

7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me."  
John 14:6*

## WEEKLY INFORMATION & UPDATES

### Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB  
Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: [www.immaculateconception.church](http://www.immaculateconception.church)

Email: [office@immaculateconception.church](mailto: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:** Pat Saunders  
**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](http://www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur)

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 07 May	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Winifred McDonnell RIP Elizabeth Nurser RIP
Mon 08 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	-	No Mass	-
Tues 09 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	10.00 am	Mass	Deceased member of the Cole family
Wed 10 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	11.00 am	FUNERAL MASS	Maria Bibbo RIP
Thur 11 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	10.00 am	Mass	-
Fri 12 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	9.30 am 10.00 am	Rosary Mass	Daniel & Eboni's wedding
Sat 13 May	of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	-	No Mass	Margaret Murray
Sun 14 May	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Elizabeth Clearkin RIP Thanksgiving for Nariah's healing



#### READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Acts 6:1-7

**Psalm:** 32:1-2,4-5,18-19

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Peter 2:4-9

**Gospel:** John 14:1-12

#### 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.

#### TODAY - YOU ARE INVITED TO

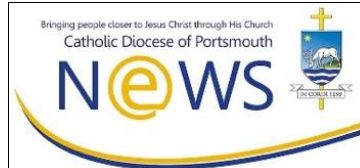
#### A RIGHT ROYAL PICNIC AT BASSETT VILLAGE GREEN

(weather permitting!)

A relaxing afternoon to celebrate a "crowning" moment in our history. Take a picnic and whatever you need to sit on. Please see Maria Maddocks if you have any queries

#### GARDENING

We have a volunteer to help with grass cutting around the property **BUT** we are **urgently** in need of someone to help with cutting back the hedges and bushes on a monthly basis, between March and October. If we can't get anyone, it will mean paying out for a contractor which we currently cannot really afford. If you could lend a hand with this your help will be very gratefully received! Please contact the parish office or let Fr Anthony, Deacon Gerard know as soon as possible.



#### THIS WEEK'S PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS

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

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue407?e=34c55ac6ce>

#### CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS PRAYER NEWSLETTER MAY 2023



<https://www.portsmouthvocations.org/so/49OV74gTJ?languageTag=en&cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af>

#### MONTHLY "FIRST FRIDAY LUNCHES"

**\*\*Starting on Friday 2nd June\*\***

**A notice is at the back of the Church, inviting those who are willing to lead the lunch to sign up, with another column for those who cannot help but are willing to provide a soup or a simple cake on one of the dates.** A charity of your own choice can be chosen or the parish fund for the poor.

#### PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK:

Tues, Weds, Thurs & Fri, 9.30 am – 2.00 pm

## A Troubled Heart

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" [John 14:1-2](#)

These consoling and encouraging words, spoken by Jesus to the Apostles at the Last Supper, come immediately after Judas left to betray Jesus and after Jesus told Peter, in the presence of the others, that Peter would deny Jesus three times before the cock crowed. As a result, the Twelve (now Eleven) would have been discouraged, especially Peter. Jesus senses this and says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled..."

Peter was told that he would soon commit a grave sin against Jesus. As we are later told, as soon as Peter committed these sins, he went out and wept bitterly. Perhaps, as he did, he would have recalled Jesus' words: "Do not let your hearts be troubled..."

Being tempted toward sin can be discouraging. But that can turn into a good thing. If we are not affected by our temptations, then we lack love for God. And if we give into those temptations and fail to experience sorrow, this is even worse. However, discouragement over our sins cannot remain; it must turn into its opposite, the virtue of hope. Hope will result from sin only when we hear and understand Jesus' promise, seen above.

Jesus not only tells the disciples not to be troubled, He also tells them why. Jesus promises them He will prepare a place for them in Heaven and will come to take them to that place in His Father's House, despite their failings. By believing, Peter and the other apostles will be able to dispel the initial discouragement they feel over their failings and turn back to God with the anticipation of Heaven.

Do you get discouraged by your sin? Begin by calling to mind any sin that you regularly struggle with. Habitual sin, especially, will lead to either sorrow, repentance and hope, or to a discouragement that ends in despair and the abandonment of virtue. Like Saint Peter, we must strive to weep bitterly over our sins. We must let our sins, and the temptation toward despair, become a motivation to regain hope, courage, and determination. This will only be possible if we always hear Jesus say to us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled..." We must sense His compassion and tenderness and allow that love to fill us with confidence that we will one day overcome all sin and be welcomed into the Father's House.

Reflect, today, upon any sin with which you regularly struggle. As you do, consider whether your discouragement leads to despair or hope. Hope does not come from your ability to overcome sin on your own. It comes from the compassion of our Lord and His promise to redeem you. If you do have a troubled heart, that is

good. It is the starting point for hope. Allow Jesus to lift your troubled heart and to point your eyes to Heaven.

A reflection for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year A  
My Catholic Life, [www.mycatholic.life.com](http://www.mycatholic.life.com)



### FUNERALS:

#### MARIA BIBBO

Died on 2<sup>nd</sup> April at home, aged 83, Maria's funeral will be held here on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 11 am

### SECOND COLLECTIONS:-

TODAY SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> May – No second collection

NEXT SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> May – Clergy Training

**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

### WORKING FOR THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH JOB VACANCIES

#### CHORAL DIRECTOR

- Full Time: 35 hours per week (part time would be considered)
- Fixed Term Contract (2 years)
- Salary: £26,000 to £28,000 per annum
- Based: At St. Edmund House, Portsmouth, with travel to schools
- Starting: September 2023
- Closing date 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Full details on this job and others can be found on the diocesan website at the following link:**

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

#### ASSISTANT PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

**St Joseph's and St Edmund's Parish, Southampton**

- Part time - Flexible, 15 hours per week
- Salary £12 per hour
- Closing date for applications: Weds 29th May 2023
- Interviews: Fri 2nd June 2023

Supporting life in a busy parish office, helping with secretarial services for the clergy, supporting day-to-day administration of the parish, sacramental registrations, phone and email correspondence.

Requirements: office experience, confident in use of MS Office 365, self-motivated, diplomatic, approachable, with good timekeeping and telephone manner.

For a job description, more information and an application, either use the link below or the QR code here.

<https://forms.office.com/e/VwQifW9Vie>



**LOST – BROACH** - Recently lost on the premises, most likely in the church. Very sentimental – have you seen it? If so, please hand in to the parish office asap. THANKS!