



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

24 March 2024

PALM SUNDAY

*"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!" Mark 11:10*

**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](http://www.immaculateconception.church)  
**Email:** [office@immaculateconception.church](mailto: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](mailto:safeguarding@immaculateconception.church))  
**Parish Secretary:** Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)  
**Confessions:** After 10 am Mass on Saturdays  
**Hall Bookings:** contact the parish secretary


**PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Tuesday - Thursday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm**

**ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT  
[www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur](http://www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur)**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 24 Mar	<b>PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Zibigniew Wolas RIP Maureen Slevin RIP
Mon 25 Mar	of Holy Week	-	No Mass	
Tues 26 Mar	of Holy Week	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Mass Penitential Service	Charles Eric Robertson RIP
Weds 27 Mar	of Holy Week	10.00 am	Mass	John Ford RIP

### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Thurs 28 Mar	MAUNDY THURSDAY	7.30 pm 8.30 pm – 12.00	Mass of the Lords Supper Watch & Pray	Dennis Philpot RIP & deceased members of the Philpot family
Fri 29 Mar	GOOD FRIDAY	9.30 am 3.00 pm	Children's 'Way of the Cross' Celebration of the Lord's Passion	
Sat 30 Mar	HOLY SATURDAY	2.30 pm 7.30 pm	Blessing of Easter baskets? <b>Easter Vigil Mass</b>	Hugh & Maureen Slevin RIP
Sun 31 Mar	<b>EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection of the Lord</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Sriya Lenore Maria Fernando RIP People of the Parish



**READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY**  
**Procession:** Mark 11:1-10  
**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-7  
**Psalms:** 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Philippians 2:6-11  
**Gospel:** Mark 14:1 – 15:47

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:**  
THIS SUNDAY – 24 March – No Second Collection

**OTHER COLLECTIONS:**  
GOOD FRIDAY – 29 March – Christians in the Holy Land  
NEXT SUNDAY – 31 March – Easter Clergy Collection  
**(CARD MACHINE NOW WORKING RELIABLY AGAIN)**



**NEXT WEEK  
IN THE PARISH:**

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup>** - Coffee morning after 10.00 am Mass  
- RCIA 7.30 pm in the hall

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup>** - Mass of the Lords Supper, 7.30 pm  
- Watch & Pray till midnight, following Mass

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup>** - Children's Way of the Cross, 9.30 am  
- Celebration of the Lords Passion, 3.00 pm

**Sat 30<sup>th</sup>** - Blessing of Easter baskets – 2.30 pm

**Sun 31<sup>st</sup>** - Refreshments in the hall after 10.30 am Mass.

### TODAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION: Hosanna! To the Suffering Christ!

Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!" [Mark 11:9-10](#)

Throughout Jesus' life, He traveled to Jerusalem many times. As a child, He was presented in the Temple. At age twelve, He was found teaching the teachers of the Law in the Temple. As He grew, He made regular pilgrimages to the Temple. During His temptation in the desert, the devil took Him to the pinnacle of the Temple. In the Gospels, we read of at least four different trips to the Temple during Jesus' public ministry. However, the trip to Jerusalem that we commemorate today was unlike any other. As Jesus entered Jerusalem this time, His life was already being sought by the religious leaders. Despite that fact, Jesus entered Jerusalem with great solemnity and with much attention. "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" was the cry by the crowd as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey while palm branches and cloaks were strewn before Him.

Though this was the most fitting way for the people of faith to welcome their King, their warm welcome, their cries "Hosanna!" and their excitement were more beneficial to them than they were to Jesus. Jesus is God. He has no need of our praise and honor. But Jesus came to us to invite us to praise, honor and worship Him because it is good for us. We need to praise Him. This is what we are made for. This leads to the fulfillment of our lives.

As we begin Holy Week, try to spend time with this image of the people honoring our Lord with much enthusiasm. This is an image depicting who we must become. As we continue through this Holy Week, we must become increasingly aware of the God to Whom we offer our praise and worship. He is a God Who lowered Himself in the eyes of all, took on the form of a slave, permitted Himself to be labeled as a grave sinner, was rejected, beaten and killed. This week, especially, we worship the suffering Christ. We worship a Man Who was arrested and cruelly treated. We worship a Man who was hated and mistreated in the worst way possible.

Our wholehearted worship of the suffering Christ is an important act to fulfill. In many ways, it is easier to worship God as He is in Heaven on His glorious throne. When we ponder the myriads of angels gathered around Him, the saints of all time bowing to the ground and glory and splendor radiating from His face, worship seems right. To worship a Man accused of being a criminal and suffering capital punishment while enduring the hatred of many is more difficult to comprehend. But if we are able to see Jesus through the eyes of faith and peer through the hatred and lies that surrounded Him, then we will be in awe of the humility of our God Who came to us this way.

Our worship of the suffering Christ also invites us to share in His virtue as He endured all that was inflicted upon Him. When we worship the humiliated Christ, our humiliations take on new power and meaning. When we worship the suffering Christ, our sufferings are elevated to share in His redemption. When we worship the rejected, despised and persecuted Christ, any ways that we share in these hardships are transformed.

Reflect, today, upon the God Whom you worship this Holy Week. Do not shy away from all that Jesus endured. Gaze at His rejection and passion. Look at the hatred He endured. As you do, see not only your glorious God, see also the remedy for all your ills. God descended to us in this most humble form so that He could meet us where we are at and raise us to new life with Him.

*A reflection for Palm Sunday, Yr B*  
[www.mycatholic.life](http://www.mycatholic.life)

## PARISH NOTICES

**Weather permitting the Palm Sunday masses at 8.30 am and 10.30 am will commence with a procession.**

**AFTER 10.30 AM MASS TODAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH.....**

Please join us for the Official opening of our Hall kitchen by the Lord Mayor. Refreshments and cakes will be served.

**HOLY WEEK CHILDREN'S COLOURING & DRAWING**

Colouring sheets for the different days of Holy Week are available in the porch to take away with you this Sunday. If any children would like to return them with the names on we can display them in the Hall for Easter. Any free drawings are also welcome!

**CHRISM MASS** – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 11 am at St John's Catholic Cathedral Portsmouth. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm – An opportunity for confession before Easter.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE ALSO AT ST EDMUNDS**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm

**ASSISTANCE AT EASTER SERVICES**

We would welcome some ushers to help - please let Mary Gobbi know if you could be available.

If anyone requires a wheelchair space for relatives/friends at any of the Easter services please let the office know or speak to Mary.

**GOOD FRIDAY 9.30 AM, CHILDRENS WAY OF THE CROSS**

Readings, Songs, Dress Up, Actions – all children and their families are warmly welcome to come along and take part.

### CONFIRMATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**PLEASE NOTE: NO Confirmation session this week**

Next session Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 4.00 pm

### EASTER COLLECTION FOR PARISH PRIEST

As is tradition, the Easter Collection always supports the Parish Priest personally. They are only given a limited stipend from the Diocese, so please do consider giving generously in return for their generous lifetime of service they give to support the parishes and people they work with.

### GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Supporting the Christian community in the Middle East. This last year has been particularly challenging for this small community which seeks 'to be the salt, light and leaven of the Gospel' in the region, often living in difficult circumstances. Please support this cause if you are able to. Donations can be made via the basket or by using the Card machine in the church porch, or via the following link: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/good-friday-collection-for-christians-in-the-holy-land>.

**RECENTLY DIED.** Christine Thomas RIP – Christine and her family were members and generous benefactors of this parish for many years. Her funeral will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 12.30 pm at Holy Family Church, 127 North Rd, Lancing. Lifts available with Anne Dempsey.

### INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you would like your baby/young child to be baptised, you will need to attend a baptism preparation session for parents. Next session:

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm in the hall**

Please contact the parish office to register your child for baptism and to attend the course.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

- Next week's newsletter will cover two weeks as Rachel will be away during the week after Easter.
- The office will be staffed by Deacon Gerard and Susie who will be available for visitors and phone calls. Emails will be responded to when Rachel is back.
- Fr Anthony will also be away for the week after Easter, so there will be no weekday Masses and we are grateful to Fr Antony Gatt for covering Sunday Masses on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

### ROAD CLOSURES – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Please be aware that the 2024 ABP Southampton Marathon takes place on Sunday 7 April and may impact on your route in getting to Mass. A full list of road closures can be found on the noticeboard in the church porch and via a link on the front page of our website.



### PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE

#### E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES

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

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue438?e=34c55ac6ce>

### EASTER CARDS FOR PARISHIONERS

The Greetings Card exchange boxes will be out in the porch again this weekend until after Easter if you would like to use them to distribute Easter cards to parishioners. Please keep a check on them for cards which may be waiting there for you!

### DO YOU NEED HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING?

**Energy bills? Affording food? Debt?**

**Are you getting all the benefits you're entitled to?**

Visit the following website to find out about a wide range of support around the city of Southampton

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/life-events/getting-help-with-the-cost-of-living/>



### INFANT CAR SEAT

**AVAILABLE TO ANYONE IN THE PARISH WHO MIGHT NEED ONE...**

In perfect condition but no longer needed. If interested please contact the parish office.



### COUPLE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

**Saturday 13th April 9am - 5 pm &**

**Sunday 14th April 9am - 3.45pm**

**Corpus Christi RC Church, Boscombe BH7 6AN**  
(Including refreshments, lunch and Mass)

We are delighted to invite married couples to a **Marriage Encounter (ME) Enrichment Weekend**, presented by experienced ME Couples and priest: Russ & Deirdre Fairman (Christ The King & St Colman Southampton), Dcn Roger & Jackie Carr Jones (Bournemouth) Fr Andy Burns.

This is a wonderful opportunity to take time out and explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, no matter how long you've been together. There's no group sharing, this is just about the two of you. Thousands of couples in the UK and millions worldwide, have benefited from a Marriage Encounter Experience, most say it is life changing.

**To find out more please go to the ME UK website:**

[wwme.org.uk](http://wwme.org.uk).

**For further enquiries:** [enquiries@wwme.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wwme.org.uk)

## Special Event!!

### PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD PRIORY AND CANTERBURY Saturday 6 July 2024:



The parish of St Boniface is organising a pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory. After visiting the shrine and lunch we will travel to Canterbury where those who wish can visit the Cathedral (Entrance fee is not included in the pilgrimage fee).

This is being organised as a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We will pray two mysteries of the Holy Rosary on the outward journey, the main Holy Rosary at the shrine 20 minutes before celebrating Holy Mass at 11:30 and we will pray the fourth mystery on the way back.

- **Leaving St Boniface Church, Shirley High Street, SO15 3JD at 8:00 am**
- **Arriving back at St Boniface at approx. 7.00 pm**
- **Please bring a pack lunch**
- **Cost £33/person. Deposit £20 by the 30th April.**
- **Final payment by the 31st May 2024.**
- **All payments to be made via the parish secretary.**

To register or for any other inquiries please contact Diana Agacy via email at: [fhc@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:fhc@st-boniface.org.uk).



## St Annes Catholic School & Sixth form

VACANCY

### Lay Chaplain

**Required as soon as possible**

**Pro rata £24,213 to £27,602, 35 hours per week,**

**Term time only** (We will consider a full-time (term-time only) or part-time role for the right candidate).

#### Specifics for this role

The successful applicant will be a practising Catholic with a deep commitment to his/her own faith and a passion for evangelisation to and working with young people.

The candidate appointed to this key post will make a significant contribution to the spiritual formation of the school.

**Closing date: midday, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Application forms and further details available from the school website at: [www.st-annes.uk.com](http://www.st-annes.uk.com).

Alternatively please email the PA to the Head Teacher at [pahead@st-annes.uk.com](mailto:pahead@st-annes.uk.com) or call 023 80328200