



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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22nd/23rd August 2009 – TWENTY – FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday readings: Year 2 (B); Weekdays: Year I; Prayer of the Church: Week 1

CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST FOR SUNDAY

SATURDAY 22nd	6.00pm	St. Columba's	Dec'd of the Meskell and Wilmott families.
SUNDAY 23rd	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Alan Thomas White RIP
	11.00am	St. Mary's	Nigel (Health)

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 24th – 28th AUGUST

<u>Day</u>	<u>Liturgy</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
Mon	St Bartholomew	No service		
Tue	of the day	People of the Parish	10am	St Mary's
Wed	of the day	Rosary Maria RIP	6.30pm 7pm	St Mary's St Mary's
Thu	St Monica	Maria RIP	10am	St Columba's
Fri	St Augustine of Hippo	No service		

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next weekend will be Fr Tony's last with us before Fr Peter returns from his summer break. Fr Tony does not have the support of a parish so there will be a second collection for him at all Masses next weekend. Please do give what you can. Thank you.

The parish offerings last weekend amounted to £997.19p 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 Mary's on **Tue 25th Aug** after 10am Mass until 11.30am. The duty Eucharistic Minister will be Joe Barrett. The following week the duty Minister will be Libby Beasley. At St Columba's on **Thu 27th Aug** after 10am Mass until 12 noon. Also at St Mary's on **Sat 29th Aug** from 10am – 1pm. The duty Supervisors will be: Ellen Notley & Eddie Watson 10 -11am; Bill & Mo Feltham 11am – 12pm; Theresa Fleming & Anna Oliver 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.

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.

PARISH 200 CLUB: Spare numbers are available for anyone wishing to join the 200 Club or indeed for anyone wanting to take extra numbers. This is a weekly fundraising event and each number costs 25p per week. Cash prizes are paid weekly, monthly and quarterly and remaining proceeds go to the parish. If you would like to participate simply complete a 200 club envelope (available in all churches) with your name and the amount you are enclosing (minimum £1) and place the envelope in the collection plate during Mass. Your number(s) will be allocated by David Collingborn who runs the club from the Parish Office. Many thanks.

THE FONT IN ST MARY’S: Last week the font was moved back to its former position in the Lady Chapel. The reasons are threefold. First, it is more practical for Fr Peter to conduct baptisms closer to the altar. Second, more friends and family are able to gather around the font as there is more space and more of the congregation can also see what is happening. Third, more space is now available in the Divine Mercy Chapel where we have arranged extra seating. Decorative work in the Divine Mercy Chapel is not yet completed due to a problem with dampness. As soon as the walls have dried out the work will resume.

REUNION – OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LEAVING CLASS OF 1980 (5th form): At the Hampshire Rose Pub (Function Room), Widley on **Fri 11th Sep** at 7.30pm. Please pass details onto anyone who might be interested. For further information please contact Jonathan Shirlaw on 07845 916161 or jon@1recruitment.net

HELP NEEDED: Retired couple (Barry & Frances) would like to find a B & B locally for a couple of nights every six weeks to visit their family grave. Both are non-smokers and worship at St Mary’s during their short visits. If any parishioner can help them they would be very happy to pay. Please phone them on 0208 390 7859 at Surbiton, Surrey.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 19th Sep

Cafod’s *Renew the Face of the Earth* – A half day for Confirmation Catechists – Winchester

Sat 26th Sep

Day of Prayer - Heath Lodge, Trampers Lane, Nth Boarhunt

A VISION OF LOVE AND RIGHT RELATIONSHIP

Listening to the reading from Ephesians some may find themselves echoing, with the followers of Jesus, ‘this is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?’ This passage and others like it have been used in Christian history as a justification for the subjugation of women. Some women see Christianity as irredeemably tainted by patriarchy and as the cause of society’s continued failure to recognise women as equal. But a closer reading of the text shows that this is not about a power struggle between the sexes but a vision of love and right relationship based on placing the needs of the other above self. In both cases husband and wife are urged to consider each other above the demands of ego in a love expressed in service, in a give and take which has a great deal more give than take.

We are also reminded that this is a metaphor for the Church. It is tempting at times to speak of the Church in terms of ‘us’ and ‘them’, to think of the institutional Church as an unfortunate necessity. But if the Church is truly the body of Christ, then we cannot divide the body up into acceptable and unacceptable bits. It is the Church of Torquemada as well as Mother Teresa, of the Inquisition as well as the Little Flower. We are called to worship in spirit and truth, despite and alongside our inability always to understand and accept teachings and attitudes we may find hard. Our task is to participate in the seeking of truth from the perspective of our own experience within our relationships, in our professional life and our lived reality. We may struggle with the word of God as expressed within the Church, but it remains the message of eternal life.

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