



MAY 22ND 2022 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Let us offer each other the sign of peace

When we create something, what we make reveals our own self. And the divine writing of Holy Scriptures is no exception, it is their purpose, the revelation of himself by God for our salvation. Indeed it is not just the subject of the writing, but the very writing itself; the Word of God is God.

One of the aspects of divine nature is that of perfect peace; in Hebrew “Shalom”, or in Aramaic “Shlama”. Ancient languages have a relatively small vocabulary, whilst the words are deep in meaning. Modern languages such as English, have tens of thousands of words, which are particular, specific, even narrow in their scope. Peace, greeting, contentment, generosity, happiness, patience, love, wholeness, forgiveness, unity, are all aspects of the Hebrew word “Shalom”, which is simply translated ‘peace.’ God is this peace; He is rest, He is happy, He is love, He is joyful, He is perfect. He wants for nothing outside of Himself. And He created us to have His divine peace, for all eternity.

In his book Ascent to Truth, Thomas Merton (a good read can be attained from any of his writings) wrote: “We are not at peace with others because we are not at peace with ourselves, and we are not at peace with ourselves because we are not at peace with God.”

Peace is not just an absence of worry or anxiety, or an absence of conflict with others. That’s the world’s peace, which is superficial and unstable. God offers us an existential peace; a true peace. We as humanity cannot attain this peace on our own, but we can have moments of it. It is not within our reach, and unable to be maintained in our turbulent existence. Jesus said to His disciples, “My own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is My gift to you.”

When at Mass and we are invited, “Let us offer each other the sign of peace”, somehow, what we begin in that moment of nodding, smiling and gesturing to one another is an undertaking that will take far longer than the Mass allows us, or can even be contained within the entirety of the Mass. Thus, we offer to the world when at the end of Mass we go forth in peace, our experience of divine peace, the peace that comes from Jesus alone.

That is our mission as Christians.

Dcn Andy

Questions to ponder for the week...

1. “Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” Jesus says at the Last Supper (Gospel). Why do you think He says this? Are you ever ‘troubled’ or ‘afraid’? Why? How can your faith help?
2. Some of the early teachings “led to disagreement” (1st reading). Is there any growth without tension? Would the Church be better off today if there was never dissension and debate? A question: which is a sign of life: Paul and Barnabas going to Jerusalem to work out the Judean people’s objections; or the two “sides” staying as far away from each other as possible?
3. In the 2nd reading John talks about the “Lamb” present with the twelve apostles. Why is Christ called the Lamb (which we repeat in every Mass: “Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world ...)?

Vincent Harvey (adapted Anne Osdieck)

Today's Notices

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Retiring Collection for the Catholic Home Care

Children Liturgy at 9am Mass

Please continue to **sanitise hands on entry** to the churches and we **encourage wearing face masks**

Next Sunday Notices

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Children Liturgy at 9am Mass

Retiring collection for Catholic Communication Network

This Week...

Mon Restored Lives @ 7.30pm

Tues St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm
SLT with Fr Mark Hogan: TQ/LS/JP/AP
Alpha online @ 7pm

Wed Evening Prayer @6pm..... to join email Dcn Andy
Journey in Faith after 7pm Mass

Thurs Feast of the Ascension - Holyday (see elsewhere)

Fri Rosary for Priests & Vocations after 7pm Mass
(For info: **Mon-Sat** VH away (post Easter break))

A Few Words...

*This week I am taking my 'Easter Break' and going off to Guernsey to see my brothers and spend time slowing down, reading, walking.....(not emailing!!!!!!).... As it is the **Feast of the Ascension on Thursday** it does mean that Father Johnpromise has a busy week, (thank you Johnpromise for letting me go and carrying the Day!!).*

Sunday Obligation. As you know the 'obligation' was lifted during lockdown. Now that we have nearly returned to normal the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has re-established the 'obligation'.

*I must admit I struggle with this term, but understand that **it is trying to emphasise the importance of 'The Day of The Lord'** (Sundays and Holydays!) in our lives of faith. In a sense it is stating that we should want to celebrate the Mass, as a faith community, on the Day of the Lord: the 'First Day of the Week', the 'Day of Resurrection'!*

*Just as we have a commitment to others (our spouses, children, parents, friends and so forth) so too we have a serious commitment to our community of faith, and to our own faith development and sustenance! It is not about mortal sin, or sin in general, but about a desire to grow as people of faith and to support the rest of the community in that growth. And **our celebration of faith, especially the Eucharist, is like food and exercise, an activity that has to be regular for 'my' sake and the sake of the 'community'**. Not sure I have explained it fully enough but I was told we didn't have much space in the newsletter!!!!!!! (excuses)!!!!!!!*

Have a good weekend... Vincent H

What's going on?

The Cleaning Rota for St Edmund's has been made. Copies left in the Sacristy, or please contact the Parish Office for one. We are running **very low** on cleaners at the moment and would greatly appreciate more joining. There are 6 teams so the commitment is just once every six weeks. *Please get in touch with the office if you feel you may be able to help.*

Thank you to all who came and participated in the Music Concert for the Ukraine in St Edmund's a couple weeks ago. **The concert raised £545.94** for the CAFOD Ukraine Appeal.

The Jesuit Institute are running an online retreat '**See All Things New**' for Adults in their 20s and 30s. Tickets available on Eventbrite, just search the title above to find it. The event commences 7pm Wednesday 27th of July and will conclude with an evening meeting on Monday the 1st of August.

Please note that while 'virtual viewing of Mass' does not fulfill the Obligation, the Bishops recognised that livestream Masses are a source of continual spiritual comfort to those housebound and sick. **We have no plans to stop livestreaming each Mass**, and they will remain accessible on our YouTube pages as usual. Some more reading on the return of the 'Obligation':

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

The Big Platinum Festival - Mayflower Park to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the Throne: Sunday 5th June 2022 - 10am to 9pm. For more details

www.TheBigPlatinumFestival.org

Prayers

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Greta Phelan who died peacefully recently. Pray also for Dee, Mary and family. The Requiem Mass will be in St Edmund's on Tuesday the 7th of June at 12.30pm.

Please remember especially in your prayers Laneisha Vaz, Sr Maria Innocenta, the Roberts family, Jannette and Robert Keith, Margaret Hicks, Margaret Murray, Mary Mullen, Abi, Mary O'Reilly, Christopher Browne, Diana Elena, Simon and Sue and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.

Adoration in St Edmund's is steadily growing but we still are short of Adorers! Please get in touch with Anna (07956 379 542) if you feel able to help/join! The Eucharist gives the Church her identity - "*The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist*" - prayer before the Blessed Sacrament reminds us of this. The Lord is calling us all to examine our schedules to see if we have any time to devote to this beautiful time of prayer... **Do consider joining if able.**

What's going on?

Significant Wedding Anniversary Celebration Are you celebrating in this year of 2022 a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th anniversary, or an anniversary of over 60 years?

If so you are invited to a Mass of celebration! This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 2nd July 2022 at 11am**. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage.

If you would like to go, please email to Liz Murphy at anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. If you know a couple who qualifies and does not have access to the internet, please contact the Parish Office at St Bede's and they will provide you with the form. To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a copy of your wedding photograph. You can upload it when you complete the form online. Alternatively, scan and send via email to the above email address. Those without access to the internet you can send a copy along with the completed form by post to St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX (*Please mark the envelope Significant Wedding Mass*).

The paradox of abundance... Over 800 million people go hungry each day, the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone. From all this food produced, **a third is wasted**. Pope Francis says: "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more...

Southampton City of Culture (2025) What do you think of 'culture' in Southampton? What does it mean for you? It would be good to hear from you in terms of what it is about Southampton and culture that you think is good, positive and creative! How can we develop the cultural aspects of the City? Let me know: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FTF Summer Camp 15th-19th August This year we will be looking at some of the incredible miracles performed by Jesus Christ, what they reveal to us of Himself, the Word Incarnate, and how we may have new life in Him through the celebration of the Sacraments.

This Catholic camp is a gathering of about 100 young people, who come together to re-connect with old friends and make new ones, to learn more about our loving God and deepen their relationship with Him. It doesn't matter where you are in your relationship with Christ, you are welcome to come and be drawn deeper! Ask questions, spend time with our Lord, receive the Sacraments, have a lot of silly fun, and be renewed in your life and faith!

The camp is run by The Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph and an experienced team of volunteers who have been running FTF events for over 20 years. Booking forms via this link: <https://www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp>

Food Banks. Please when shopping buy 'one' extra item to bring to church and put in the box in the porch. The best place to check what donations are needed is:

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

Please join St Joseph's after the 10am Mass on June 5th for a joint celebration of Pentecost and the Queen's Jubilee in St Michael's Square with St Michael's church. There will be much merriment with singing, dancing, bubbles, cake and music. Do join us if you can!

RE Teacher - St George College is seeking a full time Teacher of RE to join their successful team in September <https://www.stgcc.co.uk/blog/?pid=10&nid=2&storyid=206>

Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima 12-19th October 2022 Brochures available so please get in touch if you feel you might like to join. Currently a good number have joined!

The Universe Catholic Weekly. Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply through Michelle on **0743 661 7650** or michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Weekly Green Living Suggestions...

Sea and air journeys should be carefully considered, but some of us have family based overseas, or have work abroad which cannot be conducted by Zoom and we all know that overseas communities often rely on tourism for survival so **what can we do to travel responsibly?**

Try and support airlines that are committed to developing zero carbon fuels and who invest in more sustainable aircraft design. KLM and Boeing plus a range of US companies, including Delta, Alaska, Southwest, United and American Airlines and JetsBlue Airways have already made a considerable investment in more fuel-efficient planes and methods of carbon capture. We could make a decision to **fly less**, to have **fewer short haul holidays** abroad, to **consider train travel** and of course more **UK based holidays**.

If considering a cruise, look for companies committed to research into the design and manufacturing of clean maritime technology. Royal Caribbean Cruises and the Carnival Group (which owns Aida and the P&O lines) are already investing in Liquefied Natural Gas. Other cruise lines are looking to power their ships with electricity and wind power. Hurtigruten has plans to use battery power in the form of a plug-in hybrid. A number of American ports already dock ships with electricity, cutting air pollution for ships at berth **by 95%!**

More ports need to be doing this and we should be lobbying our MPs for that here in Southampton... <https://environmentalleader.com>

Another Green Encouragement...

CAFOD Group Plant and Cake Sale. Please drop off donations of cakes and plants directly to St Edmund's Hall this Saturday at around 11.30am - all donations are very welcome! If you don't get a chance to pop in on Saturday then please bring donations on the day. The sale itself is Sunday directly after the 9am Mass - we will be **finishing approx 12.45** to allow people from each Mass to attend.

Don't forget to bring your cash! *All funds raised are in support of CAFOD.*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 22ND MAY

(CHURCH KEY TO CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC MASSES BELOW: SJ = ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BUGLE STREET, SO14 2AH AND SE = ST EDMUND'S CHURCH, THE AVENUE, SO17 1XJ)

Saturday 21st May <i>St Christopher Magallanes</i>	6:15pm SJ 7:00pm SE	Louis Sharpe RIP Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
Sunday 22nd May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	9:00am SE 10:00am SJ 11.00am SE 7:00pm SE	Tony O'Donnell RIP Sarah Kennedy-Donnelly RIP Roger Peregrino RIP Terry Curry Intentions & Harry RIP
Tuesday 24th May <i>Easter Weekday</i>	10:00am SE	Mike Mantle 100th Birthday Blessings
Wednesday 25th May <i>St Bede the Venerable</i>	7:00pm SE	Sarah Macauley Special Intentions
Thursday 26th May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	7:00am SE 12.15pm SJ 7.30pm SE	For Abi - Ease of Financial Burdens Santana Sequeira RIP 2nd Ann. Carol's Health and Recovery
Friday 27th May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	7:00pm SE	Priests and Vocations
Saturday 28th May <i>Blessed Margaret Pole</i>	11:00am SE 6:15pm SJ 7:00pm SE	Anushka's Birthday GB & Thanksgivings Hanna Jo Lyons RIP Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
Sunday 29th May <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	9:00am SE 10:00am SJ 11.00am SE 7:00pm SE	Alan Cunningham RIP Santosh RIP 2nd Ann. Martin Ryan RIP Mark Potter Wellbeing

Second Collections:

Today: **Catholic Home Care**
Next Week: **Catholic Communication Network**

15th May Collection

SO: £523 Cash : £899.22
TOTAL: £1,422.22
Thank you

Confessions:

St Joseph's: Thursdays 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm
St Edmund's: Saturdays 11.30am

Feast of the Ascension is this Thursday 26th May. As this is a Holyday we have extra Masses: 7am & 7.30pm in St Edmund's & 12.15pm in St Joseph's

22nd May

Psalm Response:

Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "If anyone loves Me he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We shall come to him".

Alleluia!

Prayer of the Church Week 2

Readings 29th May

First Reading:

Acts 7: 55-60

Second Reading:

Apocalypse 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel:

John 17: 20-26

The 200 Club has renewed its members. If you would still like to renew or would like to join then please contact the office!

CONTACT DETAILS

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The Catholic Home Care is expanding! Due to increased demand, we need more home care assistants to join our team. If you, or someone you know, likes elderly people & would like a part-time job, is this something that would suit?

Good rate of pay (£9.80 ph.), paid holidays & flexible working through Mon - Fri daytime. Core business domestic support (cleaning & shopping) to help elderly people to stay in their own homes for longer. Car driver an advantage, but not essential. For more details & application pack call Anne Monaghan or Marina Joyce on **023 8017 0498**

"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them, every day begin the task anew."

-St Francis De Sales

St Ed's Repository is planning to open regularly on weekends to allow parishioners a chance to purchase things after Mass. If you feel able to help volunteer please get in touch with the office!