Fr. Michael Corcoran (MHM)</i>

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

- 24th Dec 5pm Vigil Children's Mass (*Posada returns*)
- 24th Dec 8pm Midnight Mass (during the night)- **carols at 7.30pm**
- 25th Dec 10.00am Christmas Day
- No AM Masses 26th, 27th,**
- 29th Dec 10.00am The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



- 5th Jan **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** (**Holy Day of Obligation**)



CRIBS: There is a collection basket next to our indoor crib. The Crib collection during Christmastide is for the **Christian Communities in the Holy Land.** *Collection continues until ordinary time begins.*



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FR. LEO: The Christmas Collection for our clergy supports Father Leo and is both an important opportunity for us to express our gratitude to them for their service, care and guidance – and constitutes a significant element of clergy remuneration and support.

For an immediate link to the donation page click here: [Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth are fundraising for Woodley St John Bosco Roman Catholic Church | Give as you Live Donate.](#) Please, if you can, cover the 8% charge on top of your donation. This cost is what the GAYL platform charges for payment/processing fees.

As with tradition, all basket collections made December 24 - 25 will be for Fr. Leo.

THANK YOU TO: Our visiting priests who will be saying weekend Masses for us.

- Dec 28/29 - Fr. Brian Oswald Hill missionaries (MHM)
- Jan 04/05 - Fr. Brian Oswald (MHM)
- Jan 11/12 - Fr. Michael Corcoran (MHM)



Fr. Jude will be saying both weekend Masses 18/19 January.

OFFICE CLOSED: 25.12.24 - 09.01.25 inclusive
NO MID-WEEK MASSES AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY UNTIL MONDAY 20TH JAN.

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for members of the parish who are sick or housebound, especially: June Bremner-Tse, Chris Fido, Mimi Peat, Madeline Faherty, Chris & Felicity Hughes, Marie Dempster, Linda Guttridge, Colin Eames, Geraldine Worthe, Eva Berja, Hilary Andrews and Laura Mulligan. *(To add a name to this list please contact the parish office)*

Also, for all the faithful departed, especially those in our Book of Remembrance for this month (DECEMBER): Ruby Gomez, Robert Ashe, Eamonn Burke, Raymond Cook, Peggy Pounds, Ian Devlin, Aguida Ortiz, Sarah Keenan, Guillermo Larano, Sheila Halse, Connie Hayes, Peggie Bentley, Sarah Irving, Arthur Jacobs, John Michael McNamara, Patricia Gray, Ralph Gomez, Jessie Ayres, George Bentley, Richard Gurney, Andy Johnston, Norman West and Sister Mary Agatha. May they rest in peace.