



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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17th/18th JANUARY 2009 – SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 17th	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Les Savege RIP
SUNDAY 18th	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Dec'd of the Dereuyter & Vaneetvelde families
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Mark Palmer RIP

There will be no Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's next Saturday and no Exposition as Fr Peter will be at the Day Retreat in Stubbington.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST WEEKDAYS 19th – 23rd JAN

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	of the day	Word & Communion	10am	St Mary's
Tue	of the day	John Morrison RIP	10am	St Mary's
Wed	St Agnes	Rosary Mass of Our Lady Laurie Benson RIP	6.30pm 7.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's
Thu	of the day	William Kilsby RIP	10am	St Columba's
Fri	of the day	Requiem Mass for Bridget Parkes RIP	10.45am	St Mary's

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: This weekend we celebrate Peace Sunday and there will be a collection after all Masses on behalf of *Pax Christi*, the International Catholic Movement for Peace. Envelopes are available in all churches.

PARISH OFFERINGS: last weekend amounted to £1290.21p inc gift-aid. The total collected for *SPUC* was £183.79p. Thank you.

Next weekend Fr John Humphreys will be celebrating all Masses in our parish as part of the monthly rotation of priests in the Solent Pastoral Area.

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 20th Jan** after 10am Mass until 11.30am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Theresa Fleming. The following week the duty minister will be Norman Haskell. (Please note the duty minister should also assist Fr Peter during Holy Communion). At St Columba's on **Thu 22nd Jan** after 10am Mass until 12 noon.

There will be no Exposition at St Mary's next Saturday due to the Day Retreat on the Eucharist at Stubbington.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE: to be led by Fr Peter in June 2009. A few places are left. Please contact the Parish Office for details.

COME TO ME – A DAY RETREAT ON THE EUCHARIST: Sister Maria Natella, OP will lead this retreat on **Sat 24th Jan** at the **Church of the Immaculate Conception, Stubbington** from 9.30am (for 10am start) until 4pm. The day will consist of catechesis, silent/guided adoration, Mass, Rosary and Benediction **and is open to everyone.** A buffet lunch will be provided for which a contribution of £3.50p per person is requested on the day. There is no charge for the day itself.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF VENUE!

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE 2009: On **25th April 2009** there will be a special Mass at St Bede's, Basingstoke for couples in our diocese celebrating significant wedding anniversaries during 2009. If you are celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th anniversary during 2009, or any anniversary over 60 years, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible so that we can arrange for Bishop Crispian to send you an invitation. Attendance will be by invitation only and numbers are limited. **We have forwarded the names of four couples so far, including one 25th, one 40th and two fiftieth anniversaries. Can we complete the set with a 60th + anniversary? If so please let Doug know in the Parish Office .**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The area behind the font in St Mary's Church is to be dedicated as a chapel to the Divine Mercy. A short service of dedication will be held at the end of Mass this Sunday when there will be a special blessing. The Divine Mercy picture has come from Westminster Diocese courtesy of Frank Frankland and another friend of our parish. Thank you very much to them for their generosity.

EUCCHARIST MINISTERS: If anyone else would like to be considered for this ministry please see Fr Peter after Mass this weekend or contact Doug in the Parish Office. Once Fr Peter knows the numbers he will arrange a training date and this will coincide with a refresher day for existing ministers. Eucharistic Ministers (aged 18 years or over) **must** complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure form (with supplements) to receive clearance to carry out this ministry even if ministers are not taking Holy Communion to sick or housebound parishioners. It is up to you to contact Doug in the Parish Office to collect your application as soon as possible if you wish to be a minister. Details of when to return the forms, with suitable identity documents, will be published in this newsletter in due course.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST MARY'S: We hope to establish a Children's Liturgy Group at St Mary's in the coming weeks. Anyone who wishes to be considered either as a Children's Liturgist or Helper should give their name to Fr Peter or Doug as soon as possible. More details on training etc will follow in due course. Please read the item above with regard to CRB checks for all those aged 18 years or over who wish to work with children. Under 18's are not subject to CRB checks.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: Led by Fr Peter in St Mary's Church, High St on **Fri 6th Feb** beginning at 10.30am (tea/coffee in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall from 10am). The day will include: Rosary and Adoration, Confession, Spiritual Guidance, Mass, Prayers and Bible Study and should finish at 3.15pm. Everyone welcome. Please bring a packed lunch. For more information please call Rebecca on 023 92 381802.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS: will meet this **Mon 19th Jan** at 2pm in the Meeting Room at St Columba's Church, Bridgemarky. All mothers are welcome.

THANK YOU: From the All-Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Group '... for the tremendous support we received in the fight against the Human Fertilisation & Embryology Act (HFE ACT). That phenomenal support was crucial in enabling us to stop proposals to extend the abortion laws. The response from the laity was overwhelming with almost 2 million protest cards arriving at Westminster. The result was that the Government used a timetable motion to block amendments to the abortion law.'

COUNTERS' ROTAS: are available to collect from the respective churches this Sunday.

DOUBT

Healing Promise: “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

Healing Prayer: Father in heaven, there are times when I struggle with doubt in my life. Help me, I pray, to overcome unbelief in my life at all times.¹ I want to be a person of great faith, so I ask you to help me remember at all times that nothing is too hard for you, Lord God.²

I will place my trust in you all the time.³ As I pour out my heart before you, Father, I realize that you truly are my refuge.⁴ All my strength is in you.⁵ As I put my unswerving trust in you, it is then that I know I am safe.⁶ You are my salvation, Lord God; I will trust in you, and not be afraid.⁷ Instead of being filled with fear, I will continue to believe your Word.⁸

Thank you for the wonderful prayer promises you’ve given to me, such as your promise that I will receive the things I desire when I pray, as long as I truly believe.⁹ I want to be a believer who is full of faith, not doubt, dear Father.

Lord God, I believe that all things work together for good in my life, because I love you and I know you have called me according to your purposes.¹⁰ Help me to remember that whatever is not of faith is sin.¹¹ Assist me in standing fast in the faith you’ve imparted to me.¹²

Through your grace, Father, I will walk by faith and not by sight from now on.¹³ Help me to hold tightly to the shield of faith with which I will be able to quench all the fiery darts of doubt that come my way.¹⁴

Help me to hold fast the profession of my faith without wavering,¹⁵ because I realize that without faith it is impossible to please you, Father.¹⁶ I will feed upon your Word daily and receive the faith that comes as I hear your words.¹⁷

When the enemy comes to sow thoughts of doubt and unbelief, I will obey your Word and bring those thoughts captive unto the obedience of Christ.¹⁸ I will resist the devil and I will stand against him steadfast in the faith.¹⁹

I dedicate myself to being strong in faith, giving all the glory to you, Father, for I am fully persuaded that what you have promised you are also able to perform.²⁰ Therefore, I will not be double-minded, wanting to believe, but wavering. Rather, I will be stable in all my ways, strong in faith, and thus, able to receive the wonderful blessings you have for me.²¹ I will resist all doubt from the enemy, and it must flee from me.²²

Hallelujah!

These things I pray and believe, in Jesus’ wonderful name.²³ Amen.

References: 1) Mk 9:24; 2) Gen 18:14; 3) Ps 62:8; 4) Ps 62:8; 5) Ps 84:5; 6) Prov 29:25; 7) Is 12:2; 8) Mt 8:26; 9) Mk 11:24; 10) Rom 8:28; 11) Rom 14:23; 12) 1 Cor 16:13; 13) 2 Cor 5:7; 14) Eph 6:16; 15) Heb 10:23; 16) Heb 11:6; 17) Rom 10:17; 18) 2 Cor 10:4-5; 19) 1 Pet 5:9; 20) Rom 4:20-21; 21) James 1:6-8; 22) James 4:7; 23) John 16:23.