



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

20th OCTOBER 2024 – TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10,45

**Our Parish vision is to bring people closer to Christ
by inviting, welcoming, nurturing and nourishing everyone**

Address: 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB
Tel: (023) 8055 5470
Website: www.immaculateconception.church
Email: office@immaculateconception.church
Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, (Reg Charity No: 1199568)
Bank details: CDP, Immaculate Conception Church
 Sort Code: 30-93-04
 Account No: 00887995

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu
Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly
Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)
University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)
Safeguarding Officer: Laura Sparmann
 (safeguarding@immaculateconception.church)
Parish Secretary: Cecilia Kovacs (023 8055 5470)
Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays
Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Tuesday/Friday 10:00 5 pm, Wednesday/Thursday 1-5pm

**ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT
www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 20 October	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass (Childrens)	Kathleen White RIP
Mon 21 October	Feria		NO MASS	
Tues 22 October	St John Paul II , Pope	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	K. Lorance Perera RIP
Weds 23 October	Diocesan Day of Prayer & Reparation for Life	10.00 am 6pm	Mass Eucharistic Adoration	
Thurs 24 October	St Antony Mary Clare, Founder, Bishop ,	10.00 am	Mass	Joanne Shawford health
Fri 25 October	Feria	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass	
Sat 26 October	Ss Chad & Cedd, Bishops	10.00 am	Mass	Zbigniew Wolas RIP
Sun 27 October	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Bamenda Sunday)	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Catherine White RIP



READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1st Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11
Psalm: 32(33):4-5,18-20,22
2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16
Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER – Foreign Missions (APF Missio)
SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER – No collection

NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH:

Tues 22nd Tea & Coffee after 10 am service – parish hall
 RCIA Course – 7.30-9 pm in the parish hall
Wed 23rd Adoration for students and anyone else who would
 like to join us – 6-7 pm in the main church
Thur 17th Caritas activity group– 10.30am
Fri 25th Students’ Welcome Meal – 7.30 pm
Sat 26th Safeguarding training for volunteers – 11am – 4pm
Sun 27th Refreshments after mass
 Choir Practice 11.30 am in the church. Anyone
 welcome to join.
Baptism 12.30 - Kaobichukwuha Nneji (5 months)

Jesus’ Gentle Truth

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” He replied, “What do you wish me to do for you?” They answered him, “Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left.” Mark 10:35–37

What a bold statement from James and John. But notice the gentleness in Jesus’ response. The other apostles, however, were not as gentle. We read that when they heard about this request from James and John they “became indignant” about it. In response, Jesus explains to them all that “whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.”

Our fallen human nature is regularly tempted to desire worldly greatness, prestige, honors and admiration. We want others to think well of us and even to envy us. But this is a sin. Recall that this was one of the temptations that Jesus overcame in the desert. The devil tempted our Lord by promising Him earthly rule over all the nations. Jesus rejected this temptation and, by doing so, provides all the grace we need to do the same.

One thing this passage reveals is that our Lord is patient with us as we work through our sin. He was patient and gentle with James and John while they attempted to gain places of honor next to Him. He was patient with the indignation of the other apostles when they struggled with envy and jealousy. And Jesus will be patient with us as we work through the sins that most tempt us.

In addition to His patience, Jesus also provides us with the tools we need to overcome our own temptations. One tool Jesus provides us with is truth itself. Jesus' truth, found in His many teachings and in the example He set, is often contrary to the wisdom of our age and the tendencies we experience within our fallen human nature. In fact, we can be certain that almost every tendency and desire we will experience in life will be disordered to a certain extent. This is because our human nature itself is disordered on account of original sin. The only way to reorder our desires and tendencies is to turn to the clear and profound truths our Lord has given us.

Regarding the desire for worldly honors and greatness, Jesus provides the truth spoken above: "whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all." Do you desire to be a servant? And to go even further, do you desire to be the slave of all? Hopefully you do, but most likely you do not.

The reordering of our desires and tendencies begins by gently confronting them with the truth Jesus spoke. It is helpful to see Jesus speak these words to us with all gentleness and love, just as He did to the apostles. Facing the truth within our fallen human nature does not have to be difficult. We only make it difficult when we refuse to admit our disorders. In reality, conversion of our hearts and the reordering of our desires can be a gentle, peaceful and even joyful process if we allow our Lord to speak to us in the way He spoke to the apostles. Of course, when we become obstinate, self-righteous, or remain in denial, our Lord will become more severe and we will experience the pain of our sin. But when we face the truth with openness and with a willingness to let grace change us, we will convert more quickly and will experience the joy and freedom that the embrace of the truth bestows.

Reflect, today, upon the disordered desires of these apostles. Reflect, also, upon Jesus' gentle correction of them. As you do, look into your own soul and seek to discover the disordered desires and tendencies that Jesus wants to reorder within you. Do not be afraid to face the gentle and freeing truths that our Lord wants to speak to you. Listen to Him, be open, and wisely accept what He says to you so that you will be free and will experience the joys that await.

A reflection for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

www.mycatholic.life

PARISH NOTICES

TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity, and action. We are called to 'go and invite everyone to the banquet' for the joy of Christ's Resurrection is a gift meant to be shared with the entire world.

Please pray for missionaries and give what you can to this vital collection, bringing God's compassion, peace, and justice to those in need. To donate, use the Missio envelope, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit, and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

STUDENTS WELCOME!

As a Parish Community we would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new and returning students.

We would really appreciate it if you could make yourselves known to either Fr. Anthony or Deacon Gerard allowing us to introduce you to others. There is **Tea and Coffee** available after 10:30 Mass in the Parish Hall.

Our regular student adoration service on Wednesday evenings are being held in the main church in October.

We would also like to extend an invitation to our upcoming Students Welcome Meal on Friday 25th October at 7.30pm

We also invite to you to connect with the Parish Students WhatsApp Group run by fellow students.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FROM FR ANTHONY:

- **Students' welcome meal:** 25th October 7.30pm
 - **Bamenda Sunday:** 27th Oct
 - **Mass of Remembrance:** 2nd Nov
 - **Blessing of Graves:** 3rd Nov
 - **Remembrance Sunday:** 10th Nov
 - **Christmas Fair:** 16th Nov
 - **Parish Retreat:** 30th Nov, 10 AM - 2 PM
 - **Novena to the Immaculate Conception:** 29th Nov-7th Dec
 - **Patronal Feast Day:** 7th Dec (joined by the Marion Group,CWA)
 - **Night of Light:** 13th Dec
- Please mark your calendars and join us for these events!

CONFIRMATION GROUP MEETING

Please note the confirmation group is meeting on Tuesday 27th August at 4pm in the parish hall.

CORRECTION!

CAKE SALE IS EVERY 2nd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Raising money for general Parish Funds.



Bakers always needed (shop cakes ok too!). Bring your cake donations to the church hall before the 10.30 am Mass on the **2nd Sunday of each month**, together with a list of the ingredients (for those with allergies).

OUR LADY OF THE HOLY SOULS

Join with others from across the Diocese on **Tuesday 22nd October** at Sacred Heart Bordon for the launch of the devotion to Our Lady of the Holy Souls and Our Lady of Montligeon.

Mass is at 7 pm and Fr. Paul Denizot, Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Montligeon will be the preacher. After the Mass he will also give a short talk about Montligeon and the shrine there, plus the importance of prayer for the faithful departed.

Prayer for the Holy Souls is a really important dimension of our Christian life. It is also a huge help to coping with the sadness of losing a loved one and the process of bereavement. The Shrine of Our Lady of Montligeon in Normandy comprises an impressive 130-year old basilica and is now a world center of prayer for the Holy Souls in Purgatory and a place of healing for millions.



CHRISTMAS FAIR SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER



Raffle Tickets are now available at the back of Church. In the coming weeks, we will be asking for more donations and contributions to make the Christmas Fair a success. We will be looking for many items including Bottles; Cakes; Good Quality Gifts; these can be dropped off at anytime by leaving in the Church Porch.

SATURDAY NOV 2ND - FEAST OF ALL SOULS

Mass for Bereaved at 10.00 in church followed by refreshments in Church



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 10TH NOVEMBER ROLL OF HONOUR

Please let us have the names of anyone you know – friends or family – who have died in conflict over the years, so that they can be mentioned in our role of honour on Remembrance Sunday. You can drop a note or an e mail to the parish office or post it in the orange tray in the porch.

NEW LECTIONARY

The following events allow you to gain insight about the new lectionary which comes into use in Advent:

Online sessions for all parishioners:

The sessions are on **Tuesday 5th November** and **Tuesday 19th November** and last one hour, **from 7 to 8 pm.**

Each session will be led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy, and will be identical - so you need only attend one. The session will cover what the lectionary is, its revisions and what they mean for us. It is also an opportunity for Questions and Answers.

If you wish to pose a question, please submit it in advance in writing to liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Registration for the Tuesday 5th November session:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/73b39420-bf79-429e-be62-coe4495866b6@of107169-67e0-4eaf-8428-9e9f05e974ab>

Registration for the Tuesday 19th November session:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/7c70c8e9-c61e-4f43-8187-21aed22e9b61@of107169-67e0-4eaf-8428-9e9f05e974ab>

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT GROUP

A Priesthood Discernment Group will be running at St Edmund's Church, The Avenue on alternate Saturday evenings for men aged 16-35 who are discerning a call to the Catholic priesthood.

Contact Ryan for more information:

rhawkes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

The shelter will be Running from January 2025. In our city. We need volunteers to help the n different days for the Evening Shift, the Night Shift and the Breakfast Shift. You will help as part of a team and training and guidance is given. Notice on our boards or chat to Steve at Mass or on 07540229973... Plesse help our Christians in Southampton care for the Homeless and troubled.

Vocations Prayer Newsletter October 2024

<https://portsmouthvocations.org/so/27P938PgO?languageTag=en&cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af>

PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

12 Nov and 26 Nov 2024: 09:30 – 11:00 GMT

18 Nov 2024, 13:30 – 15:00 GMT

To book: [Admissions | St Patrick's School \(spcps.co.uk\)](https://www.spcps.co.uk)

SPRINGHILL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

'PROSPECTIVE PARENT' TOURS:

Tuesday 26th November 2024 9.30am

Please use the link below to let us know you are coming.

<https://forms.office.com/e/tnZ6bJmh5a>



RAFFLE DONATIONS WANTED

The friends of Saint George are appealing for any raffle prizes for their upcoming fundraising evening on 21/11/24. Any unwanted gifts that we could use as prizes would be much appreciated. All money raised will be used to buy specific equipment to benefit the pupils at the school.

Leave donations in the big red box in the church porch.

THANK YOU!

JOB VACANCIES

Springhill Catholic Primary School is looking for Learning support assistants and Cleaners (Term time only)

For more details please visit the school's website:

<https://www.springhillcatholic.co.uk>



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES

Activities, events, news and job vacancies from around the Diocese.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue462?e=34c55ac6ce>

DAY OF PRAYER AND REPARATION FOR LIFE

Wednesday, 23rd October

It's now almost sixty years since the 1967 Abortion Act - one of the most liberal in the world - came into effect in the UK. Since then, ten million babies have been aborted, one in five pregnancies. As a people of life, our efforts as Catholics to defend the unborn child, to care for pregnant mothers and to reverse or blunt this Act have had mixed results and this month, unjustly, new legislation will no longer allow us even to pray outside hospitals and clinics.

This is why we keep every 23rd October, the day the 1967 Abortion Act was passed, as a diocesan Day of Prayer and Reparation for Life. On that day, our priests offer a Mass for the Progress of Peoples, but wearing the purple vestments of penitence. Moreover, as a people of life, we cannot idly stand by before evil, injustice, suffering and violence in our world, including the abuse of the Earth and its resources.

We must act. Pope Francis, in his brilliant Encyclical Letter Laudato Si, begs people to live an authentically human ecology, a more balanced, simple life-style, a life that respects the environment, helps end poverty and espouses justice. As Catholics, we should live an integrally 'green' and natural way of life. Finally, we cannot stand idly by now as another death-wish is arising in our society for assisted suicide and euthanasia. This is another new line in the sand that our legislators seem poised to cross and which we need to resist for the sake of the vulnerable and the elderly. Here is a prayer we can say:

Lord Jesus, you are the source and lover of life. Reawaken in us and in every citizen respect for every human life. Help us to see in each child the marvellous work of our Creator. Open our hearts to welcome every child as a unique and wonderful gift. Guide the work of doctors, nurses and midwives. May the life of a mother and her baby in the womb be equally cherished and respected. Help those who make our laws to uphold the uniqueness and sacredness of every human life, from the first moment of conception to natural death. Give us wisdom and generosity to build a society that cares for all. Together with Mary, your Mother, in whose womb you took on our human nature, help us to choose life in every decision we take.

ASSISTED DYING BILL

RAISE YOUR VOICE!



CATHOLIC
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION UK
Supporting Catholics in Healthcare

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

**The second reading of the bill will take place on 29 NOVEMBER 2024.
Our MPs will have a Free Vote; let them hear our voices on the Sanctity of Life**

If you work in the Healthcare Profession consider signing this letter: <https://ourdutyofcare.org.uk/letter-to-the-prime-minister/>

"Our duty of care" (ODOC) is a group of UK healthcare workers who oppose the intentional killing of patients by assisted suicide or euthanasia. Their letter to the Prime Minister points out the high risk of coercion to patients who would not otherwise have considered assisted dying as has been demonstrated in Canada and Oregon for example.

The letter also makes a plea for greater investment in excellent palliative care. As Christians, we uphold the sanctity of every human life and therefore urge all CMA members to sign this letter as a matter of urgency. (Dr Mike Delany, President CMA UK)

Everyone can write a letter to their MPs. These suggestions draw on advice from Bishop Philip, The Catholic Union, Catholic Medical Association and other groups:

- Write to your MP by letter or email- not more than one page *in your own words not a standard letter*
- Share you experience and views:
 - What you have observed or seen
 - If a regulated professional be careful to ensure no Codes are broken, but give examples of concern- already encountered situations where power of attorney's abused etc etc
- If you are a professional – lawyer, doctor, nurse, pharmacist etc. Please identify your profession and state your qualifications in the letter
- In terms of getting your letter noticed, it is better not to identify yourself as a religious person but rather concentrate on the intrinsic value of all human life
- Points raised in the letter should seek to give MPs pause for thought and begin to doubt the advisability of assisted dying eg:
"would the MP like to think of doctors as a group who take human life?"
"would you like to think of elderly relatives being pressurised to accept assisted dying?"

Contact details for local MPs

- Southampton Test: Satvir Kaur satvir.kaur.mp@parliament.uk
- Southampton Itchen Darren Paffey darren.paffey.mp@parliament.uk
- Southampton North and Romsey Caroline Noakes caroline.nokes.mp@parliament.uk
- Eastleigh Liz Jarvis liz.jarvis.mp@parliament.uk
- Send letters to: House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Points you can raise:

- Medical doctors move from a primary duty to care for patient to active participation in intentional killing.
- Doctors and nurses should not be turned into the providers of lethal injections or other deliberate forms of what will be euthanasia. It would quickly break their professional integrity and reduce patient trust in them. It is an unacceptable and immoral demand on medical staff, doctors and nurses. (*It will change the culture of health care- better dead than...*)
- The rise of a business sector of euthanasia provision.
- Other countries where this commenced in a very 'controlled way' have rapidly moved to the extension of assisted dying to more than the terminally ill. An example of this is seen in Canada and Europe- particularly to marginalised people and the disabled. This fact is demonstrated in every other country that has legalised assisted suicide and euthanasia. In Canada, 5% of deaths are now by lethal injection.
- The option of assisted suicide puts intolerable pressure on the sick and the elderly, tempting them to feel they are a burden – and a financial drain – on their family and others. The right to die would inevitably become the duty to die - and in time the right to make another die.
- To legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide would undermine palliative care – Britain is a world-leader - and the work of care-homes. It would spell the end of care homes as we know them, since it would be cheaper and less trouble to kill someone rather than to care for them. Caring for the dying, looking after them, is true "dignity in dying" - not a lethal injection or a Sarco pod.
- Down the line – it may be that other health professionals may find themselves in difficult territory- pharmacists handling the prescription, social workers with concerns about capacity and abuse of relatives. How about disabled babies?

If the MP supports the Bill/replies to you to say so, then argue that if the Bill is passed:

- They should acknowledge that deliberately ending a life is not a job /duty for doctors or nurses , the NHS or private hospitals.
- There should be a clause that ensures that no doctor nurse or other health professional should be required to undertake this task- they should have the right to conscientious objection **without fear for their job or speciality.**
- There should be a protection doctors and nurses by creating a new highly regulated profession outside the health and social care system.
- The impact on vulnerable communities must be a matter of public record with regular reporting to Parliament.
- What safeguarding measures will you ensure are in place if family members/other professionals or carers consider there is, or has been, coercion?

Notes from A Catholic Point of View - but not suitable to put in a letter (Bishop Philip)

- Suicide is a grave offence against God, against neighbour and against self. - Against God, Who in His love and providence has given us the gift of our life. Life is not ours to dispose of. - Against neighbour because it unjustly breaks the ties of solidarity with family, nation, and other human societies to which we continue to have obligations. - Against self, because suicide is gravely contrary to the just love of self, contradicting the natural inclination of the human being to preserve and perpetuate his/her life.
- Suicide is not only a grave sin, but if freely, consciously and deliberately chosen as in an assisted suicide, a mortal sin. Willingly assisting someone to kill themselves in this way is also a mortal sin. How would it be possible to offer the Last Rites? And what justification will the person make when they come before the Lord to give an account of their life - and their death?