



Donate



JANUARY 15TH 2023 | 2ND SUNDAY IN OT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



Behold the Lamb of God

This Sunday we continue to journey with John the Baptist in his early ministry and encounters with Jesus. Over the last two weeks we have been presented with two epiphanies: the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi, and the Baptism of Jesus when God revealed Him to be His son. John reminds us of descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus and the fact that it rested on Him. Jesus in His life and ministry is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Today we hear and witness a third epiphany or revelation: John declaring that Jesus is the Lamb of God. How did John receive this remarkable insight and truth which encapsulates salvation history?

Lambs held a special place in the Jewish temple of that time. A lamb (or other animal), an innocent victim, was sacrificed and through its death went to Heaven and was received as a gift to God. Because it was a creature of the earth it became a sign of union between God in Heaven and the people down below.

Jesus by being baptised became one with us and offered Himself as the sacrificial lamb. His roots like ours were established on earth, being born of a woman, but His death released Him into complete union with God the Father in Heaven. The name Lamb of God speaks to us of His innocence, and like the sacrificial lamb He carried our sins to the Father in order that we too could be reunited to the One who created us and loves us.

We hear the phrase 'Lamb of God' four times within the Mass. At the breaking of the host we sing three times: 'Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world...' and when the priest raises the host above the chalice and repeats those words of John the Baptist 'Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world...'

It is so easy to let these words, our response, trip off the tongue and lose their impact. Repetition is a form of prayer encouraged by several of the mystics and spiritual guides. St Ignatius in his exercises encourages us to repeat a line or a phrase to allow it to really sink into the depths of our being. Mary, the mother of Jesus, pondered these things in her heart. When we hear and speak the words 'Lamb of God' we are being invited into another moment of revelation and theophany. We, like John the Baptist, are witnessing a mystery and a truth: the entering into our lives and the world of the one who takes away not only our sins but the sins of the world. We should not say or proclaim this lightly. With confidence let us Behold and Believe!

Tina Quinn

Questions to Ponder for the Week...

1. John the Baptist 'reveals' Jesus to those with him (Gospel). That is also our role: to 'reveal' the presence of Christ in our midst and the midst of our contemporaries. Do you do that? How? When?
2. "You are my servant" Isaiah is told in our 1st reading. In what way are you God's servant? At home? At work? Out and about?
3. Paul, in our 2nd reading, greets the people of Corinth; in so doing he affirms them in faith. Do you affirm others in faith? When? How?

Vincent Harvey

Today's Notices

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

RCIA Rite of Welcome at 10am and 7pm Masses

Gift Aid Talk after all the Masses by Anna Smyllie

Second Collection for Catholic Home Care

Please continue to **sanitise hands** on entry to the church

Next Sunday Notices

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday in the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Rev Sarah Hall preaching at 7pm

Second Collection for Portsmouth Cathedral

Baptisms in St Edmund's

This Week...

Tues St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm

Liturgy Group Meeting on Zoom

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

Journey in Faith @ 7.30pm St Edmund's Hall

Thurs Richard Rohr Group on Zoom

EST on Zoom

For Info...

Mon Day off: VH/JP

Tues Springhill: Clergy; SLT Meet

Wed Team meeting: VH/AP/JP

Thu St George: VH

Fri Clergy Ministry Group

Holocaust Memorial Day is the 26th January.

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust is here to make sure that everyone, regardless of age or background, remembers and honours those who suffered during the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups and the genocides that followed.

This year's UK Online Commemoration will be streamed online on **Thursday 26th January 2023 at 7pm**. You can register to watch here:

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/ukhmd/>



Sacraments

Please remember especially in your prayers all those who have passed recently.



Pray for Valerie Perry who passed away two weeks ago, remembering also her family in your prayers. Her funeral will be in St Joseph's on the 25th of January.

Please pray for all those in our parish who will be Baptised this month: *Natan, Marcel, Wiktor, George, Audrey, Ellie, Jacob, Reina and Elizabeth*. We remember them in our prayers as they enter the Faith, and also remember their parents and godparents as they undertake the promises involved in baptism.

Confirmation 2023 Registration has closed meaning we are now not able to accept any further applications. Thanks to all who signed up, all 38 of you! Over the next few weeks we will be in touch with parents or guardians to discuss next steps.



A Few Words...

Another week opens in front of us, and we move into **'Ordinary Time'** in the Church's year. A strange phrase! It is to distinguish 'now' from Lent/Easter; Advent/Christmas. Ordinary Time sounds 'boring' and 'uninteresting' but that is not the Church's intention. As Pope John Paul II said when he came to the UK: "....we are called to live our ordinary lives in an extraordinary way...."! 'Ordinary Time' Mass vestments are green: a sign that Ordinary Time is about 'life': life as it is and life as it could be, because of change and growth! Let us enter this period with energy, commitment, vision and hope!

This Sunday Anna Smyllie will talk to us about **Gift Aid** and its importance for us as a Parish.

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** takes place from the 18th to 25th January (ends on the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul). Rev Sarah Hall will be preaching at 7pm Mass on the 22nd and I will be preaching at the URC Church Service the Sunday morning! To look at the theme of the Week access: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2023/>

Farewell to Ambrose after his brief time with us. It was good to have him around the house in Fr Johnpromise's absence. I know the people he visited were grateful. We wish Ambrose well as he returns to St Mary's, Oscott to continue his studies.

Do note that from 1st January 2023, the Diocese will be called **Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (CDP)**, with registered **Charity number 1199568**. This change comes about for legal reasons.

Finally does anyone know the provenance of the **Madonna & Child** in the Lady Chapel in St Edmund? I am trying to find its history and am drawing a blank!

Have a good week... Vincent H

Prayers

Adoration We are in need of more parishioners to cover the following days and times:

Mondays 3-6pm, Wednesdays 2-6pm & Fri 12-2pm.

Please contact Anna on **07956 379 542** if you feel able to join Adoration during the week in St Edmund's!



Please remember especially in your prayers *Sr Maria Innocenta, Mary Mullen, Christopher Browne, Peter Scott, Vasile, Imelda Weingart-West, Michaela* and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or experiencing distress.

If you would like to request prayers then please email the Parish Office. Every quarter we begin again the list, so if you have been removed but would like to go back on then please just get in touch.



What's going on?

Catholic Mothers' Q&A led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph's in Sway. **Are you a Catholic mother looking to learn more about your faith and how to transmit it to your children?** Join the monthly Q+A sessions hosted in collaboration with the Catholic Mothers' Apostolate. All sessions held on the first Friday of the month, 7.30pm-9pm. Use the link below to register for the Zoom course. <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUldOGtqDkjEtJ5kvl86Tu6PonjIMQOCFuL>

Quiz Night We invite you to join us for a quiz night hosted by the parishes of Annunciation Netley and St. Patrick's Woolston. Saturday **28th January 7pm in St. Patrick's Hall, Woolston.** Tickets £5 for adults, children go free. Snacks provided, please bring your own drinks. To reserve your ticket email: chrisbick66@gmail.com or call/text **07733 039402**

Retrouvaille Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with **a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023**, or a **Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023**, call or text **07887 296983** or **07973 380443** or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Mary's Meals – Double the Love From 1 November 2022 to 31 January 2023, donations made to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.5million. With Double the Love, your donation will be matched and your kindness will go even further – meaning we can reach even more desperately hungry children with a life-changing school meal. There are many ways to get involved, see marysmeals.org.uk

Food Banks Please consider donating to Southampton City Mission Food Bank if you are able to. You can do this by making use of the collection baskets in supermarkets when you go shopping, or by bringing items with you to church to place in the boxes in the porches. To check on the current out of stock items please see below link. Urgently needed currently are **Coffee & Sugar in small jars and Nappies size 5+**

<https://southamptoncitymission.co.uk/get-involved/how-to-donate>



Love Southampton is inviting you to their next 'Church Forum'. This will be taking place on **Tuesday 31st January from 2.30-5pm** at Central Hall (St Mary's Street, SO14 1NF). Please RSVP by emailing Matt Bunday by Friday 20th January matt@lovesouthampton.org.uk

Catechism in a Year is a free daily podcast and reading plan that guides us through the entire Catechism, complete with encouragement, insights, and enthusiasm that Fr. Mike Schmitz is well known for. With one short episode each day, you'll grow in your knowledge of Church teaching and deepen your loving faith. This Course began on the 1st of January, but can be started at any time. **Why not consider following along?** On all major podcast providers, Hallow Catholic App or YouTube.

Neighbour Watch information.....very useful info in the below Newsletter:

<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2023-01/Jan%202023%20OUR%20NEWS.pdf>

Sadly we are dealing with ongoing vandalism and theft within the church. At present we are locking the church outside of Adoration hours in order to protect the building and our possessions. We hope that these behaviours will cease and allow us to open all day, but in the meantime if anyone wishes to join our adoration schedule to help keep the doors open just contact Anna.

St Boniface Parish have set up a St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) to support the needy in whatever way they can. We in City Centre are joining with them and so if you would like to be involved do let Father Vincent know so that we can have a conversation and fill in an application form! We wait to hear from you!!.....Vincent H

Journey in Faith / RCIA Course For anyone looking to find out more about the Catholic Faith - come along and ask your questions, find out what the church teaches and what it means to live as a Catholic. This group also offers preparation for adult (18+) Baptism, Confirmation or Reception as a Catholic. Meetings are Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm in St Edmund's Hall. Just turn up!

Green Living Update...

Please pray for the following church climate and sustainable living action group intentions:

- Proposal to offer our members a joint Lent Course, The Plenty! <https://joyinenough.org/resources/plenty/> devised by Green Christian – informed and accessible.
- Wide ranging ideas arising as CCP engages with Eco Church, exploring possibilities such as working with a cemetery or school.
- ASA Church Meeting considering applying for Eco Church Bronze Award, and whether to adopt action plan for 2023: 'Going for Silver'.

The wider scene: 2022 UK's warmest year ever <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-64173485>

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 15TH JANUARY

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

Saturday 14th Jan <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	6:15pm	SJ	Past & Present Members of the Edge & White Families
Sunday 15th Jan <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am	SE	Greta & PJ Phelan RIP
	10:00am	SJ	Patrick Moran RIP 15th Anniversary
	11:00am	SE	Jen Bridges RIP
	7:00pm	SE	People of the Parish
Tuesday 17th Jan	10:00am	SE	Karen Nugent RIP
Wednesday 18th Jan	7:00pm	SE	Mary Josephine Shanahan RIP
Thursday 19th Jan	12.15pm	SJ	Sr Magdalen RIP
Friday 20th Jan	7:00pm	SE	Thomas James Crowley RIP
Saturday 21st Jan <i>St Agnes</i>	11.00am	SE	Hilary Parker Birthday Blessings & Good Health
	6:15pm	SJ	B'day Blessings & Thanksgiving for Dr Hugo & Anak Putuhena, Lucky D, Prema Mummy RIP
Sunday 22nd Jan <i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am	SE	Bridget Lennon RIP
	10:00am	SJ	Patricia Freitas RIP
	11.00am	SE	People of the Parish
	7:00pm	SE	God's Blessings & Thanksgivings on the Wedding Anniversary of M & T

15th January

Psalm Response:

Here I am, Lord!

I come to do Your will.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

8th Jan 1st Collection

SO: £5,031.35 Cash: £1,205.20

Contactless: £361

Gift Aid: £1,252

TOTAL: £7,849.55

Thank you.

22nd January

1st Reading: *Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3*

Psalm: 26

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:10 - 13, 17

Gospel:

Matthew 4:12 - 23

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey

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

Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589

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

Parish Email: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Parish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

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

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

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

Safeguarding: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

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

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Catholic Chaplains:

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Solent Chaplain:

Sr Issy Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414 462636

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,
Registered Charity Number 1199568.*

As a parish we extend a warm welcome to all those on our current RCIA course who are involved in the Rite of Welcome at two of our weekend Masses.



Please continue to pray for all the candidates as they journey in faith at this time, praying for those who are involved in their preparation also and for those sponsoring individuals.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

Hebrews 13:2, ESV

RCIA Sessions are Wednesday 7.30pm in St Edmund's hall, all are welcome.

Confessions

St Joseph's on Thursdays at 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm

St Edmund's on Saturdays after the 11am Mass

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!