



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

2nd June 2024

CORPUS CHRISTI, THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

"Take it; this is my body... .. This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many"

John 14:22 & 24

**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: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)

Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays

Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm

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

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 02 June	CORPUS CHRISTI The Body and Blood of Christ	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Janine Spencer Colin Caine RIP
Mon 03 June	St Charles Lwange & Companions	-	No Mass	-
Tues 04 June	Feria	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Mass	Pat Saunders RIP
Weds 05 June	St Boniface	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Mass Eucharistic Adoration	KWL Perera RIP
Thurs 06 June	St Norbert	10.00 am	Mass	-
Fri 07 June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Rosary Mass	-
Sat 08 June	The Immaculate Heart of Mary	10.00 am	Mass	-
Sun 09 June	TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	- -



READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1st Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

Psalm: 116:12-13,15-16,17-18

2nd Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16,22-16

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

SUNDAY 02ND JUNE – Homeless & Poor in Southampton

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE – No second collection

NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH:

Tues 4th - Coffee morning after 10.00 am Mass

Weds 5th - Eucharistic Adoration 6 pm in the lady chapel

Thurs 6th - Community Social/Activity group – board games
10.30 am, in the hall. All welcome

- Choir Practice 7.30 pm in the church. Anyone
welcome to join.

Sun 9th - Cake Sale after 10.30 am Mass

TODAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

Wonder and Awe Before the Eucharist

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many." [Mark 14:22-24](#)

At the holy Mass, as soon as the priest pronounces the words of the consecration, transforming the bread and wine into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ our Lord, he genuflects, rises, and then says, "The mystery of faith." What is "the mystery of faith?" Oftentimes, when we say that something is a mystery, we mean that the conclusion is hidden but that there are certain clues to help solve the mystery. And once the mystery is solved, everything is clear and it is no longer a mystery.

"The mystery of faith" is much different. Those words are spoken at Mass immediately after the consecration as a way of drawing the faithful into a holy awe and amazement of what just took place. But this mystery can only produce

wonder and awe if the reality of what just took place is understood through the gift of faith. Faith is knowing and believing without perceiving the reality before us with our five senses or through logical deduction. In other words, faith produces true knowledge of a spiritual reality that can only be known, understood and believed through spiritual insight. Therefore, if we attend the Mass and have been gifted with the knowledge of faith, then as soon as the consecration of the bread and wine takes place, we will cry out interiorly, “My Lord and my God!” We will know that God the Son is present before us in a veiled way. Our eyes do not perceive, nor do any of our senses reveal to us the great reality before us. We cannot rationally deduce what just took place. Instead, we come to know and believe that the Son of God, the Savior of the World, is now present before us in His fullness, under the veil of mere bread and wine.

In addition to the divine presence of our Lord and our God, the entire Mystery of our Redemption is made present. Saint Pope John Paul II tells us that in this moment there is a “oneness in time” that links the *Paschal Mystery*, that is, the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, to every moment that the Eucharist is celebrated and made present through the words of consecration. And that unity between each Mass and the *Paschal Mystery* “leads us to profound amazement and gratitude” (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, #5). Do you sense and experience this profound amazement and gratitude each time you attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? Do you realize as you attend the Mass and as the words of consecration are spoken that the entire Mystery of your redemption is made present before you, hidden from your eyes but visible to your soul by faith? Do you understand that it is God the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity Who descends to us to dwell with us in that moment of time in this glorious Sacrament?

Reflect, today, upon the hidden but real Mystery of Faith. Allow yourself to be drawn into a wonder and awe at what you are privileged to attend. Let your faith in the Most Holy Eucharist grow by being open to a deepening of this gift of faith through spiritual insight and belief. Behold this great Gift of the Eucharist with the eyes of faith and you will be drawn into the wonder and awe that God wants to bestow upon you.

A reflection for the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, Yr B
www.mycatholic.life

PARISH NOTICES

TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 10.30 AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for the usual refreshments after Mass today.

****INCLUDING CAKE SALE TODAY****

PARISH SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 13th July

We are once again collecting donations for a raffle, tombola, plants, cakes etc. If you have any donations you would like to offer, please bring them to the hall after Masses. If anyone would like to organise a stall or help in any way, please talk to Anastasia after 10.30 am Mass.

MISSION PLAN MEETING & LUNCH FOR THE PASTORAL AREA PARISHES

A day for the clergy and people of our Pastoral Area to hear about the process of implementation of the Plan for our group of churches over the coming months, and to input your own thoughts.

All are welcome to this event and it would be great to see some of our Immaculate Conception parishioners there. If you have any queries, please do email the parish office or speak to Fr Anthony or Deacon Gerard.

Saturday, June 22nd

Immaculate Conception Church Hall

12:30pm - 4:00pm

beginning with a bring and share lunch.

REGISTRATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

The registration dates for the future FHC programmes are now being aligned with rest of the Southampton Deanery. Registration for next year's FHC will open on June 3rd and close in September in all the local parishes.

If you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion, they should be over the age of 8 or in year 4 or above at school and they should register for the programme taking place at the parish in which they would normally attend Mass. They should be attending Mass with their family as regularly as possible. Registration forms for the programme at Immaculate Conception are available from the parish office by email, from the parish website or from the church porch. Completed forms should be returned to the parish office.

CAFOD – MAKING A LASTING DIFFERENCE

Join CAFOD for a morning of sharing stories with Christine Allen, CAFOD's Director over a slice of cake and learning more about how we can make a lasting difference through a gift in a Will. **Tuesday 18 June 2024, 10.45am to 12.45pm at Our Lady of Sorrows & St. Philip Benizi Parish Hall, 15 Salisbury Road, Fordingbridge, SP6 1EG.** To find out more and to book your place please go to cafod.org.uk/legacyevent.



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES

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

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue446?e=34c55ac6cee>

NEW LECTIONARY

The Lectionary – the books which contain the Scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments, is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations which make them more faithful to their original languages, more suitable for liturgical settings and where appropriate, more inclusive. The new Lectionary will become mandatory for use at the beginning of Advent 2024.

These books are costly, so we would like to put out an appeal to anyone who would be interested helping to purchase these. We are planning to buy the Ambo set of 4 books plus the book of the Gospels at a cost of £970. They will be the books which are read from at every service or Mass here for many years to come. More information on them can be found on the CTS home page at www.ctsbooks.org. If you would like to help with the purchase of these books, you can make a donation via the card machine in the porch or in an envelope directed to the parish office indicating clearly what the money is for. Thank you for any donations you are able to give.

A NEW TREE IN THE CHURCH GARDEN

Last weekend Fr Anthony blessed a new tree which has been planted in the garden in memory of Kathy White and Kate O'Shea, who were both very involved in work around the parish and in particular the gardens. It was donated by the Tuesday morning coffee group and planted last week by Fiona Thompson, with a little help from Fr Anthony and the Thursday morning social group. In attendance were a few regular parishioners from the Saturday morning Mass as well Kevin & Kate O'Shea's daughter.

In time it should grow to be a fine tree!



These memorials are important - they serve as a reminder to us of our responsibility as custodians of the church we have today to ensure its survival for the good of our children and of future generations.

JOB VACANCIES

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Immaculate Conception, Southampton

Part time, 20-25 hrs/week

This post will be advertised on the diocesan website next week with full details and an application form available.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - CARITAS

Based in parishes in Southampton & Havant

Fixed term contract until end of June 2025

Salary: £25,000-26,000 depending on experience.

These are exciting opportunities to support parish life and really make a difference in the lives of people in our communities. We look forward to hearing from you!

STELLA MARIS SOUTHAMPTON VOLUNTEERS



An exciting development in the form of a new Seafarers Club, is opening up in Southampton, managed by the local Stella Maris team. This will be based in the Stella Maris Pastoral Centre next to St Joseph's Church in Bugle Street.

They are currently looking for volunteers to staff the new Seafarers Club, As part of a team, you would provide a friendly welcome to visiting seafarers and offer practical advice on the city's attractions and would be backed by experienced Stella Maris staff who are there to help anyone with further support needs. For more information, please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church or visit the Stella Maris webpage at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/seafarerscentre/southampton

The Kadosh Marian Ministries invite you to a **RESIDENTIAL HEALING RETREAT**

St Joseph's House of Prayer, Ashurst

21 – 23 June 2024

Further details available on a poster in the church porch,
or by emailing june24@kadoshmarian.com

or phoning 07459724349

Bookings can be made at

<https://kadoshmarian.com/book-june2024>

(Services will be in both English and Malayalam)

'HEAVENLY VOICES'

Romsey Abbey, Saturday 8th June at 7.30pm.

Step into the majestic Abbey and experience an evening of heavenly music showcasing some of the most beautiful choral works of the past three centuries, performed by Southampton Philharmonic and the SU Philharmonic choirs. Tickets may be purchased online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/musicinromsey or from Romsey Visitor Information Centre, 13 Church St. Romsey SO51 8BT (tel: 01794 512987)