



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
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21st/22nd FEB 2009 – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday readings: Year 2 (B); Weekdays: Year I; Prayer of the Church: Week 3

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 21st	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Sylvia Meredith RIP
SUNDAY 22nd	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Nancy Rowland RIP
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Maggie Nash RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's next Saturday 12 – 1pm

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST WEEKDAYS 23rd – 27th FEB

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	St Polycarp	Word & Communion	10am	St Mary's
Tue	of the day	Florence Payne RIP	10am	St Mary's
Wed	Ash	Mary Smith (B'day)	9.15am	St Joseph's
	Wednesday	Rosary	6.30pm	St Mary's
		Margaret Northway RIP	7.00pm	St Mary's
Thu	after Ash	Sandy McArthur RIP	10am	St Columba's
	Wednesday			
Fri	after Ash	Stations of the Cross	6.30pm	St Mary's
	Wednesday	For the people of the Parish	7pm	St Mary's

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: The parish offerings last weekend amounted to £1279.13p inc gift-aid. Thank you.

This weekend there will be an Obligatory second collection at all Masses on behalf of the Cabrini Children's Society (formerly the Catholic Children's Society). Those who have envelopes in the name of the Catholic Children's Society may still use them.

This weekend we welcome Fr Joe McNerney from Fareham who will be celebrating all the Masses in our parish.

PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL: Tom Bailey, Bill Cliffe, Raymond Clowes, Carmel Collins, Con Condon, Jim Connell, Linda Corby, Elsie Fleming, Eileen Forde, Gwenne Gammon, Gwen Hobley, Joan Johns, Taff Keegan, Stuart King, Sarah Mitchell, Fr Lawrence Nwokora, Adeline Pearcey, and Mary Smith. 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, especially John Harfield, 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 24th Feb** after 10am Mass until 11.30am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Lesley Taylor. The following week the duty minister will be Joe Barrett. (Please note the duty minister should also assist Fr Peter during Holy Communion). At St Columba's on **Thu 26th Feb** after 10am Mass until 12 noon. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 28th Feb** from 10am – 1pm. The duty Supervisors will be: Libby Beasley & Eddie Watson 10 -11am; Bill & Mo Feltham 11am – 12pm; Eddie Watson & Neil Shaw 12 – 1pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: will be at 5.20pm in St Columba's Church every Saturday and at 6.30pm in St Mary's on Fridays. Please note, however, on the First Fridays Stations will be in St Mary's at 3pm only and there will be no stations on **Fri 13th March** due to the Healing Service in Stubbington. (See below)

HEALING SERVICE FOR THE SOLENT PASTORAL AREA

To be led by Fr Peter Glas at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Stubbington on **Fri 13th March** at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

JUBILEE YEAR OF ST PAUL – ST PAUL AND THE SACRAMENTS: We will be running a six week course during Lent to help us get to know St Paul's wonderful teachings a little better. It is open to everyone regardless of how familiar or otherwise you might be with the Letters of St Paul. The sessions will be held in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall from 11am to 1pm and will begin on **Thu 26th Feb** continuing each Thursday up to and including **2nd April**. To reserve a place please call Libby Beasley on 023 92 589188 or contact the Parish Office on 023 92 580119.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: led by Fr Peter Glas in St Mary's Church, High St on **Fri 6th March** from 10.30am until 3.30pm including Mass at 12 noon and Stations of the Cross at 3pm. (Tea/coffee in the Upper Room of St Mary's Hall from 10 – 10.30am). Please bring a packed lunch.

SPIRIT ALIVE: A reflection on the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives, the life of the Church and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. There will be six one hour presentations based on the Archdiocese of Westminster's Lenten Course, 'Lord, Giver of Life', to be led by Richard Pearce (recently retired Head of Theology, Stonyhurst College). The sessions will be held each Monday from **2nd March** up to **6th April** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Stubbington at 10.15am (for those not working) and again at 7.30pm (for those working). Everyone welcome. For more information please contact Richard Pearce on 023 92 553 788 or email 2pearces@talktalk.net

UNION OF MOTHERS AGM: This **Mon 23rd Feb** at 2pm in the Meeting Room at St Columba's, Bridgemaury. All Mums are welcome.

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, CHILDREN'S LITURGISTS & HELPERS: who are completing Criminal Records Bureau applications are asked to bring **all the completed forms**, together with **all relevant ID documents**, to the Parish Office on **Sat 7th March between 10am and 12 noon**. Our Parish Co-ordinator for children and vulnerable adults, Fran Read, will need to see each individual and Doug will be on hand to assist. Thank you.

TWO TALKS BY FATHER LAURENCE FREEMAN: on **Sat 28th March**. Talk 1 will be at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth from 2.00 – 4.30pm and is entitled *Finding Balance in Life through Meditation*. Talk 2 will be at the United Church, Jewry St, Winchester from 7.00 – 9.00pm and is entitled *Meditation – Direct path to a Deeper Self*. There is no need to book for either talk and the suggested donation for each is £5 - £10 payable on the door. All are welcome.

Fr Laurence is a Benedictine monk and Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation. He works with people of all faiths to realise peace and understanding at both personal and communal levels.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: will be celebrated on **Fri 6th March** using a service prepared by the Christian Women of Papua New Guinea. Services are as follows: Stoke Road Baptist Church 10.30am; St Matthew's Church, Bridgemaury 4.00pm; St Thomas' Church, Elson 7.00pm. Everybody welcome.

VACANCY FOR A PARENT FOUNDATION GOVERNOR AT ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Bishop Crispian, who has absolute discretion in the appointment of Foundation Governors, is seeking applications from committed baptised Catholics who are parents of children currently registered at the school. The governors of a Catholic school work as a team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all staff. In addition to the legal responsibilities of the Governing Body, the Foundation Governors have a responsibility for preserving the religious character of the school, sustaining and developing the school as a Catholic educating community in accordance with Canon (Church) law and the teaching of the Catholic Church and giving clear witness, as individuals and as a team, to the Gospel message and to the Church's teaching. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. Lack of experience in education in a Catholic school should not deter anyone from applying if there is a genuine desire to serve the mission of the Church. Application packs are available from the Parish Office, the School Office, or the Dpt for Schools Governance, Park Place Pastoral Centre, Winchester Road, Wickham PO17 5HA. Closing date for receipt of applications is **13th March 2009**.

THANK YOU: to our Cleaners who work so hard to keep our churches clean and tidy. We really could do with some more volunteers. Please look out for the cleaning dates in the newsletter.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: on **Thursday 26th Feb** at 7pm in the **Meeting Room at the Parish Office**.

PARISH MAGAZINE: Please take home a free copy of the latest edition of our parish magazine which is available in all churches.

LONELINESS

Healing Promise: *“Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness” (Isa. 41:10).*

Healing Prayer: Dear Father, even though I am experiencing a sense of loneliness in my life at this time, I believe the promise of your Word which tells me that you are with me. For this reason I do not need to fear or be dismayed, because you, my mighty God, will strengthen me, help me, and uphold me with the right hand of your righteousness.¹ Thank you, Father.

With your help, dear God, I will learn to be content with such things as I have, because just knowing that you are with me and that you will never leave me nor forsake me gives me a renewed sense of peace and confidence.²

Thank you for Jesus who is with me until the end of the world.³ How I thank you, Father, that you will never forsake me⁴ and you will not leave me comfortless.⁵

Eternal Father, you are my refuge, and I sense that your everlasting arms are beneath me.⁶ Through your grace I am fully persuaded that nothing shall ever be able to separate me from your love, Father, which is in Christ Jesus my Lord.⁷

You are lifting all my loneliness from me, Lord God, as I pray unto you, and knowing that you are with me, will not fail me, and never will forsake me gives me renewed strength and courage.⁸ Thank you, Father. You are my refuge and my strength, and you are a very present help to me.⁹

As I cast all my cares and loneliness upon you, Father, I realize anew how deeply you love me and how well you care for me.¹⁰ In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.¹¹

References: 1) *Is 41:10*; 2) *Heb 13:5*; 3) *Matt 28:20*; 4) *1 Sam 12:22*; 5) *Jn 14:18*; 6) *Dt 33:27*; 7) *Rom 8:39*; 8) *Dt 31:6*; 9) *Ps 46:1*; 10) *1 Pet 5:7*; 11) *Jn 16:23*.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Father Peter invites all parishioners to a Parish Day in St Mary's Hall on **Sun 15th March** beginning at 12 noon. This is to be the first of what we hope will be an annual event for parishioners and is an opportunity for our 3 worshipping communities to come together and share ideas, give feedback, as well as to discuss hopes and aspirations for the future in an informal setting over a buffet lunch. Everyone is welcome including children and young people of all ages. We hope to have a team of people on hand to look after some of the smaller children. The buffet is to take the form of an American Supper where those who wish to can contribute something to the meal. To this end lists will be put up in all three churches shortly. The parish will supply the liquid refreshments!! Do keep this date free and come along if you can. It is not often we are able to gather together in this way so it will be a wonderful opportunity for us and for Fr Peter to get to know each other better after Fr Peter's first 6 months in Gosport.