

11TH SEPTEMBER 2022

TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

“there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.”

Luke 15:10

Immaculate Conception Church

Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East
346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB

Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: www.immaculateconception.church

Email: office@immaculateconception.church

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)

University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)

Safeguarding Officer: Pat Saunders

Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)

Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays

Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

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

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Mass Times	Mass details & intentions	 THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS 1st Reading: Exodus 32:7-11,13-14 Psalm: 50:3-4,12-13,17,19 2nd Reading: Timothy 1:12-17 Gospel: Luke 15:1-32
Sun 11 Sept	TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	- Michael Brady RIP	
Mon 12 Sept	The Most Holy Name of Mary	-	No Mass	
Tues 13 Sept	St John Chrysostom	10.00 am	Mass	
Wed 14 Sept	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	10.00 am	Mass	
Thur 15 Sept	Our Lady of Sorrows	10.00 am	Mass	
Fri 16 Sept	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	9.30 am 10.00 am	Rosary Mass	
Sat 17 Sept	St Hildegard of Bingen	10.00 am	Mass	
Sun 18 Sept	TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	- Arthur Maxfield RIP	

WELCOME TO FR ANTHONY CHIATU!

This weekend we extend a very warm welcome to Fr Anthony Chiatu as he joins the community as our new Parish Priest. Fr Anthony comes from our twinned diocese of Bamenda and has been Assistant Priest at the parish of St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs for the last 3 years.

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASSES

THIS SUNDAY - Please join us in the hall for refreshments **after both Sunday Masses this weekend.**

TUESDAYS - Please join us in the hall on Tuesdays after Mass for coffee. A friendly welcome awaits you.



CHILDRENS' LITURGY AT 10.30 MASS STARTS TODAY! for children 4-7 (pre first Holy Communion)

Any adult help you could give to support this would be very gratefully received. Please contact Sue Deadman if you would like to find out more or offer your help.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Would you like to be an Altar Server? Have you made your First Holy Communion? If you have answered yes to both questions, please give your name and contact details, on a piece of paper, to Liz Bellamy, Mary Gobbi or Fr Anthony. We will be starting to introduce new servers with 'on the job' training during September!

BOOKSHOP

Help is needed to open the bookshop after Masses on Sundays. If you would be willing to help, please contact the office. As Susie is not around for a few weeks and there is no-one currently to run it, the bookshop will be closed unless we can get more support. Please contact the parish office if you could help. Thanks

THANK YOU...from the Sunday Lunch Project

We recently sent off donations to the charities we have collected for over the past 12 months. The Sunday Lunch project appeal raised £174.96 and a very grateful word of thanks comes from Val Laurent on behalf of the charity. Your donations will go towards the food for the Sunday Lunch Project guests plus other expenses involved. *“We all know times are especially tight currently with rising prices. The generosity of people under these circumstances to help those less fortunate, is fantastic. We look after approximately 80 plus with a hot lunch and /or takeaway every Sunday between two venues.”* **More helpers are currently needed** and if anyone would be interested in helping on a once in 7week basis or more if wished, please contact Val at v.laurent@talktalk.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS NEXT WEEK

Monday to Friday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

Overcoming Self-Righteousness

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Luke 15:1-2

What a foolish and arrogant thing to say! Jesus was merciful, welcoming, forgiving and loving to those who were sinners. And the Pharisees and scribes complained about this as if Jesus were doing something wrong.

On one level, it is understandable that the pride-filled scribes and Pharisees would look for anything they could to condemn Jesus. They were on a sort of "witch hunt," so to speak, seeking to find any fault they could with our Lord. So, out of the fullness of their malice, they attempted to make it look like Jesus was an awful sinner due to the fact that He spent time with sinners and welcomed them.

From a perspective of the pure truth, however, the jealousy, envy, manipulation and deception of the scribes and Pharisees are clear. The "condemnation" they uttered against Jesus was no true condemnation at all. It was a fabrication and a twisting of the truth. The truth is that Jesus' kindness to those who were sinners was a living out of His countless virtues. He was understanding, merciful, compassionate, patient, forgiving and the like. He saw troubled hearts and reached out to them in their need, especially when He could tell they were sorry, open and humble.

We may all encounter those who are religiously "self-righteous" at times. This is an ugly sin and one that should not sit well with us. The problem is that those who are self-righteous are oftentimes also intimidating and oppressive. Those who condemn others in the name of God are hard to confront. Jesus' initial response was to ignore them and to go about His ministry of love and compassion, telling parables and helping those in need. But eventually He took these religious leaders on directly, condemning them for their pride and arrogance.

Reflect, today, upon any tendency you have in your heart to judge another, especially when you try to do so in the name of God. If you struggle with self-righteousness and pride, humble yourself now so that our Lord will not eventually be compelled to issue forth His justice on you!

*A reflection for 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C
My Catholic Life, www.mycatholic.life.com*

SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 11TH September – Education Sunday
Our Second Collection this Education Sunday is for the Catholic Education Service. Catholic schools make up 10% of the national total of maintained schools in England and Wales, educating over 850,000 pupils and each is part funded by the diocese in which they are based. In our own Diocese of Portsmouth, almost 32,000 children are educated at 71 Catholic schools.

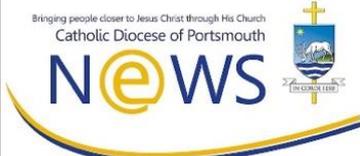
Thank you for your continued support. Over the course of last year **£4,109.76** across the Diocese.

NEXT SUNDAY 18th September – Home Missions

Any donations can be made in cash, by cheque or using our card payment machine in the church porch.

The Parish Bank Account details are:

Name: PRCDTR Immaculate Conception Church,
Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account No: 00887995

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

NEWS

**PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE
E NEWS**
Activities, events, news
and job vacancies from
around the Diocese,
locally and further afield.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue376?e=34c55ac6ce>

To keep up to date with the news of the Diocese and the Bishop please follow us on:

- Facebook: @PortsmouthRC
- LinkedIn: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
- Twitter: @PortsmouthRC

The Diocesan website:

- <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

If you have news that you would like to share with the rest of the Diocese, please contact:
communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

PEACE WALK

The Southampton Council of Faiths would like to invite you to the Peace Walk on 18th September, starting at the Queens Peace Fountain at 12.15 in East Park and then visiting The Vedic Temple (lunch) and Tegh Bahadur Gurdwara and Abu Bakr Mosque. Further details on the poster overleaf. Everyone is welcome

INFORMATION & SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA AND OTHER COGNITIVE IMPAREMENTS

Mini 'Demfest'

Hosted by the Romsey Dementia Action Group - a team of dedicated volunteers who aim to increase awareness of dementia and help to improve the lives of those living with dementia in THE local area

TODAY Sunday 11th September 2022, 10 am – 3 pm
Crosfield Hall, Broadwater Road, Romsey

LIZ BELLAMY WRITES ON HER RECENT TRIP TO LOURDES....

Lourdes 2022 was different. Why did I go? Usually I go to help in the Accueil (Care Centre), but we didn't take the people who needed medical care and support this year. I go to 'meet friends and make friends', that was true, but this year we deepened our friendships because we had more time, and we remembered absent friends.

In reality, I went because Our Lady called me, as she does every year. At the first opportunity I went to the Grotto to say 'Hello'. A few minutes in which all the stresses of travel fall away, and I feel a sense of welcome and peace.

I served at all the daily masses, including one in the Cathedral of the Trees, which were all filled with an amazing joy. Then we were all free to spend more time at the Grotto – the Adoration Chapel – the Baths! Since Covid, full immersion has become The Water Gesture, which is closer to Our Lady's instruction "Go and drink at the spring and wash yourself there." This takes place in the Baths where water from the spring is poured over your hands three times – to wash your hands, to wash your face and finally to drink the water. It was a powerful, deeply moving experience which I shared with four friends. Going in as a group speeds up the process and reduces the queues of previous years. We also found time to visit our usual haunts (Little Flower Café and the Café Jeanne D'Arc) and go on an excursion up the Pic du Jer – a mountain behind Lourdes – taking the funicular railway up most of the way and scrambling/climbing up the rest. And so home, to a positive Covid test! But I will be back next year, if Our Lady makes it possible.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our First Holy Communion course for children in year 4 or above begins this Autumn Term. If there are still children who regularly come to this parish who would like to make their First Holy Communion in June next year please contact the parish office for a registration form. **The closing date for registration is Sunday 2nd October.**

RECRUITMENT

IN THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

PLANNED GIVING OFFICER

Permanent, Full time, 35 hours per week

Based in St Edmund's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3QA

Salary: £25,000 – £30,000 per annum depending on skills and experience.

Implementing fundraising initiatives to develop and deliver innovative stewardship programmes across our Diocese. Work alongside parishes, programmes and projects to secure key funding revenue, overseeing a portfolio of fundraising tools including digital giving (contactless and online), stewardship resources and legacy bequests.

For full job description and details of how to apply please contact:

Recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

If you would like a confidential discussion about the role please contact: Chris Smith – Director of

Communications and Fundraising,
csmith@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

023 9421 6514

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Wednesday 28th September 2022

Full details of these roles can also be found in E news – see link

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue375?e=34c55ac6ce>



Southampton Council of Faiths

invites you to join us to celebrate our 20th anniversary



Peace Walk - Sunday 18th September 12.15

This is the third of four events that we have planned this year
visiting some of the faith communities in the city.

This walk will start at the Peace Fountain - East Park, Southampton
visiting ... The Vedic Temple, Tegh Bahadur Gurdwara and Abu Bakr Mosque



Everyone is welcome!

*Come and join us on this interesting and varied walk around the city
visiting different places of worship with lunch and
refreshments provided on the way...*

For further information contact
David Vane – 07545 982838
or go to www.southampton-faiths.org

