



Donate



OCTOBER 1ST 2023 | TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN OT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website

Abundant generosity and limitless patience

Last weekend we reflected on the abundant generosity of God and this weekend we are presented with God's limitless patience. Our gospel will resonate with many of us, keen to serve God and others, keen to say yes but without a heartfelt commitment and then finding that we fail to commit or follow through. Jesus' words touch the core of what it is to be human.

However, He requires of each one of us something beyond that and a way of life that is transformational and sustaining. The prophet Ezekiel reminds us that we are called to a life of integrity, the ability to recognise our sin and turn away from it. This is the heart of the gospel message. Jesus understands our weakness and propensity to fail but is always there to give us a second chance. He challenges religiosity, those who sign up to something because they feel they ought to and yet have no conviction or depth or sustainability. What the Lord requires is humility, openness of heart and the willingness to turn around. St Benedict in his rule demonstrates this with the ladder of humility. Our lives are the sides and in order to progress we must climb down. Stepping down and recognising our limitations moves us toward God, climbing is a movement towards praise and self-aggrandisement.

The Lord is always ready to give us a second chance. It doesn't matter how often we fail, He wants us to turn around. He is ready to welcome us as the Father who welcomed the prodigal son. As well as abundant generosity there is limitless patience and just as it is never too late to enter the vineyard, it is never too late to turn around.

St Augustine is a counterpart to the son in the gospel who was late in doing his father's will. Augustine's early life was characterised by a refusal to follow the gospel. In his Confessions he admits his wayward ways and sexual exploits but also recognises the tardiness of his decision.

Augustine writes 'Late have I loved Thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved Thee....thou didst call and cry out and burst in upon my deafness, thou didst shine forth and glow and drive away my blindness...and now I pant for Thee.. thou didst touch me and I was inflamed with desire for Thy peace.'

There is always hope and the challenge for each one of us is to model the patience and persistence of our Heavenly Father and to welcome the late comer, whilst recognising the propensity in each one of us that our performance may not always match our promise.

Tina Quinn

Questions to Ponder for the Week...

1. Which son in the Gospel needed to change and turn toward his father? Are you presently in need of conversion in any area of your life? What counts more in building community, saying some good words, or actually doing some good deeds?
2. According to Ezekiel (1st reading), if we turn away from wickedness we are turning toward God. Spiritual writers call this "conversion." Are we converted just once or do we experience conversion many times in our lifetime?
3. In our 2nd reading, Paul begins with "if our life..... in the Spirit." Do you ask the Holy Spirit, who lives in you, for help in situations when you find yourself in a quandary? Do you always receive help when you ask for it?

Vincent Harvey (Adapted from Anne Osdieck)

Today's Notices

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am & 10am Masses involve our children more than usual.

CAFOD Appeal at all Masses for 'Family Fast Day'

Mass Count at all Masses

Retiring collection Catholic Home Care

Blessing of pre-marriage couples at 7pm Mass

Gathering of Uni Students in St Ed's Hall after 7pm Mass

Next Sunday Notices

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Count at all Masses

Retiring collection is for CAFOD

This Week..

Tue Meditation Group @ 6pm in St Michael's

Wed Evening Prayer @ 6pm... to join email Den Andy
Journey in Faith in St Ed's Hall at 7.30pm

Sat A Day with Mary at Immaculate Conception
Church: see elsewhere

Sun Evening Prayer @ 6pm... to join email Den Andy

For Info...

Mon Day off: VH/DB

Wed Team Meeting: DB/VH/AP

Thurs Deanery Clergy Meeting: St Boniface

Sacraments

Baptism Application Form



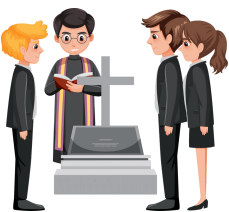
If you would like your child baptised please fill in the online application form.

Once filled in Joy will be in touch to book the baptism and discuss the preparation.



"Whoever hears My word and believes has passed from death to life."

John 5:24-29



Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Savino

Maurice Anelli whose Funeral Service will be on Friday 29th September in Southampton Crematorium. Pray also for his wife, Jeanette and all the family.

Anyone over the age of 18 who wishes to be baptised, receive Holy Communion, or be confirmed will need to join our RCIA or Journey in Faith course. This course has started Wednesday evenings in St Edmund's Hall after the 7pm Mass.

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>



A Few Words...

As mentioned last week I am celebrating a 'Thanksgiving & Farewell Mass' on Friday, 20th October at 7pm in St Edmund's, followed by a reception/gathering afterwards in St Anne's next door (so I'm told!!). Thank you to all who are organising this. I am humbled by the desire to celebrate my retirement. **Please do come along!**

Also mentioned last week **individuals are wanting to purchase things for my new home:** may I suggest that if you wish to contribute towards domestic items it would be wise to give me a John Lewis Voucher! Sounds boring but practicable! I will leave a few days after the Celebration and Canon Michael will arrive. To begin with I will be in temporary accommodation.

Soon I will be offloading many theological, scriptural, philosophical, and other books. I will leave them in St Edmund porch. Please take what you wish and put a donation into the maintenance box (we are going to need it!!!!!!!)

Again, as mentioned last week there is a proposal **that City Centre Sunday Parking become like a weekday: 8am to 8pm.** Do contact the City Council to express your objection: Councillor Eamonn Keogh, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport. I encourage you to register your concern with him: councillor.e.keogh@southampton.gov.uk or the Leader of the Council Councillor Satvir Kaur: councillor.s.kaur@southampton.gov.uk or your own local councillor.

'I Mark', a recitation of the Gospel of Mark by Stefan Smart, will take place in St Edmund's at 7pm on Friday 24th November.....make a **note in your diary** (Stefan recently performed this at the Edinburgh Fringe!). More details soon.

Finally, apologies for those who receive **the newsletter via email:** last week there was a glitch and not many would have received one. Sorry.

Have a good and satisfying week.... Thanks Vincent H

"The Church commemorates our Guardian Angels this week. Let us ask Our Lord to direct our Guardian Angels to watch over and care for all of us, and particularly those who are in need of special protection like little babies and children, and the unborn. **Lord hear us**".

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

What's going on?

A Day with Mary: Saturday, 7th October in Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood. Celebrate a Marian festivity through the eyes of the Filipinos. A day dedicated to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. The day begins promptly at 2pm with a Marian talk, a Living Rosary at 4.30pm with the procession of all Marian statues and icons. Concluding with Mass at 6pm. There will be an opportunity to try Filipino cuisine during and after the event. Bring your Marian images, any old rosaries you wish to donate. **If you would like to pledge towards flowers please contact 023 8033 3589**

40 Days for Life Southampton began 27th September!

40 Days for Life is a cross-denominational campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil outside abortion providers. All participants are asked to sign a statement of peace in which they pledge to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner. This is an opportunity to engage in missionary work on our doorstep and to serve those being denied the most fundamental human right, the right to life. If you can spare any time between 8am-8pm Mon-Fri please consider joining us. Contact Theo choose.life.southampton@gmail.com to find out more.

If you have received a parking ticket for parking correctly in St Ed's back carpark (i.e., the gravel), please call 01202 757 050 & speak to Abby King in Castleford Management who can assist here. You will be asked to send a photograph or scan of your parking ticket to enquiries@castlefordmanage.co.uk. The Parish office will not be able to speak on your behalf.

Catholic Home Care is looking to recruit new carers to join a friendly and supportive team undertaking general domestic support, helping older people in their own homes. If you like elderly people and have time to spare during the week, this is the job for you with a good rate of pay. Car driver is an advantage (but not essential) and full training given. Success at interview will lead to an enhanced DBS check before appointment. Permanent and holiday cover carers required.

Closing date – Monday 9th October 2023, Interviews 17th October 2023. **Full details and application form from Xanthe Hackett or Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498**

Finding God in the non-Christian world. An Interreligious Dialogue Conference at St Bede Church, Basingstoke, Saturday 4th November: 10am to 3.30pm

A day organised by the Diocesan Interreligious Dialogue Team (Fr Vincent co-ordinator) to explore the Church's teaching on inter-religious dialogue, to learn from the experiences of others and to influence – and be part of – your parish and diocese as we both grow in Christian discipleship. Speakers: Fr Jan Nowotnik, Fr Michael Barnes SJ, Elliot Vanstone (Bishop's Conference) and Dr Yvette Harrington (member of the Team). Book via Eventbrite: <https://shorturl.at/mvFOY>

Sunday 9am Choir St Edmund's Mary Berridge is stepping down from her role as choir leader at the 9am. We are very grateful to her for sharing her talents with us for all these years! We are looking for two or three people to take over the following tasks as soon as possible:

- Planning hymns** for the choir, usually months ahead (using tools like the Parish Mass Book and Laudate).
 - Emailing the choir members** with the list of hymns.
 - Teaching new hymns**, with the object of encouraging the congregation to sing.
 - Choir practice** once a month (usually on the last Wednesday of the month after the 7pm Mass).
 - Play the piano** to accompany the choir on Sundays.
- Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to take this on. We already have one person who is happy to share the tasks and offer cover when needed, it would be lovely to have a few people to tackle the role.

CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal Friday 6th October.

Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast – so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Donate to CAFOD today so that more families can get the expert help they need. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk

Gift Aid Declaration Forms are available at the back of church or can be posted / emailed from the Office if requested. If you are a gift aider we can claim on donations on anything eligible as long as we can identify it is yours. **No gift aid can be claimed on cash unless it is brought to the parish office.**

Wednesday 11th October 2023, Liturgy - The theology of the Liturgy of the Word. The celebration of the liturgy is about an encounter. God encounters us and we encounter Him. We encounter the saving mysteries of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the celebration of the liturgy. The notion of encounter is key in understanding the Liturgy of the Word. Fr Anthony will reflect upon the importance of the Word of God in the context of liturgical celebrations, by looking at the theological structure of the Liturgy of the Word considering the readings, the psalms, the acclamation, the Gospel, the homily, the creed and the intercessions. To register for the course please see <https://shorturl.at/jmOQR>

The Threads through Creation exhibition is currently on at Portsmouth Anglican Cathedral. Threads through Creation is a retelling of the creation story from the book of Genesis, told through 12 huge textile panels. The exhibition is there until 15th October.

More details about the exhibition can be found here: <https://www.jacqui-textile.com/creation/>

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER

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

Saturday 30th Sept <i>St Jerome</i>	6:15pm SJ	Laurence and Marie Elizabeth Crawley RIP
Sunday 1st Oct <i>Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am SE 10:00am SJ 11:00am SE	Thanksgiving People of the Parish God's Providence and Guidance for Judith and Chijioke Aguocha Marina's Intentions Richardson family RIP
Tuesday 3rd Oct <i>Feria</i>	7:00pm SE 10:30am SE	
Wednesday 4th Oct <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	7:00pm SE	Thanksgiving to St Anthony
Thursday 5th Oct <i>St Faustina Kowalska</i>	12:15pm SJ	Jean Rickman RIP
Friday 6th Oct	7:00pm SE	Alice O'Donnell RIP
Saturday 7th Oct <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	11:00am SE 6:15pm SJ	Iris Seikus RIP & Lin Seagrave health Maureen White RIP
Sunday 8th Oct <i>Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am SE 10:00am SJ 11:00am SE 7:00pm SE	People of the Parish Thanksgiving Pat's Birthday Blessings John Morris 65th Birthday Blessings

1st October Psalm Response

Remember your mercy,
Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep
my word, and my Father will
love him, and we shall come to
him!

Alleluia!

8th October

1st Reading:

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Psalm: 79

2nd Reading:

Philippians 4: 6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-43

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

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey

Email Address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 023 8033 4891

Assistant Priest: Father David Bateman

Email Address: dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 02380 172 104

Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott 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: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Parish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

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

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

Safeguarding: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Gift Aid: Ian Lang giftaid@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Pastoral Assistant: Tina Quinn tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Catholic Home Care: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Xanthe Hackett & Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Telephone: 023 8178 6316 southampton@pcmew.org

Stella Maris (AoS): Charles Stuart Mob No 07843 739 579

Catholic Chaplains:

Sr Emiliana Silva e.silva@soton.ac.uk 07426 000 213

Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Vocations: www.portsmouthvocations.org/

Diocesan Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Diocesan Facebook & Twitter: [@PortsmouthRC](https://www.facebook.com/PortsmouthRC)

We are part of Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth,

Fr Vincent's Leaving Collection

Fr Vincent will be retiring in October after
some 13 years as parish priest here. We will
miss him greatly!

If you would like to contribute to the
collection for Fr Vincent you can do so in
various ways...

Bank Transfers with the reference "VH Leaves"
to the normal Parish Bank Account

Contactless Giving at the back of church

Online Giving via the website/donate QR code

Cheques to CDP SOUJE with a note advising
their purpose

Cash in the retiring collection on the 14th/15th
October

Cash / Cheques in the Brown Envelopes

If you are eligible for gift aid we can claim an
extra 25% on your donation (at no cost to you)
and add this to Fr Vincent's Leaving Total.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

*We the people of St Joseph's and St Edmund's City
Centre Catholic Parish, Southampton, sisters and
brothers in Christ, accept as our mission, in the
service of God and as a community of disciples:*

- to share God's love with all those we meet

*- to welcome all so as to help others
find and recognise Christ in their lives*

- to exercise mercy and

understanding with ourselves and others.



Join the
Parish!