

2ND JULY 2023
13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

*“Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it”*
Matthew 10:39

**WEEKLY
INFORMATION
& UPDATES**

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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)

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu

Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)

University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)

Safeguarding Officer: Vacant Position

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 02 July	THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Vocations & Fr Martin Plunkett Brian Physick - Birthday (1 st July)
Mon 03 July	St Thomas	-	NO MASS	-
Tues 04 July	St Elizabeth of Portugal	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	-
Wed 05 July	St Anthony Zaccaria	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	-
Thur 06 July	St Maria Goretti	10.00 am	Mass	Lawrence & Luigiana Clegg RIP
Fri 07 July	Feria	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am	Eucharistic Adoration Rosary Mass	-
Sat 08 July	Our Lady on Saturday	10.00 am	Mass	Elia Mulenga RIP
Sun 09 July	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Margaret Davis RIP Vocations & Fr Martin Plunkett



READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1st Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11,14-16a

Psalms: 89:2-3,16-17,18-19

2nd Reading: Romans 6:3-4,8-11

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

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.

CAKE SALE NEXT SUNDAY 9TH JULY

In the Hall After 10.30 am Mass,
Please bring cake donations to the hall before Mass.

‘FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH’ IN THE CHURCH HALL

***This Friday 7th July 2023*.**



Refreshments, main course plus desert!

No entry cost, just a donation if you can for SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child).
All are very welcome.



PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK

Tues, Thurs, Fri, 9.30 am – 2.00 pm



We are collecting items for this year's summer fair. If you are able to donate items for any of the above, they will be gratefully received. Please bring them with you to Mass and leave them in the church porch.

Selfless Living

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." [Matthew 10:37-39](#)

Clearly, this saying is a play on words that is meant to make you pause and think. It's almost like a holy and sacred riddle, spoken by Jesus to get your attention and to communicate a very deep and foundational truth about how you are to live. Essentially, this saying teaches that those who live in a selfish, self-centered way do not accomplish their goal. The goal of those who are selfish is to elevate themselves with the thinking that this is what is best for them. But Jesus clearly points out that when you live selfishly, seeking to put yourself above others, you lose what is most important in life. You lose your very soul. On the contrary, if you live selflessly, putting others before you, it is in this act that you actually find your true purpose in life and fulfill yourself on the deepest level.

Think, for example, of Jesus. He is God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, existing for eternity in perfect union with the Father and the Holy Spirit. His soul radiates pure love. And for that reason, He chose to become human, suffer greatly and be killed. Was that fulfilling to our Lord? Most certainly. Why? Because His sacrifice went to the heart of Who He is. He is Love itself. And love is always self-giving. It is always fulfilling. It always seeks the good of the other. Love fulfills the lover when it is pure, holy, selfless and total. Jesus' sacrificial death on the Cross not only redeemed us, but it also manifested the Son of God's own perfect fulfillment and satisfaction in His human nature because His death was an act of pure love.

Sin confuses us. Selfishness especially clouds our thinking. As a result, it becomes difficult to clearly see that the way to fulfillment in life is by the complete and unwavering sacrifice of our lives given to others, in imitation of and in union with Jesus' perfect sacrifice. The moment that sin leads us to think first about ourselves, we begin to become blind to who we are and what makes us truly fulfilled.

Reflect, today, upon the divine mission you have been given to lose yourself for the sake of Christ, which is for the sake of true love. By loving God and others in this pure way, selflessly, you become who you are and who you were created to be. You find yourself only by choosing to lose yourself in this world. Ponder this deep mystery and believe it. Once you do believe it, commit to live sacrificially, casting aside every doubt, so that you will never hesitate to love everyone sacrificially. For in that radical act of selfless love, you will discover and become who you were created to be.

*A reflection for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
From <https://mycatholic.life>*

SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 2nd July – Peter's Pence

Peter's Pence is the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church, and for the relief of those most in need. Our offerings are destined to Church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. The practice of providing material support to those charged with preaching the Gospel is as old as Christianity itself.

NEXT SUNDAY 9th July – Stella Maris (Sea Sunday)

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is Sunday 9th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please give generously. Thank you.

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. PLEASE GIFT AID YOUR DONATION IF YOU ARE A TAX PAYER! The Parish Bank Account details are: Name: CDP, Immaculate Conception Church, Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account No: 00887995



RECENTLY DIED

Margaret Davis RIP Margaret, a former member of our parish died on Friday 2nd June. Her funeral will be on **Tuesday 11th July at 12**

noon at Immaculate Conception, with a reception into the church on Monday evening at 4.30 pm. Please remember Margaret and her family in your prayers.

Patrick Saunders RIP

Pat's funeral – Pat's body will be received into the church on Thursday 13th July at 4.00 pm and his **funeral will take place on Friday 14th July at 12.30 pm** followed by refreshments in the hall to which all are invited.

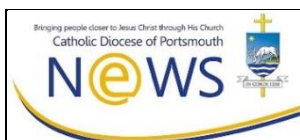
NEW FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023-24

Introductory session on Saturday 15th July at 10.45 am in the church. Please complete a form which can be found at the back of the church or online at

immaculateconception.church/_files/ugd/850ccc_fd9f86a4a734c6e8a4a45d0532e3e57.pdf

and return it to the parish office via Fr Anthony, Deacon Gerard or Mary Gobbi, preferably before 15th July.

Please note that in order to register, you should be attending Mass with your child, in this parish each Sunday and your child should be in year 4 or above on 1st September 2023.



THIS WEEK'S PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS

Activities, events, news and

job vacancies from around the Diocese.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue413?e=34c55ac6ce>