



The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis of Assisi, Nailsea & Saint Joseph, Portishead



St Francis of Assisi Church

Ash Hayes Road
Nailsea BS48 2LP
01275 851530

Sunday 25th July 2021
17th, 18th & 19th
Sundays in Ordinary Time

St Joseph's Church

West Hill
Portishead BS20 6LN
01275 842912

Parish Priest:	Father Richard Elson	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01275 851530
Deacons:	Rev Didier Delaplace	didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com	07895 885315
	Rev Paul Reddington	paul.reddington@cliftondiocese.com	07502 156961
	Rev Ivan Reynolds	ivan.reynolds@cliftondiocese.com	01275 858639
Parish Administrator:	Mrs Elaine Shiel	stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com	
Office Hours:	Nailsea	Mon & Thurs	9.30am – 1pm
<i>Office Closed 23rd Jul – 9th Aug</i>	Portishead	Tues & Fri	10.30am – 1pm
Parish website:	www.josephfrancis.org		

Mass Times

Sat 24 th Jul	6pm	St Joseph	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>St Anthony (Thanksgiving)</i>
Sun 25 th Jul	9am	St Joseph		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	11am	St Francis		<i>Ivan Reynolds (20th Ann Ordination)</i>
	6pm	St Francis		<i>Paula Zanetti (RIP)</i>
Mon 26 th Jul	9am	St Francis	Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne	
No Weekday Masses Tues 27th – Fri 30th July				
Sat 31 st Jul	10am	St Joseph	Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola	
	6pm	St Joseph	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>Kathleen Crowley (RIP) (Ann)</i>
Sun 1 st Aug	9am	St Joseph		
	11am	St Francis		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St Francis		
Mon 2 nd Aug	9am	St Francis	Memorial of Saint Peter Julian Eymard	
Tues 3 rd Aug	10am	St Joseph	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Wed 4 th Aug	7pm	St Francis	Memorial of Saint John Mary Vianney	
Thurs 5 th Aug	9.15am	St Francis	Dedication of Basilica of St Mary Major	
Fri 6 th Aug	10am	St Joseph	Feast of the Transfiguration	
Sat 7 th Aug	10am	St Joseph	Our Lady on Saturday	
	6pm	St Joseph	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sun 8 th Aug	9am	St Joseph		
	11am	St Francis		
	6pm	St Francis		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Mon 9 th Aug	9am	St Francis	Feast of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	
Tues 10 th Aug	10am	St Joseph	Feast of Saint Lawrence	<i>Deacon Peter Rose (RIP)</i>
Wed 11 th Aug	7pm	St Francis	Memorial of Saint Clare	
Thurs 12 th Aug	9.15am	St Francis	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Fri 13 th Aug	10am	St Joseph	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Sat 14 th Aug	10am	St Joseph	Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe	
	6pm	St Joseph	Solemnity of the Assumption	

Confessions

Wednesday	6.30-6.50pm	St Francis (4 th & 11 th Aug)
Saturday	5.30-5.50pm	St Joseph
Sunday	5.30-5.50pm	St Francis

Adoration

Tuesday	2-3pm	St Francis
Thursday	8-9pm	St Francis (5 th & 12 th Aug)

THE WORD THIS WEEK

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the next five weeks we take our leave of Saint Mark's Gospel (since it is not long enough to fill the year) and read Chapter Six of Saint John's Gospel. This is the famous "Eucharistic Discourse" and begins with the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. A line of the Psalm gives the meaning of today's readings: "The eyes of all creatures look to you (O God) and you give them their food in due time." Our God is the God who provides for his people; the prosperity and fruitfulness of our earth and the mysterious cycles of nature ensures that all have what they need - and have some left over. The actions of Elisha and Jesus are in a sense prophetic: many would say that there is not enough food in this world to go round, just as the two sets of disciples complain that there is not enough for the hundred or the five thousand. But the prophetic action states that this is not true: God provides what is needed. This might prompt us to think about the unfair and unequal distribution of the fruits of the earth: the miracle is a sign of the Kingdom of God - what God wants the world to be like. Perhaps we should take the message of the miracle to heart this Sunday and think about the multitude that still sits in hunger in our world today.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We continue reading from John 6: this is the aftermath of the miracle, and we see the beginnings of a misunderstanding that will develop over the next four weeks. People have seen the miracle, but not the message: they have seen the sign, but not what it points towards. The bread that was given is a sign of the Bread of Life, which is the teaching, the words and the very person of Jesus, as the revelation of the Father. His mission is to draw people back to his Father, to found a New Covenant or relationship. As the weeks go by, we will see that the people's hunger is simply for spectacle and miracle, not for the much harder teaching of living nourished by God's word and the presence of his only Son. For us, the People of the New Covenant, these passages must make us think of how we receive the Lord in the Eucharist. Are we nourished by his presence, so that all the hunger and thirst of our lives is answered by the One who is the Bread of Life?

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The bread that comes down from heaven is not just a bread which nourishes the body, but one which gives renewed life - be this in the form of energy and purpose (as we see in the story of Elijah) or in the form of a gift of eternal life. As Jesus continues his discourse on the Bread of Life, he faces the complaints and criticism of the crowd, who take a very short-sighted view of what he says, and affirms for them that true life, a life that will never end, is found in him, he is the one who has come from the Father, and so is the living bread which gives life. Jesus here makes an explicit link between "belief" and "eating the bread of life": the two lead to each other, and they both bring about that which man most desires - to live for ever. The Response to the Psalm in many ways sums this up: 'Taste and see that the Lord is good.'

CONGRATULATIONS

Deacon Ivan Reynolds will celebrate his 20th year of Ordination on 28th July. Please keep Ivan and his family in your prayers and we thank him for his faithful and devoted service to our Parish.

COVID-19 ROUTE MAP – STEP 4 GUIDANCE

Following the latest guidelines from the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, for the time being we will be continuing with most of the measures that have been in place up until now. We therefore request that you continue to wear a face covering (unless exempt) and sanitise your hands when you arrive at Church. We will not exchange a physical sign of peace at this stage and communion will continue being distributed under one form only. Congregational singing is now allowed (although face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation until infection levels reduce). Single use hymn sheets will be provided.

Registration for Sunday Masses is no longer required.

ST JOSEPH'S

We will start using every bench in the front half of the church and ask that people sitting in these benches come forward to receive communion. The back half of the church and the balcony will continue with the previous social distancing measures (using alternate benches) for those who would feel more comfortable with some extra space. Communion will be brought to people sitting in these places.

ST FRANCIS'

The current arrangements will continue, although more chairs will be added to the central section of the church as and when they are required. The right hand section by the font will continue with the present social distancing measures for those who would feel more comfortable with some extra space.

MY DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS

For August are now available from both parishes. Price £1.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Volunteers are needed to help with the First Communion Programme at St Francis, which will be starting in September. Please contact Fr Richard

ST FRANCIS ART GROUP

The Art Group will resume in the church hall next month. It's a small friendly group who meet on a Wednesday from 2pm - 4pm. Newcomers are very welcome. Please contact Wendy 0759 445 2308 for more details.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FAMILIES

It is planned to have a small lending library of religious books available for families to borrow during the year of preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. If you have any suitable books in good condition which you would like to donate, please give them to Fr Richard. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation towards the purchase of books, this would also be welcomed.

PORTISHEAD FOODBANK

Did you know that the number of adults helped by the Portishead Foodbank has trebled between 2019 and 2020? They need and deserve our help; everything we can do is welcomed. If you are in a position to help the following items would be very much appreciated, as most families have children at home: Fruit juice, custard, rice pudding and tinned fruit. Please don't donate pasta or cereals as they have more than enough. You can place your donations in the trolley labelled "Foodbank" in the church lobby. One of us will take it to 4 Combe Road. Thank you for your generosity. Deacon Didier.

FAMILY FUN & PICNIC

Monday 9th August – 9.30am.

All families are welcome to join us on Salthouse Fields near the Marine Lake in Clevedon for games and picnic. If you would like more information or let us know you are coming, drop Tom an email at tafosman@hotmail.co.uk.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Sunday (25 July) has been dedicated to a World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. On the website we will have some children's reflections about their grandparents alongside a couple of video interviews with grandparents from within the diocese. You can find more information about the day by going to this link: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-01/pope-establishes-world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly.html> and to see what Cardinal Nicholas has written, please go to this link: <https://rcdow.org.uk/marriage-and-family-life/world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly/>

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Join Bishop Declan for Mass in the Cathedral as we celebrate the gift that is Marriage on Saturday 2nd October at 12noon. All are welcome. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, newly married, or looking forward to marriage in 2021, then please contact Fr Richard.