



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SOUTHAMPTON

MONTHLY BULLETIN

APRIL 2023

The Pope's prayer intention for April

For a culture of peace and non-violence:

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

Parish Notices

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASSES

Please join us in the hall for tea & coffee on:

- **SUNDAYS** after the 10.30 am Mass
- **And also TUESDAYS** after 10.00 am Mass

A friendly welcome awaits you.



CAKE SALES

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AFTER 10.30 AM MASS



Bakers always needed (shop cakes ok too!). Bring your cake donations to the church hall before the 10.30 am Mass on the first Sunday of each month, together with a list of the ingredients (for those with allergies).

Raising money for general Parish Funds.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass said for someone has died, who is alive, for a celebration, an anniversary or any other special intention:

- There are envelopes in the church porch on which you can complete your request and enclose any donation you would like to make to the parish priest. These can be handed to Fr Anthony or Deacon Gerard after Mass, posted into the presbytery or brought into the parish office.
- Alternatively, just contact the parish office by phone or e mail.
- Any donation you would like to make can be given either in cash or paid by bank transfer (details above) with the reference MI-(your surname)



PAYMENTS AND DONATIONS BY CARD

Many people don't carry much cash around these days, so just a quick reminder that we have a card machine in the church porch which is set up not only for the first and second collections, but also for payments for candles and the bookshop. It also Gift Aids your donations if you wish

MINISTERING TO THE SICK, HOUSEBOUND & THOSE IN HOSPITAL

If you are going into hospital, you have a long term illness or are housebound, or you know of someone in the parish who is in this situation, please do contact the parish to let Fr Anthony know, so that we can arrange for someone to visit and/or take Holy Communion to them on a regular basis.

BAPTISM

If you would like your child to be baptised, please introduce yourself to Fr Anthony or Deacon Gerard after Mass. You will need to also visit our website at www.immaculateconception.church and go to the 'Documents' tab and click on 'Forms' on the drop down list. Download a baptism registration form. This should be returned to the parish office and we will then contact you to make suitable arrangements.

BOOKSHOP

If you are looking for small religious items for yourself or perhaps for someone else as a gift or memento of a special event, take a look at our Church shop after Sunday Mass. We have various rosaries, crucifixes, pendants and chains, statues, cards, books, and more.

From time to time we will also run a stall in the church hall after Masses.
Please come and visit us!

REPAIR CAFÉ

@ Immaculate Conception Church Hall

Saturday 15 April from 10.30 till 1 pm.

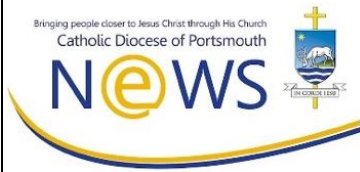
Do you have anything which you need help repairing?
Most items tackled including electrical, sewing, computers etc.

Bring it long and have tea/coffee & cake while you watch your repair being done.

(Unfortunately no jewellery or bike repairs on this occasion)



Diocesan Notices



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS

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

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

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

JOB VACANCIES WITH THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

Current Vacancies:

- Accounts Technician – Portsmouth
- Catholic Homecare Co-ordinator
- Head of Fundraising, Portsmouth
- Head of Communications, Portsmouth
- Estates Manager/Building Surveyor
- Various Diocesan school vacancies

For full details of these and other vacancies coming up in the near future, please see the job vacancy section of ENews (in the item above) or go to the following link on the Diocesan website

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/current-vacancies>

LOURDES PILGRIMAGES 2023

There are two options for pilgrimages to Lourdes this year

- **Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage.** 17 – 21 July 4 nights. Fly from Bournemouth
Hotel La Solitude from £799pp. Youth price £699 sharing (+ insurance)
This is a spiritual pilgrimage. All pilgrims stay in the same hotel
For information and bookings please contact
lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Tel: 07780 221 686
- **Catholic Association Pilgrimage.** 18 – 25 August 7 nights. Fly from Birmingham or Stansted
Various hotels are available. Pilgrims from Portsmouth Diocese usually stay in
Hotel Eliseo from £999pp. This year (exceptionally) the CA is pleased to offer a limited number of spaces for those who would like to stay in the Accueil Notre Dame as a supported pilgrim as well as helpers and nurses joining the pilgrimage, all will be sharing rooms - £500 pp. After a gap since 2019, this year the CA pilgrimage will again be offering the Accueil Notre Dame and a full service for those that are unable to stay in an hotel and require assistance.
For more details on how to book as an Assisted Pilgrim , or book one of the limited reduced price places, please contact Kath White:
lourdesadmin@catholicassocaation.co.uk Tel: 07799 268 069

I am happy to answer any queries and have a few booking forms for both pilgrimages.

Liz Bellamy

Other Notices

“Speak Lord your servant is listening”

A Quiet Retreat Day

SATURDAY, 13 MAY 2023, 09:45-16:00

Park Place Pastoral Centre

Winchester Road, Wickham, Fareham, PO17 5HA

Led by Patricia Yandell a lay missionary with the Verbum Dei Family.

Cost: £15 if you bring a packed lunch, £30 for a meal provided.

To book or for more information contact Patricia Yandell on 07835948435 or email patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk



Ahoy dear Parishioners.....

Announcing the **ROUND BRITAIN SAILING PILGRIMAGE**
Celebrating STELLA MARIS' 100+ years of service to Seafarers & Fishers

Please come and join local skipper Russ Fairman & Crew in the **launch event and bon voyage Mass**, celebrated by Fr Elijah Fru, at St Joseph's church in Southampton, at 11am on Saturday 29th April. Hospitality will be provided in the hall afterwards, hosted by Charles Stuart, Stella Maris Port Chaplain, followed by a stroll down to see the boat off from Ocean Village. This voyage of 2,200 miles over 10 weeks will stop in over 50 ports and holy sites around the UK, with as many crew changes, eventually returning to Portsmouth for a closing celebration at the Cathedral on Sunday 9th July. Parishioners are welcome to take part in the sailing, or any of the shoreside Gatherings - for more details, go to <https://sailingpilgrimages.co.uk/stella-maris/> To apply for a sailing slot, please email sailing.pilgrimages@gmail.com To join a Gathering, please email info@stellamarismail.org



Light of Truth

Live Catholic Formation for Everyone

The Dominican Sisters are offering the following courses for adults and catechists after Easter. Join others online to discover more about the treasure of our Catholic Faith. All the courses are free (donations gratefully received!).

BAPTISM - Anchoring you in New Life: 6 sessions, during the Easter season, to (re)discover the meaning and rite of our baptism in the light of our faith.

This course is especially useful for parents, catechists who offer baptism preparation, but is also open to everyone who wants to learn more about the meaning of their own baptism.

Every **Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.00 pm** on Zoom, **beginning on 18 April.**

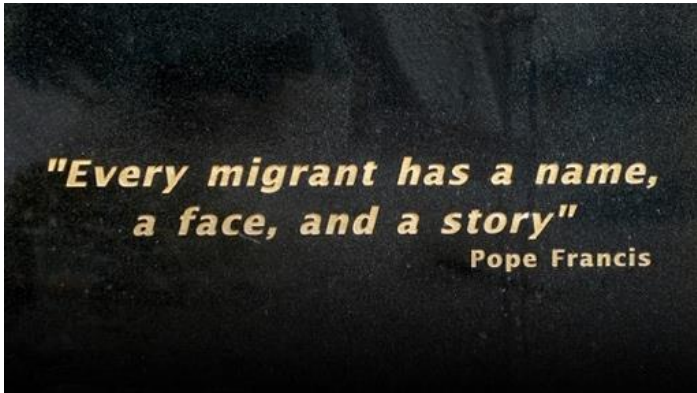
Register here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErcu6urj8uHtBnuhuYKgHuaci3eCA-_yJQ

CATECHISTS training: 5 sessions to help catechists talk about God, Jesus, salvation, the human person and the Church to adults, children and young people.

Every **Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.00 pm** on Zoom, **beginning on 20 April.**

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZooc--qrjosHdboj3XE5TtV5O5Ylem1JpB3>



**"Every migrant has a name,
a face, and a story"**
Pope Francis

LOVE THE STRANGER

This new document from the Department for International Affairs, presents a Catholic response to refugees and migrants.

The Illegal Migration Bill will soon come before the House of Commons seeking to make provision for the removal of those who have arrived in the UK in breach of immigration control. On behalf of the Bishops Conference, Bishop Declan Lang, Chair of the Department for International Affairs, and Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees provide the foreword to 'Love the Stranger'.

“Everyone who makes a dangerous journey across the Channel to build a better life here has a name, a face, and a story. People are driven from their homes by poverty, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, or other factors that prevent their flourishing. Many have links to the UK or family members already living here. Yet, far too often, there are no safe routes open to them. While we all wish to end dangerous Channel crossings, this new legislation treats migrants and refugees as a problem to be solved rather than brothers and sisters towards whom we have responsibilities. Establishing more safe routes, and genuinely understanding people’s individual circumstances are essential to meeting these. As Christians we call for the human person, made in the image and likeness of God, to be put at the heart of public policy.”

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/love-the-stranger/>



St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School

SPACES AVAILABLE

If you would like your child to go to a Catholic Secondary school, their chances of getting in can be considerably higher if they go to a Catholic 'Feeder' primary school as they will be positioned higher on the admissions criteria than those who do not.

St Swithun Wells is a wonderful Catholic Primary School in Chandler's Ford, close to Southampton and we currently have some spaces. It is an excellent option for those who may be looking to move their children into Catholic primary education.

A Catholic School is unique in its ability to offer children the chance to learn but also discern. At Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School, the children have a high-quality education which includes teaching by specialist music teachers and sports coaches. The outcomes for all children are strong and every child is treated as an individual, being nurtured to allow them to flourish. This fulfills our key scripture from Isaiah; 'I have called you by your name, you are mine.' The school has extensive grounds which enable the children to understand and appreciate more about the gift of creation during science and geography lessons. Our children live out our Catholic values by reaching out to the local community by making and delivering cards, singing for residents in several care homes, inviting neighbours to tea parties, collecting food for the local food bank and organizing charity events. Where there are a number of children from specific areas, minibus transport can possibly be offered.

A Catholic education is everything a child would get in a state school but so much more. The ethos of a Catholic school is special and helps children to develop, grow and live out their faith in a truly caring and supportive environment.

If you would like to visit St Swithun Wells, to discover for yourself what we can offer, please contact the admin office on 02380 266210 and arrange a tour.

Dear Friends

In June I will be making bandages to be sent to Ukraine and I am happy to show anyone interested , how to make them. These will be loaded into the Ambulances of the Trident Ambulance Project out of Southampton to Ukraine This project has been running since the war began. One brave Ukrainian man called Andrew, who was already living here with his family, set it up. There are a few other people working on it.

Pre-loved 4x4 pickup trucks are chosen for the project and these are prepared for their new use. We get as many Medical supply items as possible loaded and he drives them to Poland first, picking up more supplies and then handing them over in Ukraine. By giving them directly to the Medical Corps, it guarantees that the mafia don't intercept and steal them. He makes his way back to his family in Southampton , goes back to work and after two weeks rest , the process begins again. The project runs on donations and the sales of scrap aluminium cans etc. Trident now delivers to the Polish border as advised and does handover there. Am hoping to take one out in June , if possible.

Meanwhile , the work of making Bandages goes on all over the City. Its a great way to do something positive and help save lives.

Thank you.
Mike Drain .



Some of the 30 ambulances, Trident has taken to Ukraine.



PARISH INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest	Fr Anthony Chiatu
Parish Deacon	Dcn Gerard Dailly
Parish Secretary	Rachel Brady
Address	346 Portswood Road, Portswood Southampton SO17 3SB
Parish phone no	023 80555470
E mail	office@immaculateconception.church
Website	www.immaculateconception.church
Parish office open hrs	Tuesday – Friday 9.30 am – 2 pm
Safeguarding Rep	Patrick Saunders (contact via parish phone no)
Hospital Chaplaincy	Tel 023 81208517
Regular Mass times (Check newsletter for occasional variations)	Monday No Mass Tues- Sat 10 am Sunday 8.30 am & 10.30 am
Confession times	Saturdays, 10.30 am
Hall Bookings	Contact the parish office – details below
Facebook	Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood
Bank details for payments and donations:	A/c Name: CDP Immaculate Conception Southampton Sort Code: 30-93-04 A/c No: 00887995
Registered Charity No	1199568