

4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023

**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, YEAR A**

*“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.*

*John 3:16*

**WEEKLY  
INFORMATION  
& UPDATES**

**Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**

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)

**Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu**

**Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly**

**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](http://www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur)**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 04 June	<b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Denis O'Brien RIP Pelia Agbor RIP
Mon 05 June	St Boniface	-	NO MASS	-
Tues 06 June	St Norbert	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	-
Wed 07 June	Feria	-	Mass	-
Thur 08 June	Feria	10.00 am	Mass	-
Fri 09 June	St Ephrem	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Rosary Mass	-
Sat 10 June	Our Lady on Saturday	11.00 am	First Holy Communion Mass	-
Sun 11 June	<b>CORPUS CHRISTI</b> <b>The Body and Blood of Christ</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	- -



**READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Exodus 34:4-6,8-9

**Psalms:** Daniel 3:52-56

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

**Gospel:** John 2:16-18

**SUMMER FAIR** We are now collecting items for this year's Summer fair: tombola, raffle, bottles, bric-a-brac etc. Please any appropriate donations at the weekends and leave in the church porch. Thank you!

**TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASSES**

Please join us in the hall on **Sundays after the 10.30 am Mass** for tea and coffee. **And also after Mass on TUESDAYS** –A friendly welcome awaits you.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR CHILDREN  
MAKING THEIR  
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION  
THIS COMING SATURDAY!**



**PARISH VOLUNTEER FOR CAFOD**

Our thanks to Sue O'Brien who has been a great supporter and parish volunteer for CAFOD over

the last 20 years. She has now stepped back and so we are calling for someone else to be our new Parish Volunteer. This mainly involves some support for Lent and Harvest collections (so twice a year).

If you think you could help, please speak to Sue on Sunday at 8.30 am Mass or Steve Deadman at 10.30 am or call Steve on 07540229973.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
VALERIE LAURENT WHO  
HAS RECENTLY BEEN  
INAUGURATED AS THE  
CITY'S LORD MAYOR  
-THE 801<sup>ST</sup> MAYOR OF  
SOUTHAMPTON!**

Val is a long term member of our parish and works very hard for many good causes. We thank God for choosing one of our number and pray that God may grant her wisdom in the exercise of her duties as Lord Mayor. Fr Anthony will be the Chaplain to the Lord Mayor whilst she is in office.

**PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK**  
Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri, 9.30 am – 2.00 pm

## The Essence of the Most Holy Trinity

*“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”* [Matthew 28:19–20](#)

Of all the great feasts we celebrate within the Church throughout the year, today’s Solemnity presents us with a Mystery that is so deep and transcendent that our eternity will be spent in perpetual contemplation. The Trinity, the life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, will never get old, never be fully understood, and will be the cause of our everlasting adoration and joy. Though the Church has used philosophical concepts to explain the Trinity, no human concept or description will ever fully explain Who God is. Though we can point to some general truths about God, we will never be able to fully depict the inner essence, depth, beauty and omnipotence of the Trinity.

As we consider that fact, it’s important to understand that the Trinity is not *first* a theological mystery we try to define. Rather, the Trinity is *first* a communion of Persons we are invited to know. We do not primarily come to know God through intellectual deduction. We come to know God through prayerful union with Him. Though theology is exceptionally useful and important, the essence of God is beyond any and every philosophical concept we can define.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are Persons. And as Persons, they want to be known. And they want to be known primarily through a life of deep and intimate prayer. Praying to One Person, of course, is praying to all, since they are One God. But we are, nonetheless, called to a relationship of love with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. And though our feeble minds may not be able to fully comprehend the essence of God, He will draw us deeper and deeper into a knowledge of Him if we let Him.

Prayer often begins by saying prayers, by meditating upon Scripture, and by listening. But true prayer is something much deeper. True prayer is contemplative prayer that ultimately leads to divine union. Only God can initiate this form of prayer in our lives, and only God, through this deep form of prayer, can communicate Himself to us as He is. Some of the greatest mystics of our Church, such as Saint John of the Cross and Saint Teresa of Ávila, explain in their mystical theology that the deepest knowledge of God does not come through concepts or images. In fact, if we wish to obtain a knowledge of God in His essence, we must allow Him to purge every concept of Who He is so that the pure light of His essence can be poured forth upon our minds. This knowledge, they say, is beyond knowing “about” God. It’s the beginning of a knowledge “of” God.

Reflect, today, upon the Most Holy Trinity. As you do, say a prayer to God asking for a deeper and more intimate

knowledge of Him. Ask Him to communicate to you His divine love and to open your mind and heart to a deeper understanding of Who He is. Try to humble yourself before the great Mystery of the inner life of God. Humility before the Mystery of God means that we know how little we know about Him and how little we know of Him. But that humble truth will help you move closer to the deeper relationship of love to which you are called.

A reflection for the Most Holy Trinity, Year A  
My Catholic Life, [www.mycatholic.life.com](http://www.mycatholic.life.com)

### SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> June – No second collection

NEXT SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> June – Homeless & Poor

**Any donations can be made in cash or by cheque via the collection baskets in the church or using our card payment machine in the church porch. The Parish Bank Account details are: Name: CDP, Immaculate Conception Church, Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account No: 00887995**



Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth  
[www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS PRAYER NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2023


<https://www.portsmouthvocations.org/so/87OXiCTwJ?languageTag=en&cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af>

**\*\*TODAY\*\***

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June

### INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION

Including:

- **Brazilian Festival, 1-5 pm**  
At the Polish Club, 507 Portswood Rd SO17 2TH  
Music & Quadrilha dancing with DJ Alex Silva  
Brazilian food & drink for sale  
Feel free to wear traditional costumes  
Tickets £2 – book using this QR code → 
- **International Mass, 7 pm**  
At St Edmunds Church, The Avenue  
celebrated in multiple languages  
Followed by refreshments and food shared in St Edmunds Hall  
Please bring some food from your country to share

**See posters in church porch for more detail**

### JOB VACANCIES WITHIN

#### THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

A number of vacancies currently advertised at:  
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

### REPAIR CAFÉ

#### AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH HALL

The next one will be **Saturday 15 June, 10.30 am to 1pm**.  
If you have items which could be repaired and put back into use, bring them along. More details on the poster in the porch and in our monthly bulletin.