



# PARISH OF WOOLHAMPTON

*Diocese of Portsmouth - Served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey*

**www.douaiparish.org.uk**

***Douai Abbey and St Mary's, RG7 5TQ***

***St Bernadette's, Pangbourne RG8 7JL St Luke's, Theale RG7 5AS***

Parish Priest: Awaiting appointment

Tel: 0118-971-5350 woolhampton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Kathryn Garden

Tel: 0118-971-5350 woolhampton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: Kate Burke

Tel: 0118-984 2166 safeguarding.wool@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**29 JUNE 2025**

## **SOLEMNITY OF SAINT PETER AND ST PAUL – YEAR C**

Acts 12:1-11

*'Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.'*

Psalms 33 Response

*From all the terrors the Lord set me free*

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

*'There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.'*

Matthew 16:13-19

*'You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.'*

### **THIS WEEK**

**Saturday 28 June**

**St Luke's**

**5.30 pm**

*(Mass Intention: People of the Parish)*

**Sunday 29 June**

**St Bernadette's**

**9.45 am**

*(Mass Intention: Volodymyr Sauchenko, RIP)*

**Abbey Church**

**10.30 am**

*(Mass Intention: Daniel Rowlands & John Church, OP)*

**Mon 30 June - Sat 5 July Abbey Church**

**7.45 am**

All are welcome to daily services in Douai Abbey Church:

**6.20am Morning Office (Matins & Lauds)**

**12.45pm Midday Prayer**

**6.00pm Vespers 8.00pm Compline**

## THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

Abbey Church: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 6.30pm -7.00pm

St Luke's: Saturday 4.45pm – 5.15pm

St Bernadette's: Sunday 9.00am – 9.30am

### **Please pray for the sick and housebound of our parish:**

Monica Adams · Patricia Brenninkmeyer · Pat Campbell · Luke Conlon

Eileen Harvey · Marigold Norman · Babs O'Sullivan · Barbara Stocker

### **Please pray for those who have died recently, and keep their loved ones in prayer.**

## REFLECTION FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

Peter had denied Jesus three times, but he had returned as a rock to strengthen and



lead the Christian community. Paul had persecuted Christ, but he had changed his ways to become the energetic apostle who pushed the reaches of the Gospel far beyond the confines of Judea and Samaria. Both men had fallen; both men had risen again to new heights. Peter was Jesus' choice to head the Christian community and be its source of unity; Paul was Jesus' choice to take his message to the Gentiles.

Both apostles were martyred in Rome under the persecution of the emperor Nero. In their final witness there is nothing doubtful about their love; in the end they are equal in love. Both of them had a love without reserve.

That is why we honour both of them without reserve. In honouring Peter and Paul we also celebrate the ancient foundation of the church in Rome, which was to become the mother of all the Christian churches. The church in Rome had these two great apostles and martyrs at its beginning, a fact the community regarded as a unique privilege. In their foundation they had a double dimension: apostolic leadership and evangelical energy, both marks of the Church today. And today we celebrate them together. In one breath.

*(Seasons of the Word, Denis McBride)*

## YOUR NEW PRIEST

Fr Austin Gurr has been appointed to the Woolhampton Parish. He has been at Andover as Parish Priest for the last 15 years and has spent his entire priestly life working in parishes, mostly belonging to the Abbey. He is a seasoned pastoral priest with considerable experience.

Fr Austin will return to Douai during September and take the reigns shortly thereafter. We know you will make him very welcome.

## SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: PETER'S PENCE

Peter's Pence is the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need.

The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are destined to Church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. Second Collection takes place **this weekend**. If you prefer to donate online you can do so [here](#).

## WELCOME IN BAPTISM

We welcome in baptism Cassie Walsh-Carney, who will receive the sacrament on Saturday 28 June at St Bernadette's Church. Please pray for her and her parents, Sean and Tara, as she begins her journey of faith.

## GARDEN TIDY-UP AT ST. LUKE'S



We're looking for volunteers to help tidy up the church grounds this Saturday, **28 June**, 9am-12pm. We will be having a general clean-up and possibly some line painting. Why not come and lend a hand as we care for our parish.

## FR ALBAN HOOD

During the month of July, Fr Alban takes up his new post as Priest in Charge of Fordingbridge and Ringwood. We wish him well.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE



If you would like to arrange baptism for your child, please speak with the priest (either after Mass or via the Parish Office) to request Baptism. The next course will take place over two sessions - Sundays **13** and **20 July**. Further information can be found on [our website](#).



## LOCAL ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE

Join us on Saturday **26 July** for a Jubilee Year pilgrimage to St. James' Church, Reading. We'll set off on foot from Burghfield Bridge, Theale at 10am, walking together in prayer and fellowship. At St. James' there will be Adoration and Reconciliation at 12:30pm, followed by Mass at 1pm, led by Tony Vickers, Chairman of West Berkshire Council.

Bring a picnic to enjoy in Forbury Gardens afterwards, and take the opportunity to visit the nearby Reading Abbey, site of the martyrdom of Blessed Hugh Faringdon. All are welcome.

## RCIA ... AN INVITATION

Perhaps God is also calling you to become a Catholic? If you are interested in exploring the Catholic Faith or an adult Catholic seeking Confirmation, you are invited to speak with our priests, contact the parish office or email Francis [fjcon@btinternet.com](mailto:fjcon@btinternet.com). We will be running the next RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course starting in September.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

We will be starting First Holy Communion preparation in September for any children who will be in Year 3 and above in September 2025. If you would like to enrol your child on the course, please get in touch with the [Parish Office](#) by 1 September.



## DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL TRUSTEE

Bishop Philip is seeking new Trustees, looking for people who are passionate about the Catholic church and have significant professional experience in any of the following areas: finance, especially investment management, safeguarding or social work or strategic planning, and who feel called to offer their time and skills in service of the Church.

This is a meaningful opportunity to help guide the Diocese's work across our parishes, schools, and communities. Closing date: Monday **1 September**. To find out more or request an information pack, please contact: Deacon Tony Darlison, Secretary to Trustees email: [tdarlison@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tdarlison@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).



## ST B'S 100 CLUB – JOIN OR RENEW NOW!

Membership is open to all parishioners, family, and friends. Just £12 per year, half supports our parish charity, half goes to monthly prize draws. To join, contact Tom Gallagher at [stb100club@gmail.com](mailto:stb100club@gmail.com).