

**5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**  
**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**


*“You are the salt of the earth... . . . . . You are the light of the world.”*

*Matthew 5:13-14*


<p align="center"><b>Immaculate Conception Church</b>          (Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Reg Charity No: 1199568)          Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East          346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB          Tel: (023) 8055 5470          Website: <a href="http://www.immaculateconception.church">www.immaculateconception.church</a>          Email: <a href="mailto:office@immaculateconception.church">office@immaculateconception.church</a>          Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood</p>	<p align="center"><b>Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu</b>  <b>Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly</b>  <b>Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)</b>  <b>University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)</b>  <b>Safeguarding Officer: Pat Saunders</b>  <b>Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)</b>  <b>Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays</b>  <b>Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary</b></p>
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**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 05 Feb	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Muriel Thipthorpe RIP Janine Hunt – 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Mon 06 Feb	St Paul Miki & Companions	-	NO MASS	
Tues 07 Feb	Feria	9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	- Anna Zepler RIP
Wed 08 Feb	St Jerome Emiliani	10.00 am	Mass	Sabina Ayoka
Thur 09 Feb	Feria	10.00 am	Mass	-
Fri 10 Feb	St Scholastica	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Rosary Mass	-
Sat 11 Feb	Our Lady of Lourdes	10.00 pm	Mass	-
Sun 12 Feb	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Rem Treacy RIP Olive Cook – Birthday blessings

	<p><b>READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 58:7-10  <b>Psalm:</b> 111:4-9</p>	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 2:1-5  <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 5:13-16</p>
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**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.



**Growing in Faith**  
**Meets again this week on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
**7.30 pm – 9.00 pm in the hall**  
 What does Lent mean to me?  
*An opportunity for all to explore, question, discuss and grow in your relationship with God, wherever you are in your faith journey.*  
**ALL WELCOME!**

**PLEASE BRING IN LAST YEAR’S PALMS!**  
 Do you have any palms/palm crosses from last year’s Palm Sunday. Please bring them to the church and leave them in the porch so that they can be used to make ash for Ash Wednesday this year.

**PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK**  
 Tuesday – Friday, 9.30 am – 2.00 pm

**NEW REPAIR CAFÉ VENUE**  
**Coming to**  
**Immaculate Conception Church Hall**  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 10.30 am – 1 pm**  
 Do you have anything which you need help repairing? Most items tackled including, electrical items, sewing, computers, bikes, jewellery, etc etc.  
 Bring it along and have a cuppa and home made cake while you watch your repair being done.  
 Please see poster in the porch and hall for further dates and venues.

**HAPPY 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!!**  
**Best wishes to Jeanine Hunt for a very happy day.**  
 Jeanine has been a long standing parishioner here since the 1960s although for some years she has not been able to attend Mass and is now being cared for in a nursing home. If anyone who knew her would like to drop her a card, her postal address is 11 Ripstone Gdns, Highfield, and her daughter will ensure she gets it.

## The Light of the World

*“You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”* [Matthew 5:14-16](#)

We've all experienced a time when the lights went out and we were in darkness. In this case, if you were to light a candle and place it in the center of the room, its light would make quite a difference. One candle in a darkened room transforms that room, making it a more comfortable dwelling place.

Using that image, consider the first line in Jesus' metaphor above. "You are the light of the world." Try to see yourself as that single candle in the darkness. That is your mission. Just as a single candle can give light to an entire room, so you are capable of being a source of light for many others.

One of the primary missions we have all received in life is to allow the light of God's grace to "shine before others." The result of fulfilling this mission is that others will see our good deeds that were inspired by God, and they will, in turn, glorify the Father in Heaven. Thus, your mission of radiating the light of Christ for others results in God being praised and glorified.

This full statement of Jesus is especially helpful to consider when we struggle with pride. Pride is a way of pointing to ourselves. It's an act of selfishness by which we place ourselves in the spotlight as a way of trying to become the object of others' praise. But what Jesus tells us is that when we properly fulfill our role of being the light of the world, when we radiate the Light of Christ, others will be inspired not to praise us but rather to glorify God as He acts through us. This is quite a difference.

With that being said, the beautiful thing about God being glorified is that God often wants us to share in that glory. That means that if you were to do an act of charity for another, and they were deeply grateful to you and thanked you, their "thank you" is an act of glorifying God when it is understood that you acted out of a love of God. God is praised when we, His children, give and receive love and honor between each other on account of our faith.

Reflect, today, upon two things. First, think about those upon whom God has called you to shine His light. Who is it in your life who needs an act of love, charity, mercy, forgiveness or compassion? Commit yourself to becoming God's light for them in their darkness. Second, think about those who have shone the Light of Christ upon you. When this has happened, how did you respond? Hopefully your response was one of a gratitude that not only

returns love to the other but also glorifies God through your gratitude. Be the light of the world to a world in need and seek out that light as it shines brightly through others. This is the only way to step out of the darkness that constantly tries to pervade us.

*A reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A*  
*My Catholic Life, [www.mycatholic.life.com](http://www.mycatholic.life.com)*

### SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – Racial Justice

This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday. In his 2020 encyclical letter Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis reminded us of our vocation to "a fraternal openness that allows us to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person, regardless of physical proximity, regardless of where he or she was born or lives." This appeal assists the work of the Catholic Bishops' Conference in support of Racial Justice.

NEXT SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – No second collection

**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

### RECENTLY DIED:



#### Claire Campbell RIP

Very sadly died aged 50, on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. As part of a young family she was a regular parishioner her with her siblings and parents for many years. Her funeral will be held here on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 11.00 am.

#### Margaret Hallford RIP

A member of our parish until a few years ago when she was no longer able to come to Mass, died aged 89. Her funeral will be held here on 15<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30 pm.

Please remember their families in your prayers.

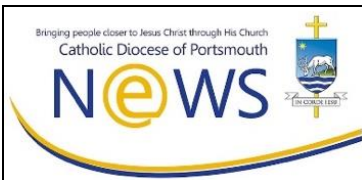
### HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE GROUP

For those who work or volunteer in the Health & Social Care sector, to enable members to discuss together common challenges and seek advice from one another. First meeting to take place in February. If you are interested, please email the parish office with your name, contact number and also stating if you are happy to be part of a Whatsapp group. This will then be passed on to the group organiser to contact you with further details.

### LOST PROPERTY

- Small green leather purse
- Brown patterned ladies woollen scarf
- Knitted lacey cream coloured ladies cardigan
- Black Ray-Ban Sunglasses in a hard black case

**These are waiting in the parish office for their owners!**



## PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE NEWS

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

locally and further afield.

[https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue395?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue395?e=[UNIQID])

To keep up to date with the news of the Diocese and the Bishop please follow us on:

- Facebook: @PortsmouthRC
- LinkedIn: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
- Twitter: @PortsmouthRC

The Diocesan website:

- <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk>

If you have news that you would like to share with the rest of the Diocese, please contact:

[communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### A GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY

- Are you 18-30, or do you know someone who is?
- Do you want to develop a wide range of skills including leadership while learning about global justice and inspiring others to use their faith in action?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, believes in equipping and inspiring young adults to contribute to a more just and peaceful world. Step into the Gap is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage.

Visit the CAFOD website for more information:

[cafod.org.uk/gapyear](http://cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

### RETREAT DAY

11<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30 am – 4.30 pm

At Verbum Dei Retreat Centre,

Nunnery Lane, Carisbrook, Isle of Wight.

#### “LOVE POURED OUT – BEING EUCHARIST FOR EACH OTHER”

Starting with coffee at 10.30, a light lunch provided by the community and we will end with tea and cakes. The cost is £20 for the day. For further information and to book a place please contact

Patricia (Trish) Yandell on 07835948435, or

Sr. Margarida on 07970083252 or

email [patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk).

For those travelling from the mainland we use the 9.00am vehicle ferry to East Cowes and return on the 18.00 ferry.

### SEEKING ACCOMMODATION.....

A room in a student house or a spare room with a family for a quiet, hardworking student parishioner, aged 19. On first year of Mechanical Engineering degree at Southampton University. Can provide an excellent reference. If you can help, please contact Rachel in the parish office.

### SHORT TERM ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

I work as a Physiotherapist for the NHS my is trying to source some short term accommodation for a Physiotherapist, shortly moving to Southampton from Nigeria to start working in our team. He is in his 30's & will be able to pay for his accommodation which could be a room in a house. Please contact Liz Ashdown tel 07900 643067 if you might be able to help. Thank you

### SOUTHAMPTON STREET PASTORS

For over 13 years our teams have been patrolling the streets of Southampton offering reassurance, safety and support through listening, caring and helping.

**Volunteers come from over 50 churches, giving 4-6 hours for a patrol only once a month** to show the love of Jesus in the City and suburbs in various ways, from the practical to the spiritual. We now have more patrols than ever going out at various times and to a variety of places. **With the growth and requests for patrols we are in need of more volunteers for night-time patrols, evening community patrols and for afternoon community patrols.**

To gain an insight into what it is to be a street pastor why not come on an observation with a patrol. To book up a convenient date just contact our office(details below)

You could also watch the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2IA8pBKilg>

Next Training session: Friday evening, 17<sup>th</sup> March

If you are interested in finding out more just get in contact with us in the office on 023 8033 3387 or by email, [southampton@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:southampton@streetpastors.org.uk), and we are happy to help.

### HELP MARRIAGES

**Would you like to improve communication in your marriage?**

Holidays, children and work can put stresses on relationships. **Retrouvaille** is a course that shows you new ways of dealing with them. Please use the following links to find out more. Next course starting in February.

[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

[Www.retrouvaille.ie](http://Www.retrouvaille.ie)



*No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lampstand where it shines for everyone in the house*