



PREDICATING THE NATURAL VS SUPERNATURAL SIGNS

On the 27th of March 2020, the entire world was gripped by the figure of an old man limping along an empty St Peter's Square with the burden of the world on his shoulders. That man is Pope Francis. He offered an extraordinary Urbi et Orbi blessing for an end of the pandemic. It was evening and the heavens opened with a heavy downpour while Pope Francis looked unperturbed. Although we all grappled with fear of the unknown virus, Pope Francis settling with Mark 4:35-40 on Jesus calming the sea, reminded us not to be afraid but to entrust all our anxieties to the Lord. The doomsday prophecies about the Coronavirus bringing the world to an end would be the 3rd time I have been exposed to such in the three decades of my existence. I was exposed to the 1st and 2nd of such doomsday prophecies in 1990 and 2000 respectively, when many people around us in Nigeria sold their property and stopped working because the end of the world was predicated. Thanks to God we are alive to tell the tale. In the readings of this Sunday, we are exposed to such apocalyptic prophecies about the end of the world; unparalleled since nations first came into existence as stipulated in our first reading from Prophet Daniel, and the cosmic upheavals as enunciated in Mark's Gospel. Such apocalyptic prophecies when pondered in isolation can easily instil fear into us that we forget the crucial fact - that although we can easily read the physical signs of the times, no one can read and predict the spiritual and supernatural end of humanity and the world. Yes, nobody knows (oida) the day (hemera) or the hour (hora). Why? This is because by His one single sacrifice on the cross, Christ had achieved the eternal perfection of all whom He is sanctifying as the second reading assures us. It is this Blessed Assurances that kindles our hope on this Remembrance Sunday that all those who gave their lives for us to have a safer world are at peace. May we always remember them.

Father Johnpromise

Questions to ponder for the Week...

1. Talking about the end of time Jesus says "As for the day or hour, nobody knows it,.....no one but the Father" (Gospel). Does that worry you? If 'yes', why? If 'no', why? What end is Jesus talking about: our time?; earth time?; universe time?

2. "....all those whose names are written in the Book" will be saved, Daniel writes (1st reading). What do you think that means? How do you think one gets one's name in 'The Book'?

3. By virtue of Christ's single sacrifice He has "achieved the eternal perfection of all whom He is sanctifying". Who has been sanctified? You? Those you know? Everyone?

Vincent Harvey

Today's Notices

Remembrance Day when we remember the dead of war and pray for peace throughout the world.

Welcome to Canon Nicholas France who is presiding at the 11am Mass so that Father Vincent can co-lead the City Remembrance Service.

First Holy Communion Registration at 9am, 10am and 11am Masses (see elsewhere).

Please continue to sanitise hands on entry to the churches and we strongly recommend wearing face **masks** (unless not possible for health reasons).

Evening Prayer @6pm..... to join email Dcn Andy

Masses are being streamed as usual on our YouTube.

Ongoing income is, as we know, vital. This can be done online, via BACS, cash/cheques to the Parish office.

A Few Words...

Thank you for all the birthday cards, messages of goodwill and presents that I received last week. I missed Father Johnpromise's rendering of 'Happy Birthday' after the 7pm Mass on the 5th November; but thank you for the Mass intention.Age! What can I say? I won't!

Please note the timings of Masses over Christmas elsewhere in the newsletter. Also the introduction of a Crib Service (volunteers required: contact the Parish Office or me or Fiona): this will be for the families only as we cannot risk an overfull church!! This will not be a Mass.

Vodcasts are coming back^{II} Not sure if that is good or bad! Father Johnpromise and I will try to produce one every fortnight!

We are still looking for people to be involved with welcoming at Mass and also 'Mass coordinators' (to set up the altar for Mass); also Children's Liturgy of the Word (during the 9am Mass) and refreshments after the 9am and 10am (the latter has already recommenced).

Have a good weekend and thank you for reading this..... Vincent H

Adoration at St Edmund's needs more Adorers...

'Tell yourself, "In four hours, in two hours, in one hour, our Lord will give me an audience of grace and love. He has invited me; He is waiting for me; He is longing for me" - St. Peter Julian Eymard

Please contact the office if feel able to join the team.

This Week...

Week Information

Tues DR clergy meeting: VH; Future Communities Meet: VH; Meditation Group at 6pm St Michael's Alpha at 7pm Zoom SLT: VH/TQ/AP/MH; Diocesan Inter-religious Meet: VH Wed Team Meeting: VH/JP/AP JHK fund: VH HMO meet: VH/AS Journey in Faith after 7pm Mass Evening Prayer at 6pm Thurs CIC meeting: VH EST meeting (Parish Council) Fri Clergy Mins meet: VH Climate Change meet: VH/TQ Sat Teams of Our Lady: VH

Sacraments

First Holy Communion 2022 During November we will be inviting registration for First Holy Communion preparation. Children must be 8-9 years old (e.g.: Year 4 at school) or above. They should be parishioners who come to Mass at St Joseph's or St Edmund's (6.15pm, 9, 10, 11am or 7pm).

Registration will take place after the 9am, 10am and 11am on Sundays the 7th, 14th, 21st or 28th November. You must register in person.

If you have already approached the Parish Office you must still come to one of these registration mornings. These days/times are the official registration. Please note that there is a thirty-five pound fee for this course so please bring correct change when you come.

Confirmation Candidates shall receive their Certificates at each of the Masses next weekend. If your regular Mass has changed since you informed Ruth then please get in touch with the Office or Ruth so we can ensure the right certificates are at the right Masses.

Please keep them all in your prayers.

Funerals



Martin Ryan RIP As you know Martin died two weeks ago. His Requiem will be on Friday next (19th November) at 11am in St Edmund. Pray for Moira and the family during this difficult time. May Martin rest in peace.



What's going on?

people in need".

St Elisabeth Convent, Belarus, shall have a stall at St Edmund's 11am Saturday 20th November. They shall also be at the 9am, 11am and 7pm on Sunday. Please come prepared to support their vital work if you are able. "Owing to your past generosity, kindness and support we have

Defibrillator outside St Edmund's CATHSOC Students & the Catenians are raising money for this important project. Please pass on any donations to the Parish Office or in a clearly marked envelope so the funds get to the students.

been able to advance our ministry and help many more

Breakthrough workshop The Marriage and Family Life team would like to invite you to the next Breakthrough Workshop on Saturday 27th November 2021 at the Church of the Holy Family, Southampton. To register or for further enquiries on group discounts please contact Aba Shields at marriagefamilylife@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Christmas Matters - Fanning The Flame Day - 4th

December: A day for young people to discover why the Incarnation matters, how it must affect our daily lives, from how we treat ourselves and others to our understanding of the dead and belief in the Resurrection. Led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, it's an opportunity for young people to come together and grow in faith and fellowship, and have some fun too! Ages: 10-21. Location: Holy Family, Southampton. Time: 945am - 6:00pm Cost: £10 - please bring your own lunch. For more information and to book a place: www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/christmas-matters

CAFOD World gifts As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones, let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue from the back of church.

Prayer Corner



Pope's prayer intention for November: For those who suffer from depression: "Overwork and work-related stress cause many people to experience extreme exhaustion – mental, emotional, affective, and physical exhaustion".

On Wednesday 17th November Vigil of the Dedication of the Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. On this month's Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life, we are especially asking you to fast and pray for the end of DIY abortions at home. Please join in and invite others to join as well. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR Margaret Hicks, Joe and Maureen Lee, Marissa Tellegen, Zeljko Uvanovic, Margaret ('Molly') Jarvis and *all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.*

CHRISTMAS 2021

This Christmas we are planning the following Masses:

Christmas Eve/Day:

St Joseph's 8pm Christmas Eve 10am Christmas Day St Edmund's 10.30pm Christmas Eve 9am & 11am Christmas Day Boxing Day (Sunday 26th): Feast of the Holy Family St Edmund's 9 & 11am and 7pm St Joseph's 10am

Children's Christmas Crib Service: Christmas Eve (Friday 24th) at 4pm in St Edmund's Church; a Service by and for children (not a Mass)......[this is providing we manage to get volunteers to plan and run the celebration].

Decoration of St Joseph's & St Edmund's: we would like children/families/individuals to create tree and other decorations from natural products (to reduce our reliance on plastic and the like). Things like: Fir cones/sprayed gold or silver/with a ribbon to tie onto the tree in the churches. And any other ideas!!

Christmas Stars available during Advent for £1 for Catholic Home Care: put your loved one's name on the tree.

The 'Big Clean' St Jo's & St Ed's sparkle each year due to the brilliant work of the Cleaning teams. We are very grateful to all who step in around Christmas to assist with preparing the churches. Looking for volunteers for each church to help this year, so do get in touch if you can or look out for a list appearing at the back of church to put your name down.

Jingling Bells 2021 Postboxes are in the churches for Christmas cards for NHS Staff. Carols to be sung Sunday 12th December at 1500h followed by tea in St Edmund's. Your cards will be delivered before Christmas.

Home Care Christmas Gifts Baskets will be available in the porches weekends of 28 November and 5 & 12 December. These gifts make a big difference - thank you! Please consider picking up a small gift or two for us to pass on to our elderly clients. The carers choose a gift to suit the individual; for some it's an extra treat, however we have some who have very little in their lives, for whom the gift needs to be practical – so no gift is too small. Many of the Christmas offerings now in the shops would be suitable – toiletries, chocolates, biscuits, socks, scarves etc. Gifts should be new and unwrapped so that individual health and dietary requirements can be considered. If you are unable to shop, or attend Mass, you may like to donate a monetary gift for us to buy on your behalf?

Stella Maris Christmas Gifts Please consider providing sailors with small gifts for Christmas which will have a substantial positive impact on them. Rucksacks have been placed in the back of each church for you to fill with gifts in for the sailors for Stella Maris to collect and distribute for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.



(CHURCH KEY TO CITY CENTRI	E CATHOLIC M	ASSES	MMENCING SUNDAY 14TH NOV s below: sj = st joseph's ChurCh, bugle street,	Prayer of the Church
SO14 2AH AND SE = ST EDMUND'S CHURCH, THE AVENUE, SO17 1XJ)				Week 1
Saturday 13th Nov	6:15pm	SI	James O'Reilly RIP & Family	14th Nov 33rd Sunday in OT
<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	7:00pm		Msza Polska / Mass in Polish	Psalm Response:
, , ,	-		-	Preserve me, God, I take
Sunday 14th Nov	9:00am		PJ Phelan RIP	refuge in you.
	10:00am	SJ	Joe Crofton RIP	Gospel Acclamation:
33rd Sunday in OT	11:00am	SE	Joseph Paes RIP	Alleluia, alleluia!
	7:00pm	SE	Patrick Moran RIP (14th	Stay awake and stand ready,
			Anniversary)/ Maria Capetta RIP	because you do not know the
Tuesday 16th Nov	10:00am	SE	Mors family God's Blessing	hour when the Son of Man is
St Edmund of Abingdo	п		& Thanksgiving	coming.
Wednesday 17th Nov	7.00pm	SE	Liz Page RIP	Alleluia!
, St Elizabeth of Hungary	•		5	Readings 21st Nov
Thursday 18th Nov	, 12:15pm	SI	Iris Kuitenbrouwer	First Reading:
Feria	12.19011	2)		Daniel 7:13-14
	7.000	сг	Manulaha Dutahand Mallhaina	Second Reading:
Friday 19th Nov	7:00pm	SE	Mgr John Butchard Wellbeing	Apocalypse 1:5-8
Feria				Gospel:
Saturday 20th Nov	11:00am	SE	Jose Paes RIP	John 18:33-37
Our Lady on Saturday	6:15pm	SJ	Jadwiga Rybka RIP 1st Anniversary	
Sunday 21st Nov	7:00pm	SE	Msza Polska / Mass in Polish	7th November Weekly Collection Standing Orders: £1,700
Our Lord Jesus Christ,	9:00am	SE	Anthony Axton RIP	All cash donations were for Bamenda
King of the Universe	10:00am	SJ	Princey Ponniah Beck RIP (Birthday	Sunday this week
			, Anniversary)	Total: £1,700
	11:00am	SE	Phil and Ethel Conway RIP	Second Collections:
			Helena Rojkova - Healings & blessings	This week: No Second Collection
	7.00pm	32		Next week: Church Maintenance Fund

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey Email Address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk / 023 8033 4891 Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru Email Address: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk /023 80172104 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO152EQ Deacon Andy Philpott aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Deacon: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589 Parish Secretary: Parish Office Address: St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ Parish Email: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Tina Quinn tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Catholic Home Care: Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498 Email: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski 02381786316 southampton@pcmew.org Tel. No. Safeguarding Rep: Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589 Email: safeguarding@southampton-city-catholics.org.uk Stella Maris (AoS): Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 7843 739579 Catholic Chaplains: Sr Emiliana Silva e.silva@soton.ac.uk 07426 000213 Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Solent Chaplain: Isabelle Kirby volunteer239 (a) solent.ac.uk 07414462636

Into Thy hands, O Lord, and into the hands of Thy holy angels, I commit and entrust this day my soul, my relations, my benefactors, my friends and my enemies, and all Thy people. Keep us, O Lord, through the day, by the merits and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, from all vicious and unruly desires, from all sins and temptations of the devil, and from sudden and unprovided death and the pains of hell. Illuminate my heart with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit; grant that I may ever be obedient to Thy commandments; suffer me not to be separated from Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.

(St Edmund of Abingdon feast day on Tuesday)

The Parish shall be launching a New Website soon so please be on the lookout for any exciting updates!

Confessions at 11am St Edmund's