



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 – THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.” Mark 13,26-27

**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](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)**  
**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](http://www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur)**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 17 November	<b>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Anne Broderick special intention Jim & Kathleen Earl RIP
Mon 18 November	Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul, Rome		NO MASS	
Tues 19 November	Feria	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	Lorance Perera RIP
Weds 20 November	Feria	10.00 am 6pm	Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Lorance Perera RIP
Thurs 21 November	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00 am	Mass	
Fri 22 November	St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am 6.30 pm	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass Mass (Academics)	Cecilia Randall RIP
Sat 23 November	St Clement I, Pope, Martyr	10.00 am	Mass	
Sun 24 November	<b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass (Youth & Children's)	Relations of White family RIP Socorrina Rodrigues – birthday

## READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY



**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Daniel 12:1-3  
**Psalm:** 15(16):5,8-11  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Hebrews 10:11-14,18  
**Gospel:** Mark 13:24-32

**SECOND COLLECTIONS: No second collections**

## NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH

**Tues 19<sup>th</sup>** Tea & Coffee after 10 am service – parish hall  
**RCIA Course** – 7.30-9 pm in the parish hall  
**Wed 20<sup>th</sup>** Adoration for students and anyone else who  
 would like to join us – 6-7 pm in the Lady Chapel  
**Thur 21<sup>st</sup>** Caritas activity group– 10.30am  
**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>** SOU and Solent Uni Academics Event – 6.30pm  
**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>** FHC session – 11am  
**Sun 24<sup>th</sup>** Coffee and tea - after mass in the parish hall  
**Choir Practice** 11.30 am in the church. Anyone  
 welcome to join.  
**Baptism – Ivy Wilde 4 years** – 12.30pm

## World Day of the Poor

Sunday 17 November 2024 is the eighth World Day of the Poor, with the theme from the Book of Sirach, “The prayer of the poor rises up to God” (Sir 21:5). The poor hold a privileged place on God’s heart. He knows the suffering of his children because he is an attentive father and as a father, God is “impatient” until he has rendered justice to them. This Sunday challenges us to listen to the prayer of the poor and become aware of their presence and needs. A message from Pope Francis can be found here: <https://bit.ly/4ewNOQF> For more information visit <https://caritasportsmouthdiocese.org.uk>

## THE TRIBULATIONS TO COME

*Jesus said to his disciples: "In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken." Mark 13:24-25*

The "tribulation" of which our Lord speaks, refers to a great persecution of the Church and of those with faith. Regarding this tribulation, the Catechism of the Catholic Church states:

Before Christ's second coming the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers. The persecution that accompanies her pilgrimage on earth will unveil the "mystery of iniquity" in the form of a religious deception offering men an apparent solution to their problems at the price of apostasy from the truth. (#675).

Is this "final trial" happening today? Though it is impossible to apply Jesus' prophecy and the Catechism's teaching to one specific moment in time, the fact remains that this trial and tribulation will take place. That is for certain. But how and when it will take place we do not know. It might be that it already has taken place or that it is taking place right now. Only God can properly interpret these prophetic words.

With that said, this final trial and "mystery of iniquity" does take place in all of our lives in various ways. When we devote ourselves to the love and service of God, we can be certain that our faith will be tested and that persecution will be experienced in one way or another. Knowing this, however, should not frighten us. On the contrary, it was spoken by our Lord to prepare us and to help us endure whatever trials we experience in life. Jesus' words must instill hope within us when we endure the suffering caused by evil.

Jesus also said that when we see persecutions, trials and tribulation, we must "know that he is near, at the gates." In other words, the greater the suffering one endures for their faith, the more present God is. He is there, at the gate of your heart, waiting for you to run to Him in trust and hope.

As we approach the end of our current Church year, most of our readings at Mass will focus upon the end times. We will read about Jesus' glorious return in glory, the end of the world, and the establishment of His permanent Kingdom as Heaven and earth are united as one. It could take place today or tomorrow, or it might not take place for thousands of years. But it will happen. On that day, the day of the final judgment, the only thing that will matter is our fidelity to God. For that reason, we must daily strive to live as if that day were today. We must diligently prepare for that day and live for that glorious moment alone. If life is easy right now, we should work to be more selfless and sacrificial so as to be prepared. If life is challenging right now, we must enter those challenges with hope and trust, uniting every suffering to Christ's sufferings as a sacrifice of love.

Reflect, today, upon Jesus' prophecy that "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken." As you do, know that these are words spoken not only to the Church as a whole, but also to you. Jesus wants you to know that any suffering and tribulation you endure, every "darkening of the sun" or any way that you feel "shaken" are opportunities for you to turn to God in trust. Invite our Lord into these experiences and know that they are signs of His closeness to help purify you and prepare you for the glorious day of His return.

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

[www.mycatholic.life](http://www.mycatholic.life)

## PARISH NOTICES

### UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### FROM FR ANTHONY:

- **Annual Mass for university academics:** 22<sup>nd</sup> 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!

### ANNUAL MASS FOR UNIVERSITY ACADEMICS

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 6.30pm



**The Annual Mass for University Academics will start with a mass at 6.30pm – everyone is welcome to attend this.**

There is a gathering in the hall for **academic staff** from 7-8.30pm with light refreshments, participants are invited to bring a small contribution of food to share.



**PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE  
E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES**  
Activities, events, news and job  
vacancies from around the Diocese.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue466?e=34c55ac6ce>

### 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](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Registration for the session:**

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

### 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>



### 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.

### Vocations Prayer Newsletter November 2024

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

### INVITATION FOR CONSULTATION

St Anne's Catholic School are consulting on their admission arrangements for 2026/27. The consultations will run to 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024. The school welcomes views from any interested parties. In giving views, please state whether you are a parent/carer of a student (and of which school), a local resident, a member of school staff or any other interested party. More details: <https://st-annes.uk.com/about-us/news/44/consultation-admissions-policy-2026-2027>

### 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](mailto: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.

### Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection

An invitation to all Diocesan staff, Parish staff & volunteers to spend a day away from the desk for some prayer, talks and reflections during Advent...



Three P's of Advent:

**Pause | Presence | Prayer**

Led by Sister Hyacinthe from the Dominican Sisters



*Time to reflect on the importance of recommitting ourselves to pause and listen to God, to be a compassionate presence to others and deepen our habit of prayer. The day will include tea & coffee, mass led by Bishop Philip Egan, followed by a hot lunch.*

**Wednesday 4th December 9:30 - 14:30**  
**St Peter's Church Pastoral Centre, Winchester**

Tickets can be booked here:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/advent-day-of-prayer-and-reflection-tickets-1006759704377>

# CSAN DOMESTIC ABUSE ALLIANCE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE  
ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN 2024

Recently, the National Police Chiefs' Council published their findings, estimating that 2 million women are victims of violence perpetrated by men each year across the UK. The Home Secretary has described the levels of violence against women and girls as a national emergency.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, together with Safe in Faith, hosts the Domestic Abuse Alliance, and we invite you to join us online on November 18th to discuss this national emergency and launch our call-to-action across the Catholic community in response to the Pope's call to 'act immediately, at all levels'.

[https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdeqtriguGtQo6idxRsMow3EuDE4jl72m#/registration](https://uso2web.zoom.us/join/https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdeqtriguGtQo6idxRsMow3EuDE4jl72m#/registration)

## ACCOMPANYING OTHERS ON THEIR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



Liza Nahajski and our Accompaniment Team invite you to join some new standalone dip-in Sessions on Accompaniment via Zoom, on Monday evenings, to introduce some key principles of accompaniment. You can come to one or more sessions on Monday evenings beginning at 7pm:

- Monday 18th November: **Know Your Own Journey to Accompany Others.**  
This is a reflective session on our response to God over time and the unique journey of each person.  
Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/know-your-own-journey-to-accompany-others-tickets-1005062066697?aff=oddttdtcreator>
- Monday 2nd December: **Good Conversations to Accompany Others**  
We explore how listening conversations can help others to grow closer to Jesus Christ.  
Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/good-conversations-to-accompany-others-tickets-1005062618347?aff=oddttdtcreatorrite>

For more information email:  
[lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

Unite in prayer and compassionate action to  
oppose **assisted suicide**

Attempts are being made in parliament to legalise assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying. This would undermine the **sanctity and dignity** of human life.

*Act Now!*



SCAN ME

Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR code to visit the Bishops' Conference website.

There you will find resources to help you **contact your MP**, read the reasons why we oppose assisted suicide, explore FAQs, and more.

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales  
39 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1BX

## ASSISTED DYING BILL UPDATES

On 29th November, there will be a debate in parliament about legalising assisted dying in this country for the terminally ill (those with six months or less left to live).

While MPs consider the proposed bill, the Bishops have asked Catholics to pray, write to their MP, and become better informed.

The poster above signposts you to some of the resources available (link also included below) and we compiled further resources for you to inform yourself.

### The proposed bill:

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/59-01/0012/240012.pdf>

### The Bishops' Conference website (with many further links)

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/>

### Bishop Philip's pastoral letter:

[BoP-PL39-301024-Assisted-Suicide.pdf](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/boP-PL39-301024-Assisted-Suicide.pdf)

### The Bishops' Collective statement:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-statement-assisted-suicide-nov24/>

### Link to an 'Email your MP tool':

<https://righttolife.org.uk/ASthreat>

### Link to a template email:

<https://bit.ly/3UTuqGF>

### Link to a blog from CTS Books on this topic:

<https://www.ctsbooks.org/what-does-the-catholic-church-teach-about-assisted-suicide/>