



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SOUTHAMPTON

MONTHLY BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2023

The Pope's prayer intention for September

For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Parish Notices



MONTHLY FIRST FRIDAY SOUP LUNCHES

Come and share a simple lunch with other parishioners once a month – the first Friday of each month. Includes soup, a desert and refreshments. No cost but donations are welcomed for a different charity each month.



The next one is on
Friday 3rd October – CAFOD family fast day
so we will be collecting for CAFOD

CAKE SALES SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH



AFTER 10.30 AM MASS

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

OUR CHURCH SHOP



If you are looking for small religious items for yourself or perhaps for someone else as a gift or memento of a special event, take a look at our Church shop after Sunday Mass. We have various rosaries, crucifixes, pendants and chains, statues, cards, books, and more, all at extremely good prices!

From time to time we will also run a stall in the church hall after Masses.

If you would be happy to help us run the bookshop after either of the Sunday Masses we would love to hear from you.

Please drop in and visit us after Sunday Mass!

NEXT REPAIR CAFÉ

**@ Immaculate Conception Church Hall
Saturday 21st October from 10.30 till 1 pm.**

Do you have anything which you need help repairing?
Most items tackled including electrical, sewing,
computers, bikes etc. Bring it long and have tea/coffee
& cake while you watch your repair being done.



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass said for someone has died, who is alive, for a celebration, an anniversary or any other special intention:

- There are envelopes in the church porch on which you can complete your request and enclose any donation you would like to make to the parish priest. These can be handed to Fr Anthony or Deacon Gerard after Mass, posted into the presbytery or brought into the parish office.
- Alternatively, just contact the parish office by phone or e mail.
- Any donation you would like to make can be given either in cash or paid by bank transfer (details above) with the reference MI-(your surname)



BAPTISM

If you would like your child to be baptised you will need to firstly download and complete a baptism registration form (visit our website at www.immaculateconception.church , go to the 'Documents' tab and click on 'Forms' on the drop down list. Here you will find the baptism registration form. This should be returned to the parish office. You will then need to make contact with Deacon Gerard after one of the Sunday Masses to discuss further and make suitable arrangements.

MINISTERING TO THE SICK, HOUSEBOUND & THOSE IN HOSPITAL

If you are going into hospital, you have a long term illness or are housebound, or you know of someone in the parish who is in this situation, please do contact the parish to let Fr Anthony know, so that we can arrange for someone to visit and/or take Holy Communion to them on a regular basis.

PARISH INCOME FOR SUMMER 2023

INCOME TO PARISH	£	<h1>JUNE</h1>	
Planned giving	369.00		
Standing Orders	3054.00	SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Gift Aid envelopes - Parish	168.55	Peter's Pence	£ 10.00
Offertory	1355.76	Apostleship of the Sea	10.00
Building Fund	91.00	Day for Life	235.32
Other Gifts/Donations	20.00	Homeless & poor	483.22
Coffee & tea after Mass	117.73	TOTAL	738.54
Cake Sale	75.50		
TOTAL	5251.54		

INCOME TO PARISH	£
Planned giving	369.00
Standing Orders	3014.00
Gift Aid envelopes - Parish	130.00
Offertory	829.75
Give As You Live	183.49
Building Fund	91.00
Other Gifts/Donations	20.00
Cake Sale	17.83
First Holy Communion	125.00
TOTAL	4780.07

JULY

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	£
Peter’s Pence	324.48
Apostleship of the Sea	303.37
Soup Lunch – SPUC	107.00
TOTAL	734.85

INCOME TO PARISH	£	<h1>AUGUST</h1>
Planned giving	*	
Standing Orders	2902.00	
Gift Aid envelopes - Parish	130.00	
Offertory	1581.07	
Dona - parish	33.44	
Building Fund	216.00	
Other Gifts/Donations	20.00	
Tea & Coffee after Mass	120.00	
Summer Fair	1547.57	
First Holy Communion	50.00	
TOTAL	6600.08	

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	£
None during August	0

**figure will be included in September total*

Diocesan Notices

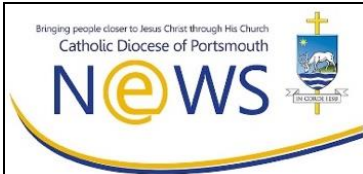
JOB VACANCIES WITH THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

Current Vacancies:

- School Chaplain (Lay or Religious), Reading – part time
- Parish Administrator, Didcot – part time
- Parish Administrator, Crookham – part time
- PA to Vicar for Clergy and Administrator for Clergy Support Team, Windsor & Sandhurst – part time
- Parish Administrator, Bracknell – part time
- Education Administrator, Portsmouth – part time
- Head of Congregational Administration & Communications, Godalming
- Various Diocesan school vacancies

For full details of these and other vacancies coming up in the near future, please see the job vacancy section of ENews (in the item above) or go to the following link on the Diocesan website

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS

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

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

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

COME AND FIND OUT ABOUT CAFOD'S WORK

CAFOD Portsmouth is hosting two meetings in September so that volunteers and supporters can find out more about our work:

Saturday 9th September at St Bedes Church hall ,Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX from 10:30 am to 12:30pm where Philippe Mougin CAFOD's Emergency Response Leader will talk about our work in Pakistan after last years floods.

Saturday 16th September at St Michael & All Angels Church hall , Dunsbury Way , Leigh Park PO9 5BD from 10:30am to 1:30pm (lunch is provided) where Sara Moreno from CAFOD's Partner SIEMBRA from Colombia will speak about her work with human and environmental rights defenders.

Everyone is welcome but please book so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo Lewry portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

FULFILLING OUR MISSION TO BRING PEOPLE CLOSER TO CHRIST

The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth in partnership with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is delighted to release details of an **online seminar on Tuesday 21st November exploring strategies for all Catholics to fulfil their mission to bring people closer to Christ.**

The keynote address will be given by internationally acclaimed and bestselling author Sherry Anne Weddell from the Catherine of Siena Institute. Sherry has developed numerous unique formation resources that are used around the world. She has trained and helps lead an international team who have worked directly with over 130,000 lay, religious, and ordained Catholics in hundreds of parishes in 150 (arch)dioceses on 5 continents. Her book Forming Intentional Disciples has sold more than 150,000 copies.

Tickets are priced at £10 per person and can be purchased by scanning the QR with your Smart Phone or by clicking on the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/engaging-the-disengaged-how-to-accompany-non-religious-persons-tickets-646139539757>

PART TIME CARE WORK

Catholic Home Care is looking to recruit new carers to join a friendly and supportive team undertaking general domestic support, helping older people in their own homes. If you like elderly people and have time to spare during the week, this is the job for you with a good rate of pay. Car driver is an advantage (but not essential) and full training given. Success at interview will lead to an enhanced DBS check before appointment. Permanent and holiday cover carers required. Full details from Xanthe Hackett or Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

Closing date – Monday 9th Oct 2023, Interviews 17th Oct 2023

Other Notices

OPEN DAY

ST ANNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

St Anne's is an outstanding 11-18 state funded Catholic school for girls with a mixed sixth form in the heart of Southampton, with excellent transport links to all points of the compass. Places are open to all families seeking a school with a strong Catholic ethos. The school has been placed in the top 10% of all schools nationally in recent years for the exceptional level of progress achieved by students of all abilities, and strong academic achievement at GCSE and A Level consistently places St Anne's as one of the highest performing school in Hampshire.

Parents with daughters in Years 4, 5 and 6 can visit us on **Wednesday 27th September 2023 for our Open Morning (9.00 - 11.00am) and/or our Open Evening (6.00 - 8.00pm). Parents can book free tickets via Eventbrite (see poster).** We ask that parents arrive at 9.00am and 10.00am for open morning tours.

Open mornings give parents the opportunity to see the school on a normal day and talk to their student guides as they tour the school. Open evenings provide the opportunity to talk to staff and students, as well as hearing talks from the Head teacher, Head girls and Year 7 students.

We look forward to seeing you at St Anne's to share with you the many ways in which we support our students to grow and thrive.

We often advertise for volunteers to join the Street Pastors. Here is an extract from a Street Pastor in Southampton about a typical night's work. If you are interested in finding out more or joining the Street Pastors, please talk to Steve Deadman.

ANOTHER SATURDAY NIGHT FOR OUR STREET PASTORS' TEAM

Our Team, two women and three men, had been out on the Southampton city centre streets for 3 hours and it had just turned 12.30am. It was a normal night, many people out celebrating at restaurants, theatre, cinema and clubs, and we had casually chatted with many. We also met about a dozen street people, sharing hot chocolate, water, pot noodles and biscuits, chatting about their circumstances and ways in which we might help and, if they wished, we shared a night prayer that they would know God's love and healing in their lives, with if appropriate, a prayer for some specific need.

We crossed the road by the Cenotaph, when a young man, in his twenties, approached us and asked,
"You guys are Christians, yes?"

We agreed and shared that we are from different Christian churches across the city but we have the common commitment to serving Jesus.

He then said, "I was brought up a Catholic but, in my teens, I drifted away. God did not seem relevant to me and I could not see that he exists. Things have happened to me and I am now re-evaluating my life."

"Sure," we replied. "Many people find that but God is always there, faithful, patient, forgiving, so you can always change."

"Maybe", he said. "I cannot say I am fully convinced yet but I have prayed and I want to join in a church again. I am also sorry for some horrible things I have done but I know I want to change and make a difference."

We chatted some more and gave information about churches before parting with hugs and friendly words of encouragement.

"Heavenly Father, be with that young man, guide and protect him by Your Spirit. Let him know Your Love in his life and may he grow in Your Ways."

Later that night, our team helped some other drunken young people get safely home, calmed another young woman distressed after a break-up and chatted with others about the 'ups and downs' in their lives.

What a blessing to be able to share God's love on our streets!!



A Lifeline for Marriage!

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
Has your marriage become stressed, unloving, cold?

Do you argue often?

Do you want to improve your communication?

Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking about it?

Do you want to try again?

The **Retrouvaille** programme may be just what you need!

**The next programme commences with
a virtual weekend
6-9 July 2023**

**The following programme commences with a face to face weekend in
Welwyn Garden City Centre
13-15 October 2023**

For more information phone or text: 07887 296983 or 07973 380443

Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com

Website: www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Complete confidentiality assured

ASK YOUR MP TO STOP ABORTION UP TO BIRTH

The abortion lobby is running a campaign to fully 'decriminalise' abortion, which would introduce abortion up to birth! Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to oppose the introduction of abortion up to birth. Contact our MP now:

www.righttolife.org.uk/noabortionuptobirth

It only takes 30 seconds.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO DO SMALL MAINTENANCE JOBS INCLUDING BASIC ROUTINE ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING WORKS?

Reliable, friendly and trustworthy parishioner, available at very competitive rates. Please call Jonathan on 07709105141



HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

JOIN
SPIRIT UNBOUNDED
with
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
MARY McALEESE & JOAN CHITTISTER,
STEVEN NEWCOMB

and
a host of international leaders, thinkers, activists
and reform-minded Companions from around the world
to coincide with the International Synod in Rome.

ONLINE
all week
8 - 14th October 2023



LIVE and ONLINE
ROME, IT and BRISTOL, UK
13- 14th October, 2023

www:spiritunbounded.org/event

Children's Corner

This page is for you, Do you know any jokes or funny stories to share with other parishioners? Do you have you a favourite prayer you would like to share? Maybe you have written your own prayer. Has something exciting happened in your family or school recently, for example a new brother or sister, a new house or pet, a visitor or holiday? We would love to hear from you. Any ideas for this page would be great. Just get a grown-up to email them to the parish office. Don't forget to add your name and age. This page is for you.

Catholic Schools Week

Use the code to find the secret message.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m

n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z









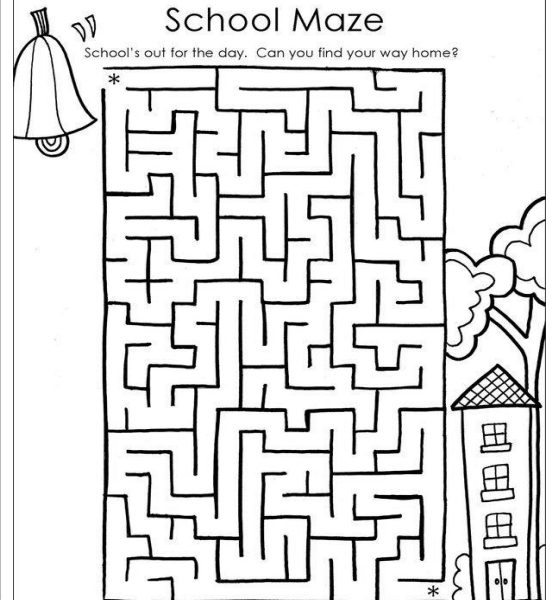
Why can't skeletons play music at a church?
Answer: They have no organs.

What animal did Noah not trust?
Answer: A Cheetah

What kind of sweets should we eat on Sundays?
Answer: Sacramints.

School Maze

School's out for the day. Can you find your way home?



PARISH INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest	Fr Anthony Chiatu	
Parish Deacon	Dcn Gerard Dailly	
Parish Secretary	Rachel Brady	
Address	346 Portswood Road, Portswood Southampton SO17 3SB	
Parish phone no	023 80555470	
E mail	office@immaculateconception.church	
Website	www.immaculateconception.church	
Parish office open hrs	Tuesday – Friday 9.30 am – 2 pm	
Safeguarding Rep	Vacant position (contact parish phone no)	
Hospital Chaplaincy	Tel 023 81208517	
Regular Mass times <i>(Check newsletter for occasional variations)</i>	Monday	No Mass
	Tues- Sat	10 am
	Sunday	8.30 am & 10.30 am
Confession times	Saturdays, 10.30 am	
Hall Bookings	Contact the parish office – details below	
Facebook	Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood	
Bank details for payments and donations:	A/c Name:	CDP Immaculate Conception Southampton
	Sort Code:	30-93-04
	A/c No:	00887995
Registered Charity No	1199568	