



Donate



OCTOBER 15TH 2023 | TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN OT

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



## What do we expect of Heaven?

*“A banquet of rich food and a banquet of fine wines” (Isaiah)*

*A very good friend of mine is a fantastic cook. Whenever big celebratory days arrive like Easter or Christmas he always arranges the most amazing food. He is, of course, Italian; and like many Italians he is a very good cook and knows a thing or two about wine tasting. His favourite line that he would offer after grace was “all this and Heaven”. In other words, God has given us all this and we have Heaven to look forward too.*

*How often are we told that we don't know what Heaven will be like, it is a mystery. Yet the bible is full of descriptions. Take today's readings for example, the readings compare Heaven to that of a banquet or a feast. Sometimes it is described as a mountain, we climb the mountain and when we reach the peak all suffering and mourning is removed, like a veil. In today's Gospel Heaven is described as a wedding. These are joyful occasions.*

*I do think Heaven is a mystery but the writers who describe Heaven, including Jesus Himself, are trying to use our senses in describing this place of mystery: using food we like to awaken tastebuds, using mountains to engage our eyes, having the smell of aged wine to fill us with melancholy. We must remember that the fullness of this joy comes at the top of the mountain. We experience glimpses of it here on earth, but there are always peaks and troughs throughout our lives.*

*We can't fully know what Heaven is like and thanks be to God for that because it might ruin the surprise. However, there will be no suffering, we will never feel that hunger which might be physical or perhaps emotional or spiritual. This week is a chance to really engage with our senses and allow God to work with them to help us grow closer to him and then just like my friend we can say “all this and Heaven”.*

*God bless,*

*Fr David Bateman*

## Questions to Ponder for the Week...

1. Besides answering God's invitation to the feast (Gospel), what is expected of us? Are we the guests or are we also the ones doing the inviting? How does this banquet not only sustain life but also transfigure it?
2. How can a feast--juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines (1st reading)-- be a sacramental vision of the universe? Does banquet imagery describe well the fullness of life in the presence of God? How would you describe it?
3. In what way does God give you strength (2nd reading)? Do you share other people's hardships?

*Vincent Harvey (Adapted from Anne Osdieck)*

## Today's Notices

**Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Mass Count** at all Masses

**Retiring collection** is our 'gift' to Father Vincent as he begins retirement

**Welcome to Jenny Taylor** at 6.15pm Mass to receive her certificate for 800 hours of Street Pastoring in the City

**Insight course** promotion at all Masses

## Next Sunday Notices

**Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## 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

**Thu** EST meeting at 7pm

**Fri** Mass of Thanksgiving + Party 7pm

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

## For Info...

**Mon** Day off: VH/DB (+moving!)

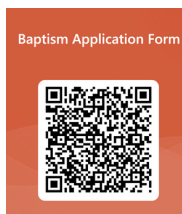
**Tues** Chapter Meeting: VH (last one!)

**Wed** Team Meeting: DB/VH/AP

**Thurs** Diocesan Interfaith Meet: VH

**Fri** Thanksgiving Mass: VH/DB/AP

## Sacraments



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.



Last week we welcomed into the Church through the Waters of Baptism: Vincent, Lena, Wojciech, Leonidas Gabriel, Isla, Timi-Jordan, Mia and Isabella. May they, and their families, grow in faith.



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

**John 5:24-29**

Please pray for the response of the soul of Matthew Rickard who died last week. May he rest in peace. We pray for his parents, John & Mary; also his siblings, John, Georgina & Elizabeth. His Requiem will be on Friday, 3rd November in St Edmund's at 10.45am.



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...

Well, is it nearly here: my final full week in the Parish, my 'Thanksgiving Mass', and final weekend. More next week! As you know my 'Thanksgiving & Farewell Mass' will be this **coming Friday (20th October) at 7pm in St Edmund's**, followed by a reception/gathering afterwards in St Anne's next door (so I'm reliably told.....I dread to think!!). Thank you to all who are organising this. I am humbled by the desire to celebrate my retirement. A few other clergy are coming, as well as Ecumenical and Interfaith representatives!!! I have definitely lost control of the plans!!!! **Please do come along!**

I gather the **retiring collection this week** is for me (I have seen the envelopes!), and individuals have been giving me John Lewis vouchers towards my new home (which is not yet ready so I will be in temporary accommodation). Sounds boring but practicable! I am up for more!

I will leave on Tuesday 24th when Canon Michael Dennehy arrives.

I have put many theological, scriptural, philosophical, spiritual and other books in St Edmund's foyer. Please take what you wish and put a donation into the maintenance box (we are going to need it!!!!!!!)

'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!). As this will be the Gospel we will be hearing every Sunday for 2023-24 I do encourage you to put it in your diary and book when Eventbrite is open. See elsewhere

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

**Across to Lourdes by Jumbulance.** We are planning a local (South Hampshire) group pilgrimage to Lourdes next summer: 13th-22nd June. We will travel in our specially adapted coach which is fully kitted out to meet the needs of all pilgrims, especially those who have additional needs. [www.across.org](http://www.across.org)

Costs will be around £1000 per person but we are planning to do some fundraising and bursaries may be available for young people (18-25) and medical/care professionals.

To register an interest please contact Ruth Cunio (Southampton City Centre parish) [ruth@across.org.uk](mailto:ruth@across.org.uk)

**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?

### Parish 9-16 Youth Group beginning January!

We have a group of volunteers who are planning to launch a Youth Group in St Edmund's Hall on the 1st & 3rd Fridays in the month. Keep an eye on the newsletter for any group events planned before Christmas. If your child or young person would be interested in joining please register at here <https://forms.office.com/e/YMD3LSTSk9>



**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.**

**I Mark: to be performed in St Edmund's at 7pm on Friday, 24th November** (£5 per person: any 'profit' will go towards the Organ Fund). Listening to a gospel in its entirety in one sitting enables us to grasp the whole picture and message. It is certainly beneficial for us to hear it in one sitting before we begin to listen to it little by little. Rt Rev Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury said: "Sometimes it takes a living voice to make you hear the Bible for the first time - a voice that presents some saying or episode not as a stray fragment but as part of the rhythm and pace of a story that goes on gathering momentum. Mark's gospel has just that kind of momentum, and this performance gives a memorably strong sense of it."

Watch an extract: <https://youtu.be/tg5-eW-W-xc>  
(The Last Supper). The Eventbrite link to book is: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/i-am-mark-tickets-711430175807?aff=oddtcreator>

**The Insight Course** The course is designed for those who wish to:

- explore and increase their knowledge of our Faith;
- develop their own spirituality & relationship with God;
- deepen their prayer life;
- learn skills for spreading the good news to others (evangelisation).

There are no prerequisites for those attending the course and all are welcome. Our invitation is to those who would be interested and who would be able to make a commitment to attend most meetings. We will take generous breaks around Christmas, Easter and over the summer period.

The course will be given every fortnight on Thursday evening starting at **7:30pm starting on Thursday 28 October**. The sessions will last for 1 hour 30 minutes. A draft timetable is available on request. The course will only be given in face-to-face mode, and normally in the Sister's house at 33 Elmsleigh Gardens Southampton, SO16 3GF (just off Glen Eyre Road).

Registration by email to [sisteryadira@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sisteryadira@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Finding God in the non-Christian world.** An Interreligious Dialogue Conference at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke, Saturday 4th November: 10am to 3.30pm. Register at: <https://shorturl.at/mvFOY>

**Mass of Thanksgiving** for Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey's Ministry in City Centre Parish

**Friday, 20th October at 7pm**

St Edmund's Church

Reception to follow in St Anne's School

Please come along. All are welcome!

**KEY RETURNS.** We are hosting a "key amnesty" where anyone in the parish with keys they no longer need is politely invited to return them. **If you have keys to parish property you must return these to the Parish Office as soon as possible.** If you attach your name to the keys and specify why you need them going forward then they will be added to the list to consider, but otherwise you need not put your name with them. **You save the Parish money returning keys you do not need.** You can put the keys in the collection bags at Mass, send them to the Parish Office or give them to the welcomers/clergy at Mass to make their way back to the Office (if not obvious, please identify their usage!). If you have keys you use so often you cannot part with them please email the Parish Office which keys you have, or contact us to let us know.

**Sunday 9am Choir St Edmund's :** Mary Berridge is looking for someone (a few people?) who could take over her role at 9am:

- 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.

**A Commemoration Service** for those who have been homeless and have died since 2020: St Mary's Church, St Mary Street, at 11am on Wednesday, 1st November. Do come along.

**Springhill School** have part time vacancies for a caretaker, a cleaner, and midday supervisors. Full details of these jobs can be found on the school website - <https://www.springhillcatholic.co.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 taxpayer the Parish can claim back a percentage of the tax you have already paid - so while your donation to the parish increases by 25%, this is at no extra cost to you. 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**



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

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

<b>Saturday 14th Oct</b>	<b>6:15pm SJ</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 15th Oct</b>	<b>9:00am SE</b>	Thanksgiving for prayers answered
<i>Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>10:00am SJ</b>	Jeremy Fredric Warburg RIP
	<b>11:00am SE</b>	Fr Paul Beaumont RIP
	<b>7:00pm SE</b>	Alinda Pinto Birthday Blessings
<b>Tuesday 17th Oct</b>	<b>10:00am SE</b>	Dolores Smyllie RIP
<b>Wednesday 18th Oct</b>	<b>7:00pm SE</b>	For healing of the heart of the world
<i>St. Luke</i>		
<b>Thursday 19th Oct</b>	<b>12:15pm SJ</b>	Mary's sister Jane RIP & Mary's sister Kath RIP
<i>Feria</i>		
<b>Friday 20th Oct</b>	<b>7:00pm SE</b>	Thanksgiving for Father Vincent
<b>Saturday 21st Oct</b>	<b>11:00am SE</b>	Angela Sahota
<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	<b>6:15pm SJ</b>	Malgosia Wellbeing
<b>Sunday 22nd Oct</b>	<b>9:00am SE</b>	Reynaldo Cruz RIP
<i>Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	<b>10:00am SJ</b>	Mr Shing Philip So RIP
	<b>11:00am SE</b>	People of the Parish
	<b>7:00pm SE</b>	Father Vincent's Intentions

15th October

### Psalm Response

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.

*Alleluia!*

22nd October

### 1st Reading:

*Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6*

**Psalm:** 95

### 2nd Reading:

*Thessalonians 1: 1-5*

**Gospel:** *Matthew 22: 15-21*

### 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](mailto:vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) 023 8033 4891

**Assistant Priest:** Father David Bateman

Email Address: [dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) 02380 172 104

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

**Deacon:** Deacon Andy Philpott [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: [office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

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

**Gift Aid:** Ian Lang [giftaid@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:giftaid@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Tina Quinn [tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Catholic Home Care:** [catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Xanthe Hackett & Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Telephone: 023 8178 6316 [southampton@pcmew.org](mailto:southampton@pcmew.org)

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

**Catholic Chaplains:**

Sr Emiliana Silva [e.silva@soton.ac.uk](mailto:e.silva@soton.ac.uk) 07426 000 213

Father Benjamin Theobald [btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Vocations:** [www.portsmouthvocations.org/](http://www.portsmouthvocations.org/)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://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*

**Join the Parish!**

*ourselves and others.*

