



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

10th NOVEMBER 2024 – THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.” Mark 12,43-44

**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: Cecilia Kovacs (023 8055 5470)
Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays
Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Tuesday/Friday 10:00 5 pm, Wednesday/Thursday 1-5pm

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

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 10 November	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Remembrance Sunday	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Luis Nunes Greaves RIP Sarg Nissanka Silva RIP Remembered with many others
Mon 11 November	St Martin of Tours, Religious, Bishop		NO MASS	
Tues 12 November	St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	Kevin McGloin RIP
Weds 13 November	Feria	10.00 am 5.30pm	Mass Holy Hour for the Dignity of Human Life	Deceased relatives of Dudley and Francine Plunkett RIP
Thurs 14 November	Feria	10.00 am	Mass	
Fri 15 November	St Albert the Great, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass	Hugo Zoller RIP
Sat 16 November	St Edmund Of Abingdon Bishop, Joint Principal Patron Of The Diocese	10.00 am	Mass	S. Bastiampillai RIP
Sun 17 November	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Anne Broderick special intention Jim & Kathleen Earl RIP

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY



1st Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16
Psalm: 145(146):7-10
2nd Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28
Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

BAPTISMS



CONGRATULATIONS to the families of the children who are being baptised this weekend (Saturday and Sunday):

Sophie Banescu – 10 months
Connell Cahill – 3 years
Evelyn Attard-Charrett 2 years

SECOND COLLECTIONS: No second collections

NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH

Tues 12th **Tea & Coffee** after 10 am service – parish hall
RCIA Course – 7.30-9 pm in the parish hall
Wed 13th **Holy Hour for the Dignity of Human Life** –
5.30pm (!) in the main church
Thur 14st **Caritas activity group**– 10.30am
Board Games
Sat 16th **Christmas Fair - 2-4pm** in the Parish Hall
Sun 17th **Coffee and tea** - after mass in the parish hall
Choir Practice 11.30 am in the church. Anyone welcome to join.

GIVING YOUR WHOLE LIVELIHOOD

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Mark 12:41–42

If you were in charge of the Temple treasury, which would you prefer? The rich putting in large sums of money? Or one poor widow putting in two small coins? Of course, an honest answer to that question might be hard to give. Much good can be done with large sums of money, right? Wouldn't it be better to accept more than a few cents? The dilemma one would experience in this situation reveals a misperception that we regularly encounter in life. Is more better than less? Is wealth better than poverty? Is success better than failure? It all depends upon the spiritual reality at hand.

Take, for example, success vs. failure. Say one person sets off on a selfish and immoral business venture that quickly produces a huge income. Many would consider that a success. Say another person prayerfully sought to fulfill the will of God and started some other business. After years of trying, that business failed and went into bankruptcy. Which situation is better? Clearly, the one who sought to fulfill the will of God is the winner. Why? Because the spiritual fruit of fidelity to the will of God, despite worldly setbacks, produced an eternal treasure more valuable than earthly wealth.

God judges the heart, not the worldly outcome. In fact, from a worldly perspective alone, Jesus' life was a complete failure. He was arrested, charged with a capital crime, beaten and killed. His earthly kingdom—desired by many of his followers—was never established. Many of them abandoned Him when He was killed. Even after He rose from the dead, He didn't establish an earthly kingdom.

Of course, in the spiritual realm, the realm of eternal realities, Jesus' life was infinitely successful. His death destroyed death itself, and His Resurrection enabled all who believe in Him to share in eternal life. His spiritual Kingdom is now in full bloom and will one day be visible to all.

Back to our original question. If you were in charge of the Temple treasury, and you were given the same option that Jesus pointed to of receiving the large sums of money from the rich, or the two coins from the poor widow, it would certainly be better to accept the two coins. If that is hard to comprehend, then it is a sign that you live more according to the values of the world than the values of the spiritual Kingdom of God. The poor widow gave more than two small coins; she also gave the spiritual gift of her generosity and complete trust in God. She gave all she had and trusted that God would take care of her and use her gift for good. This is infinitely more fruitful for the building of the Kingdom of God than the gift of someone's excess of money. God does not need our money, but we need to give it, be detached from it, and be ready and willing to give everything we have, all that we are, our entire livelihood to God. This is trust. This is a spiritual gift that will have far greater eternal ramifications for the salvation of souls than all the money in the world.

Reflect, today, upon the compliment Jesus pays to this poor widow. "She, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." Do you contribute your whole livelihood? Do you dedicate everything you have, all your energies and gifts, and all that you are to the service of God for His glory? We are called to give everything to God—not just a portion of our lives. Reflect upon how well you imitate this poor widow and seek to follow her holy example.

A reflection for the Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

www.mycatholic.life

PARISH NOTICES



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 10TH NOVEMBER ROLL OF HONOUR



Today at the 1030 Mass we are joined by the scouts and guides for the usual procession of flags. Please remember to leave the front few rows on the Sacristy side empty – it will be reserved for them (except for those with disabilities etc).

Please also leave the porch free for them to process in at the start of the service.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FROM FR ANTHONY:

- **Christmas Fair:** 16th Nov
- **Annual Mass for university academics:** 22nd Nov 6.30pm
- **Parish Retreat:** 30th Nov, 10 AM - 2 PM
- **Novena to the Immaculate Conception:** 29th Nov-7th Dec
- **Patronal Feast Day:** 7th Dec (joined by the Marion Group,CWA)
- **Night of Light:** 13th Dec
- Please mark your calendars and join us for these events!

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HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE

This week, we have a unique opportunity to join in prayer with the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, united in adoration to pray against the proposed assisted dying bill. We invite you to spend this hour in solidarity, lifting up our shared commitment to the sanctity of life.

The Holy Hour will begin at 5:30 pm (instead of the usual 6:00 pm) and will take place at the main altar, not in the Marian Chapel.

INCOME FOR OCTOBER 2024

Candles	43.46
Repair café	74.18
Donations	27.86
Tea & Coffee	88.83
Cake sale	114.90
DONA	245.84
Envelopes	177.00
Online Giving	239.00
Offertory	1508.44
Standing orders & DDs	3204.00
Total	5723.51

Special Collections

World Mission	503.07
Bamenda	864.12
CAFOD Fam Fast Day	730.47
Total	2097.66

CHRISTMAS FAIR

AN EVENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO ENJOY

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS, FACE PAINTING, REFRESHMENTS,
BRIC-A-BRAC, GAMES AND MUCH MORE...

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

2PM – 4PM

50p Entry (Under 12 Free)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Portswood Rd, Southampton SO17 3SB

RAFFLE TICKETS: Tickets are now available at the back of Church. Please return them by 16th November the latest.

RAFFLE DONATIONS: To make the Christmas Fair a success we are looking for many raffle prize items including Bottles; Cakes; Good Quality Gifts; these can be dropped off at anytime by leaving in the Church Porch.

CAKE SALE: Please note that the next cake sale also takes place on this date. Bring your cake donations to the church hall on the day between 9-11am together with a list of the ingredients (for those with allergies).

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

We are looking for families with children aged 7-14 to join our carol singing group to prepare some fun celebration songs for Christmas. We will have six rehearsals in the weeks running up to Christmas.

Practices will be held in the church on Tuesday afternoons between 4.30-5.30pm and led by our parish secretary and ex-music teacher, Cecilia.

The date of the first practice: 12th November, 4.30pm.

Parents will be welcome to stay and join in, we will see how it goes. All we ask for is commitment and consistent attendance and commitment all the way through to make it work. Being able to read music is not a requirement, but a good singing voice and willingness to perform would be beneficial.

Please email Cecilia to sign up:

office@immaculateconception.church

PASTORAL AREA POVERTY CARITAS MEETING

St Edmund's Hall at 6pm on Tuesday 12th November

This meeting is to discuss what poverty looks like in our Pastoral Area. Everyone is welcome if you feel you would be able to aid the discussions. Please invite anyone who may know the local area well or anyone you know involved in outreach work in the parish.

Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

NEWS



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES

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

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue465?e=34c55ac6ce>

Vocations Prayer Newsletter November 2024

<https://portsmouthvocations.org/so/e5PBSreGg?languageTag=en&cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af>

CONFIRMATION 2025

We are discussing the provision of confirmation across the Pastoral Area in Southampton and plan to publish an update soon. Those young people who are between the ages of 16 and 18 are particularly encouraged to fill in the linked form by the 18th November 2024. Link and QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/v5htVqW8iC>



NEW LECTIONARY

Online session for all parishioners to gain insight about the new lectionary which comes into use in Advent:

The session is on **Tuesday 19th November** and last one hour, **from 7 to 8 pm**, led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy.

If you wish to pose a question, please submit it in advance in writing to liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Registration for the session:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/7c70c8e9-c61e-4f43-8187-21aed22e9b61@of107169-67e0-4eaf-8428-9e9f05e974ab>



Stella Maris Seafarers Christmas Chocolate Appeal 2024

STELLA MARIS

We're planning to collect hundreds of chocolate Christmas presents for seafarers visiting our Southern Region ports in the days before Christmas. Stella Maris chaplains and ship visiting volunteers will go into ships to meet and support the crew, helping them feel they are not forgotten and much appreciated.

Suggested Chocolate Gifts



**Can you help us by donating chocolate gifts?
All donations can be left in the labelled box
in the church porch.**

Your gift may be the only present a seafarer receives this Christmas.

THE CLOSER TO CHRIST CAMPAIGN

'Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church'

In recognition of your great generosity, Bishop Philip Egan invites you to join him for the annual

Closer to Christ Mass of Thanksgiving.

When: 1st December 11.00am

Where: St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX (Please note that there is limited parking available at St Bede's Church. The Church is a 25- minute walk from Basingstoke Train Station.)

Light refreshments will also be made available in the Parish Hall, following the Mass.

To confirm your place at this celebration please RSVP by 17th November to closerchristcampaign@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 02392 007595



The Three Comings

*An Ignatian Preparation
for Advent
Supported by Fr Tom
Kleinschmidt*



**2-3PM ON SATURDAYS
STARTING FROM 23RD
NOVEMBER - 21ST DECEMBER
2024**

| ST BONIFACE PARISH |

Admission is free, but pre-registration is requested.

To sign up to this unique event email parents@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

The Southampton Churches
WINTER BEDS 2025
is back and we need volunteers!

The project starts in January to take people off the streets who are sleeping rough. Help them to be safe and warm this winter.

For more information email Laura@citylife.org.uk

SCAN HERE!

We need volunteers to help on different days for the Evening Shift, the Night Shift and the Breakfast Shift. You will help as part of a team and training and guidance is given. Notice on our boards or chat to Steve at Mass or on 07540229973..... Please help our Christians in Southampton care for the Homeless and troubled.

JOB VACANCY, CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER – CARITAS

Are you interested in supporting your local community? Caritas is recruiting a Community Development Officer based in Southampton and/or Havant parishes to help support people in need. This can be a part or full-time role, including flexible working. Please visit <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/> for more details and how to apply.