



Donate



DEC 17TH 2023 | THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



Gaudete Sunday!

Christmas is almost here but we are not there yet. These first few weeks of Advent has been a time of contemplating our relationship with God and perhaps renewing our relationship with Him. However, we can forget one key word in our Catholic vocabulary which is “rejoice”.

Today, the Church celebrates Gaudete Sunday, ‘Gaudete’ meaning rejoice.

This is still a time of reflection and conversion, but this is also a time, as Pope Francis says, to “think of all the good things life has given you”.

On the Advent wreath there are five candles. White, which represents Christmas day. Three Purple ones which represent hope, peace, and love.

There is also a pink candle which represents joy. Purple is the colour of advent, which promotes more of a penitential season; the pink is a reminder of joy. Whilst this is a time of reflection and a time of growth in our spiritual life, today is also a day of joy.

What should we be joyful about? Maybe it is something that has happened this year. Maybe it is something that is happening right now. Maybe there is something to look forward to in the future. Advent is a time to think of Christ in the past, present and future: Jesus coming to us in the manger, Jesus with us now in our everyday lives and situations, and Jesus when He will come again at the end of time. These are three reasons we can be joyful. St Paul writes in our second reading today that we should be always happy; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God. These things may seem impossible at times but when we see that Christ is present at all these times in our lives it suddenly seems possible.

Fr David



Today's Notices

Third Sunday of Advent / Gaudete Sunday

No Second Collection this week

Next Sunday Morning Notices

Fourth Sunday of Advent - 6.15pm, 9am, 10am, 11am

No Second Collection this week

Next Sunday Eve & Monday Notices

Christmas Eve Masses - 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 12am Midnight

The Collection is for our priests in gratitude for their ministry

Christmas Day Masses - 9am, 10am, 11am

The Collection is for our priests in gratitude for their ministry

Sacraments

Infant Baptisms. 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. The preparation runs on a bi-monthly basis and is required by the church.



We are intending to contact the families waiting early next week to ensure the baptisms and preparation are organised, so keep an eye out for our calls and messages!



"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 Michaela Waterfield whose Requiem Mass will be held at St Edmund's at 11am on 20th December. We pray for her husband, daughters and family. May she rest in peace.

Registrations for the First Holy Communion Programme 2024 have now closed. We are not in a position to consider anyone else joining.

The main email for FHC queries is:
fhc@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Adult Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmations or Receptions RCIA Course

This course is only for those who are over the age of 18. This course is held on Wednesday evenings in St Edmund's Hall after the 7pm Mass during term time.

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>



Saturday Dec 23	Saturday Morning Mass (fulfils no obligation)	Saturday Evening Mass (fulfils Sunday Obligation)
Sunday Dec 24	Sunday Morning Mass (fulfils Sunday Obligation)	Sunday Evening Mass (fulfils ONE Obligation for either day)*
Monday Dec 25	Mass on Christmas Day (fulfils Christmas Obligation)	
*Two Christmas Eve Masses can fulfil both obligations		

Advent Penitential Service is this Monday

18th December 7pm in St Ed's Church

'Confession heals, confession justifies, confession grants pardon of sin, all hope consists in confession; in confession there is a chance for mercy'
— St Isidore of Seville



Adoration

Adoration currently runs:

Mondays 6pm until 7pm Mass

Tuesdays beginning after 10am Mass until 8pm

Thursdays 10am until 5pm

Fridays 2pm until 7pm Mass.



We would like to offer Adoration

Mondays afternoon until 6pm

Fridays morning until 2pm

Thinking of joining?

Great news! We need Adorers at all the times currently covered and the times suggested to start. The more people on the rota per hour the better it is when people are away. Our Lord is waiting for us in the Blessed Sacrament, come and sit with Him a while. You can email the office, call us or text on 07956 379 542.

Prayers

As we await the coming of the Child Jesus at Christmas, we ask God to fill our hearts with joy for the gift of new life.

Lord hear us



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

General Notices

Thank you to all who volunteered, donated and helped in any way to help with the Christmas Fayre! We raised just over £600 for the Parish which will be a real help in the face of our high costs this year. Rock on next year's!

Are you looking for Catholic Advent Resources? Here is a website with some interesting ideas and prayers
<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/advent/>

A big thanks goes to the couple who have generously donated to cover the cost of boiler repairs in St Ed's. Made more impactful by the 25% gift aid on top of the donation :) It has been a big help, like all our donations.

Parish Youth Group for 10-16 year olds 5th January at 7pm in St Edmund's Hall The Youth Group will be in St Ed's Hall on the 1st & 3rd Fridays in the month. Please register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/YMD3LSTSk9>
We are looking for donations of board games and craft supplies. If you can bring these to the Parish Office on Tues, Thurs or Friday mornings that would be great :)



🎄 "JINGLING BELLS" 2023 17th Dec 1500-1630h 🎄
Come and sing Christmas carols in St Edmund's church followed by tea in the hall. Everyone welcome. Free to attend. Bring your family, friends, neighbours and a plate to share. Fancy dress, postbox for cards, gifts, sweets for NHS patients. 🎄👶👶👶👶👶

Volunteer With Southampton Church's Winter Beds in 2024 Sign up for a breakfast, evening arrivals or an overnight shift and help to provide a warm space for those who are homeless in Southampton. 29th Jan - 12th Feb (to finish at breakfast) at Lighthouse Church and 12th Feb (evening) - 26th Feb at the Boathouse. Questions? Email laura@citylife.org.uk

Catholic Youth Ministry Internships Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their Internship Programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the Lake District. For more info contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Catholic Home Care Donations from the 10am Tuesday Coffee after 10am Mass August-December 2023 totalling £126.86. Many thanks to all for their generous contributions. Jenepher.

Gift Aid Declaration Forms are at the back of church or can be posted/emailed from the Office on request. If you're a taxpayer the Parish can claim an extra 25% on your donation from tax you have already paid.

Parking Charges on Bugle Street and Rockstone Place
We have tried to resist the changes to parking on both streets but have unfortunately been unsuccessful. Parking at Mayflower Carpark near Bugle Street seems to be the most cost effective, as on the road is pricey.

Christmas Big Clean in St Ed's will be Friday 22nd Dec at 1pm - please come if you are able to help our church sparkle in time for Christmas! We will have cakes & sandwiches as treat afterwards :)

St Jo's does not have a scheduled big clean because Sue cleans the church for us. We are very grateful to her, but it would be nice if we could have a few more to help out! If you'd like to join in cleaning do see Sue to volunteer your services! It would also be very nice to have a team polish the brass and the silver... do do volunteer please.

Could you take over the regular laundering of the St Joseph's Altar Linens? An important task, in need of volunteers! Contact Sue or the Office to volunteer.

10am St Joseph's Mass are looking for parents or carers who wish to participate in reading prayers/readings or in the children's choir to add to a WhatsApp group. This will allow us to send you everything in advance so you can let us know if your child would like to participate and they can have the chance to practise at home. If you would like to join the group then you can do so by scanning the WhatsApp QR code. Please note that if you join the group your number will be visible to others on the group. If you have any questions please do let the parish office know.



St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) St Boniface Conference is local group of lay volunteers, who come together as a spiritual fraternity to help people in our community who are in need. We aim with the guidance and support of the Holy Spirit to bring practical aid to the sick or housebound, friendship to the lonely or bereaved, campaign for social justice, and provide assistance to those struggling with day-to-day essentials such as bills, food, clothing, or shelter. Inspired? Why not join us! Your time and talents, however small, are very welcome. Make a donation via svp.org.uk, Refer someone you know who needs help. Contact us through st-boniface.org.uk, or by email svp@st-boniface.org.uk.

Security Incident at St Joseph's. As many in the parish will know, we are blessed to have at St Joseph's 14 flats that are currently being repaired. Sadly we have had squatters and some **serious and very costly damage** to the flats. We are implementing new locks across the hall and church (which were accessed) and currently have security to allow us to safely operate at St Jo's for the time being. **Please keep in your prayers** those who have caused us this damage, as upsetting as it is they are obviously in a bad way to be acting like this. Please pray also for those working to help us solve this issue, and for the finances needed to sort it all. And finally, bear with us during this period... Anna's inbox may never recover!!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER

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

Saturday 16th Dec <i>Of the 2nd Wk in Advent</i>	6:15pm	SJ	Baby Maro Putuhenna 3rd Birthday and prayers to parents People of the Parish
Sunday 17th Dec <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 'Gaudete'	9:00am	SE	Amy Pearl Robinson
	10:00am	SJ	The victories of God Almighty, the Lamb, and His Church
	11:00am	SE	Healing Prayers & God's Blessings to all sick
	7:00pm	SE	**Penitential Service** Paddy Harrington RIP
Monday 18th Dec	7:00pm	SE	Mary O'Reilly Health & Wellbeing
Tuesday 19th Dec	10:00am	SJ	Joan Hall & Michael Hogan
Wednesday 20th Dec	7:00pm	SE	Intentions of Nadja Smith
Thursday 21st Dec	12:15pm	SJ	Joy TP RIP
Friday 22nd Dec	7:00pm	SE	Sean, Kathleen & Stuart Adamson RIP
Saturday 23rd Dec 'O Emmanuel'	11:00am	SE	Margaret Sinclair
	6:15pm	SJ	Peace in the World People of the Parish
Sunday 24th Dec <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	9:00am	SE	All Families
	10:00am	SJ	Angels of Southampton
	11:00am	SE	Thanksgiving for all our Priests People of the Parish
	5:00pm	SE	Michaela Waterfield RIP
	7:00pm	SE	Intentions of Our Blessed Mother
	9:00pm	SJ	Michael Sheehan RIP
Monday 25th Dec <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	12:00am	SE	Thanksgiving for our Altar Servers
	9:00am	SE	
	10:00am	SJ	
	11:00am	SE	
Tuesday 26th Dec <i>St Stephen</i>	11:00am	SE	

17th December

Psalm Response

My soul rejoices in my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has
been given to me. He has
sent me to bring
good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

Altar Servers Training for Christmas Masses

in St Edmund's at 6pm

Thurs 21st December.

Attendance encouraged!



Please use
the QR code
to register
with the
Parish, or the
website link

Join the Parish!

Christmas Priest's Collection

Catholic priests rely entirely
on the support of the faithful
at Christmas and Easter, on
Mass offerings, and 'stole
fees'. Please give as you are
able to our two Priest to
show our gratitude for what
they do for us, & for the

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Dennehy

Email Address: mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Telephone Number: 023 8033 4891

Assistant Priest: Father David Bateman

Email Address: dbateman@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Telephone Number: 023 8017 2104

Presbytery Address:

14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott

Email Address: 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 Address: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Safeguarding: Anna Smyllie

Email Address: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Catholic Home Care: Xanthe Hackett & Marina Joyce

Email Address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Telephone Number: 023 8017 0498

*We are part of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth,
Registered Charity Number 1199568*



Sacraments they provide. You
can donate via bank transfer with
the reference 'Christmas' /
'Priest' or use the QR code /
contactless machine

**Gift Aid will be given to the priests where
identifiable. Yellow Envelopes for Gift Aid Cash only**

Confessions are heard half an hour before
almost all of our weekday and Sunday Masses.



St Joseph's

Thursdays at 11:45am,

Saturdays at 5:45pm,

Sundays at 9:30am

St Edmund's

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 6:30pm,

Tuesdays at 9:30am,

Saturdays at 11:30am (after Mass),

Sundays at 8:30am & 10:30am & 6:30pm

Parish Bank Details

Bank Account Name CDP SOUJE

Sort Code 30-93-04

Number 00888223