



Donate



JANUARY 22ND 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY IN OT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



DWELLING WITH THE OUTCASTS & UNITING EVERYONE

On the 17th of January 2023, the Cathedral of Palermo was turned to a massive pilgrimage ground when over 10,000 people from all over the world celebrated the funeral of Brother Biagio Conte, dubbed “the modern-day St Francis of Assisi”. Biagio Conte was born in Palermo in 1963 into a wealthy family of builders. When he was 26, he watched a documentary about children dying of hunger in Africa and he resolved to go to Africa and help. Before going off to Africa, he stopped by Palermo to bid farewell to his relatives, it was there he saw the deplorable situations of the poor, the hungry, the outcasts, and the marginalised people of the city and he vowed to stay and fight for them. In 1993, he founded the “Mission of Hope and Charity” that houses and takes care of over 800 persons and serves over 2,400 meals every day. Conte underwent lengthy hunger strikes, slept roughly, begged alms, organised protests and made pilgrimages with the cross on his shoulders, as ways of getting the political elite to step-up reliefs for the poor. Before long, he became the rallying point and the common voice of everyone fighting for a fairer world. After the Holy Mass celebrated at his bedside before his death, Conte said, “Let’s stand united for a better world, we can make it together.”

In our Sunday readings this weekend, we encounter Christ who purposely commenced His public ministry in Capernaum (The Village of Comfort). The choice of Capernaum is not accidental but deliberate. Although Capernaum was a thriving fishing village and on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee; it has a chequered history. Those who occupied it in the 8th Century BC (the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali) were the first to be attacked by the Assyrians, their elites sent into exile, while their peasants were forced into marriage with the Gentiles; this resulted in their descendants becoming the Samaritans of Jesus’ era. Yet, it is this “Galilee of the Gentiles” was made up of outcasts, marginalised and ostracised people, that Jesus dwelt with, ministered to, and adopted their city as His own. My friends, in this week of prayer for Christian Unity, like Jesus, and Biagio Conte, who welcomed everyone no matter their backgrounds and/or beliefs, we are summoned to welcome, dwell with, and become lights for each other especially the outcasts and marginalised, bearing in mind that we are all sons and daughters of God without exceptions.

Fr Johnpromise

Questions to Ponder for the Week...

We are in the Octave of the ‘Week of Prayer for Christian Unity’. Theme: promotion of racial justice; so a few questions within that context.

1. Where can you speak out together with other Christians supporting racial justice?
2. What burdens are people carrying in your/our area that the churches could support together?
3. Where do you need God’s help in recognising, understanding and overcoming your own prejudice?

Vincent Harvey

Today's Notices

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday in the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Rev Sarah Hall preaching at 7pm (Fr Vincent will be preaching at the URC 10.30am Service)

Welcome and thank you to Father Godwin from St Boniface who is presiding at the 10am Mass

Bible Sunday 'Sunday of the Word of God' (see elsewhere in the newsletter)

Second Collection for our support of St John's Cathedral: the mother church of the Diocese

Baptisms in St Edmund's

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

Next Sunday Notices

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Appeal at the end of Mass for the work of **Lepra**

Second Collection for Lepra

This Week...

Tues St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm
Pre-Marriage Course on Zoom

Wed Evening Prayer @ 6pm.... to join email Dcn Andy
Journey in Faith @ 7.30pm St Edmund's Hall

Thurs Parish Green Group

For Info...

Mon Day off: JP / VH holiday (5 days)

Wed Funeral: JP

Sat Deanery Consultation in Holy Family: VH/JP/AP
& others

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/>



Southampton will mark the UK's national Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day with a commemorative event organised by the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations, University of Southampton and hosted by Solent University. For 2023, the universities this year will mark the 'Holocaust by bullets' at Babyn Yar, Ukraine.

Southampton's HMD event will take place in the Palmerston Lecture Theatre at Solent University on Wednesday 25 January from 6pm to 8pm (doors will open at 5.30pm). This event is hybrid (in-person and online), free, and all are welcome to attend. Those attending online will be sent joining details after registration.

For more information regarding this event, please email H.K.Capey@soton.ac.uk.

A Few Words...

Today is the Sunday in the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** (ends on the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul: this Wednesday). Rev Sarah Hall will be preaching at 7pm Mass tonight and I will be preaching at the URC Church Service this morning (Sunday)! To look at the theme of the Week access: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2023/>

Next weekend we have an appeal on behalf of **Lepra**. See the link for more details of their work:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/2f9d4c42/gTopGtrbvoyVzppg5QF8Ig?u=http://www.lepra.org.uk/>

We have just received a bill of **£2,500** for our gas and electricity in St Joseph's Church for this December!! This steep cost is much the same in all our buildings sadly! Everyone will have seen an increase in bills at the moment, but such an increase is causing us to examine our current hall usage and charges. More later on this.

Chinese New Year begins this weekend. For activities in the City visit: www.southamptonchinese.org.uk/cny2023
Happy New Year to all our Chinese parishioners and friends.

Have a good week... Vincent H

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 at **11.30am** 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. Over the next few weeks we will be in touch with parents or guardians to discuss next steps.

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.



What's going on?

Neighbour Watch useful info in the below Newsletter:
<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2023-01/Jan%202023%20OUR%20NEWS.pdf>

Poetry Share. We are hoping to restart Poetry Share in March 2023, and if you are interested in this group we would be delighted to hear from you.

To find out more about the Poetry Share group, and register an interest in joining us, please email Kate Greaves at poetryshare@btinternet.com

CAFOD meeting Saturday 4th February 10:30am to 12:30pm at Immaculate Conception Church hall Portswood Road. You are invited to come to a meeting to see how your donations make a difference to the communities that we work with. There will be an update on our work tackling climate change in Bangladesh as that is our focus story for Lent fast day. Please contact Jo Lewry for more details and to book your place by emailing jlwry@cafod.org.uk or call **07710 094447**

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. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. 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

At present we are locking the church outside of Adoration hours in order to protect the building and our possessions. We hope that the theft and vandalism will cease to 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.

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.

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



Gift Aid

Last week you will have heard a small talk on gift aid at the end of each Mass, and hopefully it made some sense to you! Here is a recap:



Gift aid is a tax relief for charities in the UK that increases donations by 25% at no extra cost to the donor. The charity is able to claim back tax that a donor has already paid to the government.

If in a year you give £20 a month to the Parish this adds up to £240, gift aid lets us claim 25% of this donation from the government - bringing the total gift aid claimable on this donation to £60. As long as you have paid more than £60 in tax to the government throughout the year, we can claim this money at no additional cost to you!

1) I have been a gift aider in the parish for years, do I need to do another declaration form? Yes, as the Diocese has changed to the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth we have been asked to fill in new forms under the new name. If you change address or change your name you must also fill in a new gift aid declaration as well.

2) I have filled in the declaration form and signed it, what do I do now? Now you need to return the form to Anna in the Parish Office. You can hand deliver it, post it, email a scanned copy or you can give your forms to the priests at Mass to return to Anna.

3) How can I donate to the parish so they can identify me as a gift aider? As long as we have your gift aid form all donations you make (that we can identify!) we claim on: **Standing Orders** with the donors name are the easiest way for the Parish to identify gift aiders, and the reliable predictable income helps the parish to budget. **Bank Transfers** are equally easy to match to a gift aider as long as the bank account is a donors name (or the reference).

Cash must be in an envelope marked with your name, or can be brought directly into the Parish Office.

Cheques (made payable to CDP SOUJE) as long as we know their purpose we can claim.

Contactless Machines take care of the gift aid forms automatically once you donate. Apologies to all who had registered before as you will have to do it again now we have a new name. The machine will automatically claim gift aid on the same card once registered.

4) Can I gift aid to the Second Collections charities too? Yes! For a one off donation you can make a bank transfer with the reference as the name of the charity, or an abbreviation.

Those paying to the Parish via Standing Order please contact Anna if you wish to make a contribution to second collections from your standing order each month. The next second collection calendar will be out in March.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 22ND JANUARY

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

Saturday 21st Jan <i>St Agnes</i>	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
Tuesday 24th Jan	10:00am	SE	John O'Reilly's Personal Intentions
Wednesday 25th Jan	7:00pm	SE	Philip Conway RIP
Thursday 26th Jan	12.15pm	SJ	John Stuart RIP
Friday 27th Jan <i>St Angela Merici</i>	7:00pm	SE	Isabel Vaughn-Spruce Strength & Priests & Vocations
Saturday 28th Jan <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	11:00am	SE	Fr Emmy, Fr Peter and Fr Eladio RIP
	6:15pm	SJ	Prayers & God's Blessings for Good Health & Peace in Universe
Sunday 29th Jan <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am	SE	Joachim Rodrigues RIP 2nd Ann.
	10:00am	SJ	Margaret & Lesley Grover RIP
	11:00am	SE	Marissa Tellegen RIP
	7:00pm	SE	People of the Parish

22nd January

Psalm Response:

The Lord is my light and my help.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people.

Alleluia!

15th Jan 1st Collection

SO: £583 Cash: £997.20

Contactless: £154

Gift Aid: £101.75

TOTAL: £1,835.95

Thank you.

29th January

1st Reading:

Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13

Psalm: 145

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

Gospel: *Matthew 5: 1-12*

CONTACT DETAILS

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

Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589

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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)

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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.*

'Bible Sunday, the Sunday of the Word of God'

Was instituted by Pope Francis in 2019, it falls on the third Sunday in OT, and "is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God." This particular Sunday is a fitting choice, and no coincidence, as it falls during that time of the year when we are encouraged to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity. The celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God has ecumenical value since, as the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity. ... The various communities will find their own ways to mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity. It is important, however, that in the Eucharistic celebration the sacred text be enthroned, in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God's Word. *There are a wealth of materials available on The God Who Speaks website to help keep this day special.*

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!