



The Catholic Church in Gosport

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Regd Charity No: 246871/2



St Columba's, Nobes Avenue; St Mary's, High Street; St Joseph's, Anns Hill Rd

Parish Priest: Peter Glas Parish Administrator: Doug Savege
Maryhouse, 32 High Street Gosport PO12 1DF. Tel: Gosport (023) 92580119
Parish Website: www.gosportcatholics.org.uk
Email: ccig@btinternet.com

15th/16th August 2009 – THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

Sunday readings: Year 2 (B); Weekdays: Year I; Prayer of the Church: Week 4

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 15th	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Louise Pollett (Health)
SUNDAY 16th	9.15am	St. Joseph's	People of the Parish
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Ella Etheridge (Intentions)

There will be no Confessions on Saturdays at St Mary's during August. However, Fr Tony Day will be available after weekday Masses to hear Confessions if required.

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST 17th – 21st AUGUST

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	of the day		No service	
Tue	of the day		No service	
Wed	of the day	Rosary Paul Leathem RIP	6.30pm 7pm	St Mary's St Mary's
Thu	St Bernard	Doreen Hobbs RIP	10am	St Columba's
Fri	St Pius X		No service	

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note there will be no service in St Mary's this coming Tuesday (18th) as work is to be carried out inside the church. The church will remain closed on Monday and Tuesday. The parish Office will be closed on Tuesday and also on Friday. Thank you.

This Sunday we welcome Derek Fry again who will be playing the organ at the 11am Mass in the absence of our music group.

The parish offerings last weekend amounted to £1111.12p inc gift-aid. Thank you.

PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL: All sick parishioners are prayed for at Mass. However, to include a person in this bulletin please contact Doug in the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED: please pray for those who have died recently, and all who are being remembered at this time: *see the names on the front sheet.*

PRAYER BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: At St Columba's on **Thu 20th Aug** after 10am Mass until 12 noon. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 22nd Aug** from 10am – 1pm. The duty Supervisors will be: Tressie Heather & Eddie Watson 10 -11am; Chris Beevers & Terry Mathews 11am – 12pm; Norman & Sylvia Haskell 12 – 1pm.

ST THÉRÈSE'S RELICS AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL: A small leaflet detailing the significance of relics for Catholics is available in all churches. Please do take one home with you. The back of the leaflet details the order of services for **16th/17th Sep** when St Therese's relics will be in the cathedral. Fr Peter proposes to lead a mini parish pilgrimage to visit the relics at 5pm on **Wed 16th Sep** which will include the Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Crispian at 7.30pm. Fr Peter will come back to Gosport after the Mass before returning to the cathedral in time to lead our pastoral area liturgy at **3am** on **Thu 17th**. Everyone is welcome to join him for one or both events. Please note, there will be no Rosary or Mass in St Mary's on **Wed 16th Sep** and no Mass or Exposition in St Columba's on **Thu 17th Sep**.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: in St Mary's Church on **Fri 4th Sep** from 10.30am (tea and coffee from 10am in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall). The day will be led by Fr Peter and include the opportunity for Confessions followed by Mass at 12 noon. All are very welcome to come along and enjoy a day of spiritual nourishment.

PRAYER GROUP MEETING: the next meeting of the Prayer Group for people across the Solent Pastoral and Portsmouth Areas will be on **Thu 10th Sep** in Our lady of Walsingham Church, Portchester at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come and pray together even if you did not attend previous prayer meetings.

CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: Bishop Kieran Conry will celebrate Mass for the Association in Arundel Cathedral on **Sat 5th Sep** at 11.30am.

CELEBRATE SOUTHAMPTON – FAITH AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE

FAMILY: At St Mary's College, Bitterne Park on the weekend of **26/27 September**. Guest Speakers include: David Payne, John Vaughan-Neil, Steve Murray and David Matthews. Drama from Steve Murray and various local youth groups. Variety of workshops and seminars as well as a full programme of activities for children and young adults. For more information visit www.celebrateconference.org or telephone Peter and Lynda Szymanski on 023 8029 2058.

THE OLD TESTAMENT IN THE NEW: A study day given by Kathleen O'Gorman (Senior Lecturer in Theology and Religious Studies at St Mary's College, Twickenham) on **Sat 19th Sep** at the Catholic Bible School, Nutbourne, from 10am to 3.30pm. Prior booking is helpful on 01243 371766. Suggested donation is £15, payable on the day. All are welcome.

CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY AND CLIMATE JUSTICE MASS: At St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX on **Sat 12th Sep** 10.30am until 3.30pm. All Cafod supporters are welcome to come along and hear about Cafod's work in Bangladesh and Ethiopia and about upcoming plans for Harvest Fast Day. To book a place please email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or call 01252 329385.

MBETTA: The Mbetta Committee met last week and is arranging to forward a further £1500 to sponsor some children through their schooling (primary and secondary) for a further year. Thank you to everyone who has donated funds for this cause during the last school year. Fr Julius, Parish Priest in Mbetta, assures us all of his prayers and those of his parishioners. Please do pray for our brothers and sisters in Mbetta, their needs are great and they do appreciate our prayers as well as our support. Shortly Libby Beasley will be arranging a plant sale at her home and all proceeds will also go to help meet the educational needs of some of the poorest children. Details will follow shortly. Thank you once again for your support.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 19th Sep	Cafod's <i>Renew the Face of the Earth</i> – A half day for Confirmation Catechists – Winchester
Sat 26th Sep	<i>Day of Prayer</i> - Heath Lodge, Trampers Lane, Nth Boarhunt

MESSAGE FROM FR PETER: I will soon be away leading a youth pilgrimage to Medjugorje, followed by a private retreat and then my summer holiday. During my absence our Parish Administrator, Doug Savege, will be in charge of things. As on previous occasions, Fr Tony Day has kindly agreed to celebrate all Masses and will be available for spiritual and sacramental needs. Please help them to ensure that parish life continues as normal in all areas. Thank you.

MARY'S FEAST IS OUR FEAST

Today's feast shows us the crowning of God's plan for human salvation in the person of Mary. It is her feast but it is also ours, since what we see here is the fruition of what it means to be 'brought to life in Christ'. We celebrate not only the exaltation of one unique human being but the exaltation of the entire human race in Christ. Mary's song, beloved of liberation theology, points to a world where all things are reconciled to God and where at last the scale of values within human society is put right: the poor and hungry are satisfied, the downtrodden and humble are brought to the fullness of human dignity.

This is the song of all humanity rejoicing in its restoration and fulfilment. On this feast day what we see in Mary is what each of us can hope for in the risen Christ. Paul speaks of Christ doing away with every sovereignty, authority and power. Here we see all human power plays reversed. The enthronement of the ego, the struggle for possession and domination is something that casts a shadow over all our relationships, with one another and with the earth itself.

In Mary's assumption and in her triumphant song at the visitation we see what it means that all Christ's enemies are put under his feet, the last of which is death. The assumption draws a full circle between the annunciation and the fulfilment of time. The virgin of Nazareth, uncertain of her worthiness and of God's power asks how the great miracle of the incarnation can come about, and is promised that she will become God's *shekinah* or dwelling-place. This female word describes God's abiding presence within her and within all who make a home in themselves for her Son.

(From the Pastoral Review by Gemma Simmonds CJ, Lecturer in Ecclesiology and Spirituality at Heythrop College, University of London.)