

19th September 2021

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all"

Mark 9:35

Immaculate Conception Church

Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East
346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB

Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: www.immaculateconception.church

Email: office@immaculateconception.church

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood

Twitter: @icportswood

Parish Priest: Fr Antony Gatt

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)

University Chaplain: Sr Valentina Stilo (07983 883377)

Safeguarding Officer: Vacant position

Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)



Confessions: Saturdays, 10.30 am (after Mass)

Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

(currently available for regular bookings only)

ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT

www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Mass Times	Mass details & intentions	
Sun 19 Sept	TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00 am 5.30 pm	- -	 SUNDAY'S READINGS 1ST Reading: Wisdom 2:12,17-20 Psalm: 53:3-6,8 2nd Reading: St James 3:16-4:3 Gospel: Mark 9:30-37 
Mon 20 Sept	St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions	-	No Mass	
Tues 21 Sept	St Matthew	10.00 am	†Kate O'Shea RIP	
Wed 22 Sept	Feria	10.00 am	†Denis & Naomi Philpot RIP	
Thur 23 Sept	St Pio of Pietrelcina	2.30 pm	FUNERAL – Sean O'Donnell	
Fri 24 Sept	Our Lady of Walsingham	10.00 am	Holy Souls	
Sat 25 Sept	1 ST MASS OF SUNDAY	10.00 am	†Martin Pearson RIP	
Sun 26 Sept	TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00 am 5.30 pm	†Steve White RIP †Clementina Adebayo RIP	
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION <i>My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever.</i> Amen				
SECOND COLLECTIONS:-- TODAY, SUNDAY 12 th SEPTEMBER – Home Missions NEXT SUNDAY 19 th SEPTEMBER - SVP				

The Parish Bank Account details are:
Name: PRCDTR Immaculate Conception Church
Sort Code: 30-93-04
Account No: 00887995

For donations please give a reference followed by your gift aid number if you donate in this way. e.g:
GEN = General Fund (offertory collection),
ERF = Emergency Relief Fund

My dear Friends:

On behalf of the Faith Community of the Immaculate Conception, I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Anastasia and her multiple, Joyful Helpers for organising and facilitating our parish Fun Day! Our gardeners did a spectacular job on the gardens; our chefs arranged a delicious array of food; and, our Games' Organisers brought great joy and laughter to all our families. You are all truly wonderful May the Lord bless and reward your hard work.

Fr. Antony



TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS

Please join us for refreshments after the 10 am Masses on Saturdays and Sundays (to take place outside for now, weather permitting in the presbytery garden). IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP SERVE TEA AND COFFEE PLEASE LET US KNOW!

PARISH OFFICE HOURS NEXT WEEK: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.30 am – 4.30 pm

A REFLECTION ON THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

Loving Those in Need

Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

Mark 9:36-37

What is it about the image of a child that helps Jesus illustrate an important point? The answer to this question must be understood as a contrast between one who is like a child and one who holds a worldly view of greatness.

A child is one who is poor, dependent, humble and in need. A child cannot take care of his/her own needs. Rather, a child needs the care of parents. So it is with us in our relationship with God.

We are not considered great by being independent, powerful, well respected, successful, etc. This is a worldly view of greatness. The Apostles, in this passage, were arguing about who was the greatest. Jesus, in pointing to a child, shows that greatness is not about what you accomplish or the like; rather, greatness is found in becoming dependent upon Christ. Additionally, it is found in seeking out those who are in need (as a child is in need of care) and offering the love and care others need. It's a call to compassion and concern for the poor and needy among us.

Reflect, today, upon whether you are ready and willing to reach out to those in need among you. Who are they? What is their need? Do you seek them out and offer love and support? Doing this is what will make you truly great in the eyes of God.

Lord, may I seek You in the poor, the brokenhearted, the sinner and all those in need. Please fill my heart with compassion and concern for others. Jesus, I trust in You.

A reflection for 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
My Catholic Life (www.mycatholic.life)

ASSISTED DYING BILL

This October, an 'Assisted Dying' Bill will be debated in the House of Lords. If successful it will allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live, assistance to commit suicide. The Catholic Church teaches that this represents a crime against human life, we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The Bishops therefore urge you to **PRAY** this Bill is defeated, **WRITE** to Peers and MPs expressing concern about this proposed legislation and **SHARE** our resources and those of our allies, in the weeks ahead with family and friends, especially via social media. Guidance on how to write to politicians can be found here: parliament.uk/get-involved/contact-an-mp-or-lord/ Resources, which will be updated in the weeks ahead, can be found on the Bishops Conference of England and Wales website here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/life-issues/> You can read more information about this issue here: <https://mailchi.mp/cbcew/opposing-the-assisted-dying-bill-2021?e=d8f421addf>

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS COURSE

20th and 26th October, 7.30 pm in the church for all who have expressed an interest.

TAKING COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

2nd November, 7.30 pm in the church

A course for all involved in this ministry

STEWARDS NEEDED TO HELP WITH OCCASIONAL FUNERALS AND BAPTISMS ON WEEKDAYS

We are very short of stewards for the above weekday events. Could you provide some occasional help? If so, please talk to Fr Antony or contact the parish office.


PARKING IN BELVEDERE ROAD AND CHURCH CAR PARK EMERGENCY ELECTRICITY WORKS

Please be advised that for the next 2 weeks, **Kent Road is closed at the junction with Portswood Road, next to the church**. To access parking along Belvedere Road or the car park behind the church you will need to turn into Belvedere Road, further up Portswood Road and drive through the Industrial Estate.

ST ANNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN MORNING/EVENING

Wednesday 29th September 2021,

9 – 11 am & 6 – 8 pm



St Anne's is an outstanding 11-18 state funded Catholic school for girls, with a mixed sixth form, in the heart of Southampton. Places are open to all families seeking a school with a strong Catholic ethos. The school has been placed in the top 10% of all schools nationally in recent years and is one of the highest performing school in Hampshire. The Open morning gives parents the opportunity to see the school on a normal working day and talk to their student guides as they tour the school. The Open evening includes the opportunity to tour the whole site, take part in activities in the specialist areas and talk to subject specialists and student leaders. We remain Covid conscious and therefore, unlike previous years, we will be asking families to book a time slot to visit for whichever open event they choose to attend, to manage the flow of visitors to the site and ensure a safe and comfortable experience for all.

Bookings can be made via the links which can be found on our website: www.st-annes.uk.com and below:


Open morning (9-11am)

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/169787134891

Open Evening (6-8pm) www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/169707272019

ST GEORGE CATHOLIC COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

Thursday 7th October, 5.30 – 8.00 pm



Parents considering a place for their children at St George Catholic College will have the opportunity to look around our classrooms, meet teachers and discover what makes an education at St George so sought after. We ask please, that all adults wear a face covering during their visit, except those who are exempt, so that everyone stays safe. Full details will be published shortly.

PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue335?e=34c55ac6c>

