

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



17th September 2023,

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

"Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?
As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven
times but seventy-seven times.."

Matthew 18:21-22

WEEKLY INFORMATION & UPDATES

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

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	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 17 Sept	TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	- Adam Madej RIP & Krystyna Madej RIP
Mon 18Sept	Feria	-	NO MASS	
Tues 19Sept	St Januarius	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	Pat Saunders RIP
Wed 20 Sept	St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions	10.00 am	Mass	-
Thurs 21 Sept	St Matthew	10.00 am	Mass	-
Fri 22 Sept	Feria	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Rosary Mass	Dennis & Naomi Philpot RIP
Sat 23 Sept	St Pio of Pietrelcina	10.00 am	Mass	Luis Nunes Greaves RIP
Sun 24 Sept	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Stephen White RIP Kenneth Thipthorpe RIP

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY



1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:30 – 28:7

Psalm: 103:1-2,3-4,9-10,11-12

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASSES

Please join us in the hall for tea, coffee & biscuits:

- **Sundays after the 10.30 am Mass**
- **The first Sunday of each month after the 8.30 am Mass.**
- **Tuesdays after the 10.00 am Mass**



CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX SCHEME

Christmas presents for disadvantaged and displaced children in Eastern Europe.

More boxes available to take away and fill with presents. Please also take a leaflet to guide you.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR FILLED GIFT BOXES (TOGETHER WITH £2 ATTACHED) TO THE CHURCH AS SOON AS YOU CAN, TO HELP THE ROTARY CLUB IN PREPARING THEIR DELIVERIES. *Thank you*



ROSARY IN OCTOBER

Every Wednesday in October, 7 pm

Lady Chapel at Immaculate Conception

On October 7th, the Church celebrates the feast day of Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. The feast day was established by Pope Saint Pius V. on the anniversary of the victory at Lepanto on October 7 1571, which was attributed to the Virgin Mary whose intercession was entreated through the recitation of the Holy Rosary. The Church then proceeded to dedicate the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary so that individuals, families, and communities would pray the Holy Rosary, if possible, on a daily basis for peace in the world.

Please join us in October for the Rosary, the best known of all Catholic devotions.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE A CANDLE LIT but cannot come to the church at a time when it is open, please let the office or Fr Anthony know. We will light one for you after Mass, take a picture and put it on our Facebook page.



LAST CHANCE TO ORDER - CTS SUNDAY MISSAL FOR YEAR B

If you would like to order a copy of next year's Sunday Missal to purchase through the bookshop please email the parish office as soon as possible.

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK:

Tues – Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm

The Debt we owe

Mercy and forgiveness should be at the heart of the Christian life. Yet, as today's First Reading wisely reminds us, often we cherish our wrath, nourish our anger, and refuse mercy to those who have done us wrong. Jesus, too, strikes close to home in today's Gospel with His realistic portrayal of the wicked servant who won't forgive a fellow servant's debt, even though his own slate has just been wiped clean by their master.

It can't be this way in the kingdom, the Church. In the Old Testament, seven is frequently a number associated with mercy and the forgiveness of sins. The just man sins seven times daily; there is a sevenfold sprinkling of blood for atonement of sins (see [Proverbs 24:6](#); [Leviticus 16](#)). But Jesus tells Peter today that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time.

We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful (see [Luke 6:36](#); [Matthew 5:48](#)). But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're willing to forgive others their trespasses against us? Because, as Paul reminds us in today's Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross (see [Revelation 5:9](#)). As we sing in today's Psalm, though we deserved to die for our sins, He doesn't deal with us according to our crimes. The mercy and forgiveness we show to others should be the heartfelt expression of our gratitude for the mercy and forgiveness shown to us.

This is why we should remember our last days, set our enmities aside, and stop judging others. We know that one day we will stand before the judgment seat and give account for what we've done with the new life given to us by Christ (see [Romans 14:10, 12](#)).

So we forgive each other from the heart, overlook each other's faults, and await the crown of His kindness and compassion.

<https://stpaulcenter.com>

Scott-Hahn-reflects-on-the-24th-sunday-in-ordinary-time/



**LATEST EDITION OF
PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE
E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES**
Activities, events, news and

job vacancies from around the Diocese.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue420?e=34c55ac6ce>

CIVIC SERVICE WITH THE LORD MAYOR TAKING PLACE HERE, SUNDAY 22ND OCT AT 10.30 AM MASS

All are invited to stay for refreshments and food afterwards in the hall. **If you are staying for food afterwards, please add your name to the list in the church porch** to help us cater for the appropriate number of people. Thank you.

ADORATION FOR STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE, but ALL welcome! Every Wednesday, 6 – 7 pm in the Lady Chapel.

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

THIS SUNDAY -10th September – Home Missions (non GA)

NEXT SUNDAY - 17th September – SVP (non GA)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- **Christmas Fair – Saturday 18 November 2023**
(Please let Anastasia know if you are able to help)
 - **Christmas Games Night (for aged 16+) – 28 Oct 2023**
- More information to follow in the coming weeks

SOFA STORAGE: A parishioner is in urgent need of storage for a sofa bed for up to a year – already dismantled and wrapped in plastic. If anyone is able to help out, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the office if you can help. Many thanks

ST ANNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**OPEN DAY, Wed 27th Sept, 9 am – 11 am &
6 pm – 8 pm**



For parents with daughters in Years 4, 5 and 6. Please book free tickets via Eventbrite (see below). 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.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/year-4-5-and-6-open-morning-tickets-681427206117?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

OUR LOCAL CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL IS OUTSTANDING!



Governors and staff are excited to share that St George Catholic College was recently judged "Outstanding" in all areas by Ofsted. From the report: ***"This is a truly inclusive and welcoming school. Behaviour is exemplary in classrooms and during social times. Staff and pupils are rightly proud to be a part of this school."*** Pupils also achieved another set of 'highest ever' GCSE results this summer, with 88% achieving grades 4-9 in English and Maths. We are incredibly grateful to our headteacher, James Habberley, and all the staff who have worked so hard over the past 15 years, turning a boys' school with poor GCSE results and at risk of closure into a heavily oversubscribed mixed Catholic secondary school with some of the best academic results in the country. We invite you to read the Ofsted report which can be found at <https://www.stgcc.co.uk/page/?title=Ofsted+%2F+Diocese+Inspection&pid=14> and visit our alumni page at www.stgcc.co.uk/our-school/alumni

**OUR NEXT OPEN EVENING FOR YEARS 4 – 6
5TH OCTOBER, 5.30 AM – 8.00 PM**

PLEASE COME AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER!

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

**MEETING AT ST BONIFACE CHURCH HALL, SHIRLEY
9.30 – 11 am, alternate Tuesdays during term time.**

This is a new group starting on Sep 26th. Dates for the rest of the term are: 10 & 12 Oct, 14 & 28 Nov, 12 Dec. £1 per family. Contact: catholicmotherssoton@gmail.com