



# 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

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**16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010 – SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

Sunday readings: Year 3 (C); Weekdays: Year II; Prayer of the Church: Week 2

## **CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY**

<b>SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	St. Columba's	People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Les Savege RIP
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Thanksgiving (Nwokora Family)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's on Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 12 – 1pm.  
Please note there will be no Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan  
due to the half-day of prayer in Fareham. (See inside for details)**

## **WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> JAN**

<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Liturgy</u></b>	<b><u>Intention</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Church</u></b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>of the day</b>			No service
<b>Tue</b>	<b>of the day</b>	Bill Cliffe RIP	10am	St Mary's
<b>Wed</b>	<b>of the day</b>	Rosary	6.30pm	St Mary's
		Victims of euthanasia	7pm	St Mary's
<b>Thu</b>	<b>St Agnes</b>			No service
<b>Fri</b>	<b>of the day</b>			No service

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We will resume taking Holy Communion under both kinds on the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Feb along with the rest of the Solent Pastoral Area. Eucharistic Ministers should make themselves available when possible until the new rotas are issued.**

**The Children's Liturgy at St Mary's will resume this Sun 17<sup>th</sup> January.**

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: SUN 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH - GALA EVENING AT THE KINGS THEATRE, SOUTHSEA ON BEHALF OF RETURN TO ROMANCE.**

## 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 Mary's on **Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Jan** after 10am Mass until 11.30am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Pat Miles. The following week the duty Minister will be Ellen Notley. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan** from 10am – 1pm. Duty Supervisors will be: Ellen Notley & Tressie Heather 10 - 11am; Bill & Mo Feltham 11am – 12pm; Anna Oliver & Archie McCormick 12 – 1pm. **Please note there will be no Exposition on Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan due to the half-day of prayer in Fareham. (See below for details)**

**HALF-DAY OF PRAYER:** for the Solent Pastoral Area at St Philip Howard Church, Fareham on **Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan**, beginning with Mass at 9.30am. After Mass there will be an opportunity to explore various ways of praying, along with several brief talks. A simple lunch will be provided for which there will be no charge. All are welcome.

**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS:** in St Mary's Church on **Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Feb** beginning at 10.30am (tea and coffee in the Upper Room from 10am). The day will begin with the Rosary and continue with Exposition, Confession, Mass at 12 noon followed by Bible Study and the Divine Mercy Chaplet after lunch. Please bring your own lunch. All are welcome.

**PRAYER GROUP:** Fr Peter's Prayer Group will resume on **Thu 4<sup>th</sup> Feb** at 7.30pm in the Church of Our Lady of Walsingham, Portchester. Everyone welcome.

### JUNIOR JOURNEY IN FAITH

Catechists' Meeting	<b>Tue 26<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	7.30pm	St Mary's Hall
Parents' Meeting (Eucharistic)	<b>Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	7.30pm	St Mary's Hall
Parents' Meeting (Reconciliation)	<b>Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	8.30pm	St Mary's Hall
Children's Session	<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9-11am	St Joseph's
Celebration Service	<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	11am	St Mary's

**UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS:** Will meet on **Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Jan** at 2pm in the Parish Rooms at St Columba's Church, Bridgemary. All mums are welcome.

**RE-ARRANGED CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY:** on **Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Feb** at St Joseph's Parish Hall, Queens Road, **Aldershot**, Hants GU11 3JB from 10.30am until 4pm. This is an opportunity for all Cafod supporters across the diocese to come together for a time of prayer and reflection, and to learn about the proposed 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Lent Fast Day celebrations. Our Parish Cafod Representative, Michael Heaps, will be attending and will have space in his car for two other people who would like to attend. Please take a packed lunch.

**PARISH BOOK CLUB:** The meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> Jan was postponed because of the weather. We will now meet on **Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Jan** at Sylvia & Norman's home, 14 Alvara Road, Alverstoke (tel: 023 92 601416) at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

**PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE:** A ten day pilgrimage is arranged for the **7<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010**. Fr Peter Glas will lead the pilgrimage as Spiritual Director.

Shared accommodation (half-board) and coach transfers in Dubrovnik will cost 290 euros per person. Transport to and from Gatwick airport and travel insurance **are not** included.

Pilgrims are asked to book their own flights (over the internet is normally cheaper) as soon as possible, and the earlier flights are booked the lower the fares are likely to be.

The flights we will be using are as follows:

**7<sup>th</sup> June BA 2882 London Gatwick depart 09.50 arrive Dubrovnik 13.35**

**17<sup>th</sup> June BA 2883 Dubrovnik depart 14.30 arrive London Gatwick 16.20**

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage, please contact Doug in the Parish Office for more information and a booking form.

### **Courtney's Testimony**

In June 2009 I went on pilgrimage with my Nan and Dad to Medjugorje. We joined a group from my Nan's prayer group at Our Lady and All Saints parish, Stourbridge, West Midlands.

Just by chance Fr Peter Glas, a close friend of our group organiser, Tom Tranter, was leading another joint group from the Catholic Church in Gosport, and Jersey.

On Friday afternoon we had arranged to travel together to the nearby village of Surmanci, just a few kilometres from Medjugorje. Here there is a small church dedicated to St Faustina and the Divine Mercy, with relics of St Faustina continuously exposed for veneration on the altar. We were going to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm followed by Mass.

Just before we were about to leave, Tom was sitting and talking with Fr Peter when he received a message to say that there wasn't enough room on the coach for our group after all. Tom immediately hurried off to see if he could arrange some alternative transport. He returned a few minutes later with the good news that he had managed to arrange a mini-bus for our group. Tom then said to Fr Peter: **'Do you want the good news or the other news?'** Fr Peter nodded and Tom said:

**‘The good news Father is that we’ve managed to hire a mini-bus so we can still come’. Fr Peter said: ‘Oh good, and the other news?’ Tom said: ‘You’re leading the Divine Mercy prayers and celebrating Mass’. Fr Peter, shocked, said: ‘I don’t think so, I haven’t prepared anything. I wasn’t sure whether I was going, as I wanted to stay in Medjugorje’.**

At this point we left for the bus and made our way to the church in Surmanci. We were sitting in the church when our friends from Fr Peter’s group arrived, and guess who was with them after all: Fr Peter of course! He looked a little uneasy especially when he went to the lectern and found the microphone wasn’t working!

Eventually the microphone was fixed and Fr Peter began singing the Divine Mercy Chaplet, accompanied by all those gathered. It was so beautiful. Tears were streaming down peoples faces throughout the prayer.

After the Divine Mercy Chaplet Fr Peter celebrated Mass with the theme of ‘Our total love and forgiveness of others in order that we may receive the grace of inner healing’. The Mass was so beautiful and meaningful. The feeling of love and forgiveness filled the church.

At the end of Mass Fr Peter announced that if anyone wanted to be prayed over he would do so. Everyone moved to the front of the sanctuary and Fr Peter began praying over each of us individually. When he came to me he laid his hands on my head.

**Everything went pitch black. Then I saw a little bright light which got bigger and bigger as it came towards me. Then suddenly Jesus was standing there. He had a large red sash over a gleaming white robe and he was bare-footed. He had shoulder-length brownish hair and a short beard. I saw rays of blue and red coming from his open heart which looked as if there were thorns around it. There was a white dove circling just above his head. I looked down and saw a face looking through the bend of his arm. I am not sure but I think it was St Faustina. He then said to me: ‘Believe in me. Never break away’.** I then found myself back in the church. Before and during the Mass I had been in so much pain with my leg and my back but after the blessing my pain went and I have had no pain since.

When I left the church I quietly told my Nan all that had happened. Fr Peter knew nothing of my testimony. However, the very next day he sought out Tom, wishing to speak with him. He told Tom that after the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Mass he had a ‘strange experience’ whilst praying over someone whom he thought to be a young boy. He learned that the ‘young boy’ was in fact me – a young girl. Fr Peter told Tom that when he came to pray over me he ‘found that he could not move his hands and it was as if they were set in concrete’. Fr Peter also said that he had not prepared for the Mass or the Divine Mercy Chaplet and that ‘it must be the worst homily I have ever delivered’! Tom told Fr Peter little did he know that everyone was totally moved by the Mass, homily and prayer to the point of tears, and that the Holy Spirit had manifested Himself in abundance through Fr Peter’s wonderful ministry. *Courtney age 11*

(Courtney was suffering from a bone disease and has made a complete recovery. Thanks be to God.)