



Donate



DEC 3RD 2023 | FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website

## *Staying awake and being watchful*

Often when we think of the Second Coming, we think of judgement and are moved to anxiety and fear, but might we ever think of the Second Coming of Jesus as an event to be welcomed, to be eagerly anticipated, to be looked upon in an air of excitement? Jesus, the Son of Man coming in glory with all His angels. And so, just as we are encouraged to do on the First Sunday of Advent every year, we watch and we wait.

While the Master is away, we have been given our tasks to do, not the least is to live authentic Gospel values. We cannot afford to be found sleeping.

But if we are awake and ready, the coming of the Son of Man is an event to be greeted with joy. St Paul tells us that the whole of creation is groaning while awaiting the final redemption. As servant followers of the Christ we need to reflect on this because when the time comes, we will want to be found actively engaged in whatever task of Christian ministry into which we have been called.

And still not sure what it is that is our task, what task we should be busily doing?

Well, let's ask the Christ to come into our lives. Let's open ourselves to Him, little by little, the areas where we need to be healed, where we need to be made strong. Jesus doesn't mind if coming into our lives is coming into something of a mess. Far from it, I like to think He is well used to it, all of us have some messiness tucked away somewhere. After all, He was born in the mess of a stable and lay in the feeding trough. Once we have let Him be born in our lives, He will grow in us by the work He gives us to prepare the world for His Second Coming.

Dcn Andy



## Today's Notices

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Second Collection** this week is for Catholic Home Care

## Next Sunday Notices

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Second Collection** is for our Christmas Flowers

## Prayers



*For all parents expecting a new child, that they might be blessed with a safe and healthy pregnancy for mother and baby.*

**Lord hear us**

**Please remember especially in your prayers** *Carina, Sr Maria Innocenta, Theresa Kimber, Mary Mullen, Christopher Browne, Peter Scott, Vasile, Sue, Clare Burden, Paul Hughes, Mike, Carol, David, Oliver, Carla Forte, Donna Cowan, Steph, Francis Ponniah, Jack Oakley* & all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or feeling distressed.

## Sacraments



**Infant Baptisms.** If you would like your child baptised please fill in the online application form. Once filled in, Joy will be in touch to book the baptism and discuss the preparation. The preparation runs on a bi-monthly basis and is required by the church



**Registrations for the First Holy Communion Programme 2024 have now closed.** We are not in a position to consider anyone else joining.

Please pray for the children who are enrolled on the course, their parents and guardians and our catechists.

The main email for FHC queries is:  
[fhc@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:fhc@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

**Adult Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmations or Receptions RCIA Course**

This course is only for those who are over the age of 18. This course is held on Wednesday evenings in St Edmund's Hall after the 7pm Mass during term time.

You are welcome to just attend, but if you would like to register for the course please scan the QR Code or see <https://forms.office.com/e/8Tnbe7aA4P>

## General Notices



**Parish Annual Christmas Fayre** We're hosting a Christmas Fayre on the 10th December in St Edmund's Hall after each of the Masses (9am, 10am, 11am & 7pm).

**Do you have any alcoholic or soft drinks** that you could donate to the drinks tombola? **Do you have gifts, craft supplies, or religious items** that you could donate? **Do you have wonderful baking skills (or purchasing skills!)** & feel like bringing cakes, mince pies or some sweets?

All donations to be brought to the Parish Office on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday mornings (or by appointment). Cake & perishables to be brought on the day before the Mass you are attending or the afternoon before.

### Safeguarding Training on Tuesday 5th December

**10am - 12.30pm for Children**

**1pm - 3.30pm for adults**

In St Boniface Church Hall - parking available.

If you are able to join please email Anna on:

[safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

or call / text **07956 379 542**



**Stop the 14-day limit on experimenting on embryos being removed.** The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) is pushing to remove the 14-day limit for experimenting on embryos, despite 97% of submissions from the general public to their consultation objecting to these plans.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website that makes it easy for you to email your MP asking them to oppose a change to legislation that, if passed, would pave the way for the removal of the 14-day limit. Please visit [www.righttolife.org.uk/14days](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/14days) to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

## Adoration

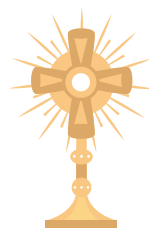
**Adoration currently runs:**

**Mondays** 6pm until 7pm Mass

**Tuesdays** beginning after 10am Mass until 8pm

**Thursdays** 10am until 5pm

**Fridays** 2pm until 7pm Mass.



**We would like to offer Adoration**

**Mondays** afternoon until 6pm

**Fridays** morning until 2pm

### Thinking of joining?

Great news! We need Adorers at all the times currently covered and the times suggested to start. The more people on the rota per hour the better it is when people are away. Our Lord is waiting for us in the Blessed Sacrament, come and sit with Him a while. You can email the office, call us or text on 07956 379 542.

## General Notices

### Parish Youth Group for 10-16 year olds 5th January at 7pm in St Edmund's Hall

We are launching a Youth Group in St Ed's Hall on the 1st & 3rd Fridays in the month. If your child or young person would be interested in joining please register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/YMD3LST8k>  
**We are looking for donations of board games and craft supplies.** If you can bring these to the Parish Office on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday mornings that would be appreciated. Equally you could donate towards the purchase of supplies - just get in touch.



**Sat 9th Dec 4:30pm 'Carols in the Square'** (outside St Michael's church) - carol sheets provided, wind band, hot chocolate and mince pies. St Michael's extend an invitation to St Joseph's & St Edmund's to join them!

🎄 **St Ed's Christmas Carols** 🎄 Come and sing... Sunday 17 December 2023 1330h -1630h followed by tea in the hall...the "most Christmassy thing" you'll do this year! Free. Just bring something yummy to share. There will be a post box for your cards, pictures, little gifts to present to patients at the General Hospital. 🎄 Bring friends, neighbours, loved ones...all most welcome. 🎄.

**The Deanery Diversity Group** are looking to meet in early January 2024 to plan a multinational event focused on the Latino community. If you are part of this community and would like to help, please come and join us on **Tuesday 9th January at 7:30pm at St Edmund's Hall.** Please email the parish office to let us know you will be joining us.

**A big thank you to all who attended the 'I am Mark' performance last Friday night.** It was a memorable occasion and a moving production and presentation of St Mark's gospel. We are grateful to Stefan Smart for opening our hearts and minds into the power of the gospel and its message as we enter Advent.

**Catholic Home Care Christmas Gifts for the Elderly.** Baskets are at the back of both churches after Masses on **2/3 Dec.** Rather than a Christmas gift for a client you might consider a Christmas donation to Catholic Home Care. Donations are always welcome & would help with our running costs.

**Parking tickets at St Ed's** are dealt with by Castleford Management only. Their contact is 01202 757 050

**Counters** Are you interested in becoming a counter? We are currently looking for people to volunteer. Training will be provided and you will then join a monthly rota. If you are interested, please complete the form using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/YYB032V8s7>

**Sunday Choir 9am St Ed's:** Mary is looking for people to take over her role at 9am: **Planning hymns, Emailing the choir, Teaching new hymns, Choir practice, Play the piano.** Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to take this on.

**Christmas Big Clean in St Ed's** will be Friday 22nd Dec at 1pm - please come if you are able to help our church sparkle in time for Christmas! We will have cakes & sandwiches as treat afterwards :)

**St Jo's does not have a scheduled big clean** because Sue cleans the church for us. We are very grateful to her, but it would be nice if we could have a few more to help out! If you'd like to join in cleaning do see Sue to volunteer your services! It would also be very nice to have a team polish the brass and the silver... do do volunteer please.

**We are looking for someone to take over the regular laundering of the St Joseph's Altar Linens.** Is this something you could do? See Sue or contact the Parish Office to volunteer.

**We are looking for parents or carers** who wish to participate in reading prayers/readings or in the children's choir to add to a WhatsApp group. This will allow us to send you everything in advance so you can let us know if your child would like to participate and they can have the chance to practise at home. If you would like to join the group then you can do so by scanning the WhatsApp QR code. Please note that if you join the group your number will be visible to others on the group. If you have any questions please do let the parish office know.



**St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) St Boniface Conference** is local group of lay volunteers, who inspired by the dedication of SVP, come together as a spiritual fraternity to help people in our local community who are in need. We aim with the guidance and support of the Holy Spirit to bring practical aid to the sick or housebound, friendship to the lonely or bereaved, campaign for social justice, and provide assistance to those struggling with day-to-day essentials such as bills, food, clothing, or shelter. Inspired? Why not join us! Your time and talents, however small, are very welcome. Make a donation via [svp.org.uk](http://svp.org.uk), Refer someone you know who needs help. Contact us through [st-boniface.org.uk](http://st-boniface.org.uk), or by email [svp@st-boniface.org.uk](mailto:svp@st-boniface.org.uk).

**Advent Retreat** "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light." (Is.9:2) **1st - 3rd Dec.** And **4 Day Retreat** at the End of the Year **28th Dec - 1st Jan.** Organised by the Verbum Dei community. Venue: Verbum Dei Retreat Centre on the Isle of Wight. For more information and to register, contact: [verbumdei.iow@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdei.iow@gmail.com) and [www.uk.verbumdei.org](http://www.uk.verbumdei.org)

**Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal** at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts. Donations will support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid to those in need.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

SJ REFERS TO ST JOSEPH'S (BUGLE STREET, SO14 2AH) & SE IS ST EDMUND'S (THE AVENUE, SO17 1XJ)

<b>Saturday 2nd Dec</b> <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	<b>6:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Sean, Kathleen & Stewart Adamson RIP
<b>Sunday 3rd Dec</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Ethelreda Conway
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Tootle Family
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	PJ Phelan RIP
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 4th Dec</b> <i>St John Damascene</i>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Christina & Ciarán, Christopher & Grace Farrell Intentions
<b>Tuesday 5th Dec</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Birthday Thanksgiving
<b>Wednesday 6th Dec</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Intentions of Fr John Mundachal
<b>Thursday 7th Dec</b>	<b>12:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	Romeo & Jean Zanellotti RIP
<b>Friday 8th Dec</b> <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Intentions of Tina Quinn
<b>Saturday 9th Dec</b> <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Sheila, John & Julian Herbert RIP
	<b>6:15pm</b>	<b>SJ</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 10th Dec</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Alf Hunt RIP
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>SJ</b>	People of the Parish
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>SE</b>	Deceased members of the Curtis-Hayward family
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>SE</b>	Gillian Barry & Brendan RIP

### 3rd December

#### Psalm Response

God of hosts, bring us back;  
let Your face shine on us and  
we shall be saved.

#### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Let us see, O Lord, Your  
mercy and give us Your  
saving help.

*Alleluia!*

### 10th December

#### 1st Reading:

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

**Psalm: 84**

#### 2nd Reading:

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

**Gospel: Mark 1:1-8**



Please use  
the QR code  
to register  
with the  
Parish, or the  
website link

**Join the  
Parish!**

### CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Canon Michael Dennehy

Email Address: [mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Telephone Number: 023 8033 4891

**Assistant Priest:** Father David Bateman

Email Address: [dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Telephone Number: 023 8017 2104

**Presbytery Address:**

14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

**Deacon:** Deacon Andy Philpott

Email Address: [aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish, Property & Finance Officer:** Anna Smyllie

**Parish Administrator:** Joy Elliott

Parish Office Telephone: 023 8033 3589

Parish Office Address: St Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ

Parish Email Address: [office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

Parish Website: [www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](http://www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

Instagram: [SotonCatholicsCityCentre](https://www.instagram.com/SotonCatholicsCityCentre)

FaceBook: [@SotonCatholicsCityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/SotonCatholicsCityCentre)

Twitter: [@SotonCatholics](https://twitter.com/SotonCatholics)

**Safeguarding:** Anna Smyllie

Email Address: [safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

**Catholic Home Care:** Xanthe Hackett & Marina Joyce

Email Address: [catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Telephone Number: 023 8017 0498

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Email Address: [southampton@pcmew.org](mailto:southampton@pcmew.org)

Telephone Number: 023 8178 6316

*We are part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth,  
Registered Charity Number 1199568*

**Confessions are heard** half an hour before  
almost all of our weekday and Sunday Masses.

#### St Joseph's

Thursdays at 11:45am,

Saturdays at 5:45pm,

Sundays at 9:30am



#### St Edmund's

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 6:30pm,

Tuesdays at 9:30am,

Saturdays at 11:30am (after Mass),

Sundays at 8:30am & 10:30am & 6:30pm

#### Christmas Mass Times

Penitential Service 18th December 7pm  
in St Edmund's



#### Sunday 24th Christmas Eve

5pm & 7pm in St Edmund's

9pm in St Joseph's

12am (midnight) in St Edmund's



#### Monday 25th Christmas Day

9am & 11am in St Edmund's

10am in St Joseph's



#### Parish Bank Details

Setting up a standing order from your mobile  
or online banking is the easiest way!

**Bank Account Name** CDP SOUJE

**Sort Code** 30-93-04

**Number** 00888223