



APRIL 24TH 2022 | SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



## My Lord and my God



*In 1989 Norman Autton wrote, "We often talk about the way we talk, and we frequently try to see the way we see, but for some reason we have rarely touched on the way we touch". Touch is the first sense to develop, from no sensation at 7½ weeks after conception to almost the whole body being touch sensitive by 14 weeks gestation. The essence and uniqueness of touch is its ability to communicate with others without the use of words. It is through our use of touch that we can silently convey, "I am with you and I am prepared to stay." Indeed, when words escape us, we often touch in order to console those in despair.*

*Whilst sight can be deceptive, as we might suggest when we say that someone is 'seeing things', touch is a more concrete way of being present to each other. Of our five physical senses, touch is the only one where we directly experience someone else's body at one and the same time. Thomas wanted to be able to see and touch not simply any part of Jesus but the wounds – the holes which were absences of flesh showing the presence of the flesh of the crucified Christ.*

*We, who have not seen yet believe, can experience the intimate closeness of the risen One, a genuine touch, in many ways, but particularly through the sacraments which are tangible expressions of His presence with us. This is not a private, individual experience enjoyed solely by those who are spiritually disposed. The risen Jesus breathes on us His disciples meaning He inspires us, and transforms us into a community which is sent out to show His mercy, His justice and His love. The intimately, visibly, tangibly present Jesus the Christ creates a community which becomes the world-wide Church in which He is always present.*

*The Christ has given us, in His divine mercy, our faith and the sacrament of His risen body and blood. Enlightened by them, we too can believe Jesus Christ is our Lord and our God, believing we may have life in His name. Let's share that faith with others and perhaps invite them to join with others on Alpha. It starts this coming Tuesday evening at 7pm. Contact Anna in the Parish Office or email*

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

*Dcn Andy*

## Questions to ponder for the week....

1. "As the Father sent Me, so am I sending you" Jesus says in today's Gospel. In what way have you been 'sent'? Who to? Why? What should you do?
2. "The faithful all used to meet by common consent...." we are told in the Acts (1st reading). In this way they gave witness to their faith. How do you witness to your faith? Involvement in the faith community, good works, helping others, etc.?
3. St John writes (2nd reading) "I am your brother and share your sufferings.... ..and all you endure". How do you share the suffering of others? Why?

*Vincent Harvey*

## Today's Notices

### Divine Mercy Sunday

**Restored Lives** talk at the end of all Masses.....see details elsewhere in newsletter

**Welcome to Father Des Connolly** at the 9 & 11am Masses as Fr Vincent is in Bath for a wedding.

**No Children Liturgy** at 9am Mass

**Divine Mercy Devotions at 3pm** in St Edmund's, led by Father Des Connolly.

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

## Next Sunday Notices

### Third Sunday of Easter

**Father Johnpromise's 40th Birthday**

**Children Liturgy** at 9am Mass

## This Week...

**Tues** Alpha Commences @ 7pm in St Ed's Hall  
St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm

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

**Thurs** Richard Rohr Group meet online

**Fri** Rosary for Priests after the 7pm Mass

**Sat** FHC Workshop

## A Few Words...

**Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia!** .....today, Divine Mercy Sunday, we are still celebrating Easter and the Day of Resurrection!

Last week's celebration of the Triduum was, as usual, uplifting and inspirational. We have had hundreds of hits on YouTube with people making positive comments. Even Canon John O'Shea tuned in live (as he had COVID), as did Canon Nick, and both contacted us to say how inspirational they found the Three Days! We were a bit 'rusty' after 3 years, but nevertheless due to the work, commitment and skills of the various Teams, the 3 days were reflective and uplifting. **Thank you!**

Today, 24th April, is **Divine Mercy Sunday** when again we are reminded vividly and in no uncertain terms of God's unconditional love of us and, therefore, God's unconditional forgiveness of us all. We 'benefit' from this by changing our ways and aligning ourselves to God's will. To celebrate this do come along to our Divine Mercy Devotions at 3pm in St Edmund on the 24th.

My CAFOD Cycle Against Hunger has now **totalled £1360**. Thank you!

Next Sunday, **1st May, is Father Johnpromise's 40th birthday!!** We are planning light refreshments after the 9am Mass (he is presiding at the Mass) and, possibly, after the 11am Mass (that is still being sorted!). The Parish Office are taking him out, as will, of course, Deacon Andy and I.

**Have a blessed Divine Mercy Sunday and a good weekend... Vincent H**

## This Week...

### For info

**Mon** Day Off: VH/JP;

**Tues** VH celebrating funeral in Basingstoke  
SLT: VH/JP/TQ/AP with Fr Mark Hogan

**Wed** Clergy Team Meeting: VH/JP/AP

**Fri** Clergy Ministry Group: VH

**Sat** Baptism: VH

## Prayers

**Pope's Prayer Intention for April.** For health care workers *We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.*

*This Wednesday marks 54 years since the 1967 Abortion Act came into effect. As we hope and pray for an end to abortion, we pray especially for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us*

### Prayer for Peace – Pope John Paul II

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence among individuals and nations.*

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war.*

*Hear my voice when I beg You to install into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.*

*Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace.*

*Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.*

*O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world Your everlasting peace.*

**Amen.**

**Please remember especially in your prayers** Laneisha Vaz, Jannette and Robert Keith, Margaret Hicks, Margaret Murray, Mary Mullen, Maria, Mark Evans, Erica Burden, John, Mary O'Reilly, Christopher Browne, 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**, with increasing popularity of our evening Adoration on a Tuesday and a Friday. We are looking for co-ordinators and adorers who are able to commit to regular slots. Please get in touch with Anna if you feel able to help.

See the article below for an interesting perspective on the **intimacy** and **stillness** of Adoration... 'Eucharistic adoration is making a comeback among young Catholics' <https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2021/06/04/eucharistic-adoration-young-catholics-faith-jesus-240798>

## What's going on?

**Our Alpha Course starts this Tuesday!** The first session is designed to be a 'taste and see' night to allow you the opportunity to try the course without necessarily committing to the whole thing... if you're thinking about joining or think of a friend who might like to come then why not try us out? Bring a friend or two if you'd feel more comfortable - the more the merrier!

Alpha is a course designed to give people the opportunity to discuss important faith questions in a welcoming environment. We're here for those with faith, those without and all those in between!



Just follow the below link to the form, or email the office to register! Or simply just turn up to St Edmund's Hall at 7pm on 26th <https://forms.gle/Y5oMa9PzenFC3oLJ7>

**CAFOD Group** thanks to all who joined for our Walk Against Hunger and all who donated on the day or via Journey In Faith's 'Just giving' page. **Over £420 raised** so far for CAFOD Lent Appeal.

**CAFOD Group** Calling all those with green fingers: we are **planning a PLANT and CAKE SALE**. If you can prepare seedlings, plants, especially herbs, fruit, or veg to donate suitable for sale at the END OF MAY please let us know. [mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Appeal for aid for Ukraine.** The Polish Social Club have a new collection point - the former ToysRUs building in the city centre. They will be open **Wednesday 4pm-7pm / Thursday 12pm-7pm and Saturday 11am-2pm**. Below is an updated list of the most needed items:



- Non-perishable food •Thermos Flasks
- Liquid containers/canisters (10-20L capacity)
- Bandages •Baby food and milk
- Medical supplies
- Women's hygiene products •Pain killers



**Volunteers needed to help sort out donations.** Please contact them via FaceBook if you feel able to help.

Financial donations for Ukraine welcome here:  
<https://www.caritas.org/donate-now/>  
<https://www.siepomaga.pl/southamptondlaukrainy>  
[https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?](https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?defaultuniversaltype=single&_Appeal=123770)  
[defaultuniversaltype=single&\\_Appeal=123770](https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?defaultuniversaltype=single&_Appeal=123770)

**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>

**The Universe Catholic Weekly.** Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on **0743 661 7650** or email: [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

**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!

**Restored Lives.** *'The Church needs to be a safe environment where everybody is welcomed and included no matter their situations and/or circumstances in life; especially young people, women, divorced and/or remarried couples.'*

In our recent Synodal survey where open, exploratory questions were asked, individuals contributed with a number of heartfelt and troubled responses. An area that we still need to work at as church and society is the way we treat those whose marriages have failed for whatever reason, and particularly where people feel alienated. If this applies to you, we have listened and want to respond.

In 3 weeks' time we are offering another opportunity for individuals to join our "Restored Lives" Course. This course helps people to recover from the experiences of divorce or relationship breakdown and rebuild self-confidence. The course outlines the journey from breakdown to recovery, exploring communication, handling conflict, conflict resolution, managing other relationships and letting go.

There are six online evenings **starting on Monday 9th May (7-9pm)**. The course is founded on Christian principles but open to all. You will meet with others at different stages of broken relationships and will have the opportunity to share and explore in a safe and welcoming environment.

To register please contact the parish office or fill in this form <https://forms.gle/BUxcyaxw4GEmitDL9>

**Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes 19th-26th August** For more detail please see: <https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/> Father Vincent and others will be going as the pilgrimage hasn't happened for 2 years!! Time to revisit! .....come along.

### Weekly Green Living Suggestion...

Now might be a good time to consider **reducing heat loss from your home**. Older houses in particular lose a lot of heat. Do you have cavity wall insulation? Is your loft insulation thick enough? Do you have double/triple glazing? Some of these things may cost more than you can afford but little things like drawing the curtains at night (even in rooms you're not using) and making sure curtains are lined can help. Also consider installing reflectors behind radiators, see [www.radflek.com](http://www.radflek.com); good draught exclusion and lagging on pipes and tanks. A 'rain check' on all these smaller things wouldn't go amiss before next winter. Finally, prevent draughts through unused chimneys. You can buy chimney balloons or see [www.chimneysheep.co.uk](http://www.chimneysheep.co.uk) - made with Herdwick wool, they are easily inserted above your fireplace keeping heat in and draughts out. This company uses a proportion of its profits to buy land and plant trees helping to reduce our carbon footprint. Also look at <https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/energy/shopping-guide/energy-suppliers>

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 24TH APRIL***(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)*Prayer of the Church  
Week 2

|                                |                   |                                                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 23rd April</b>     | <b>6:15pm SJ</b>  | Bridie Myles RIP 3rd Anniversary                        |
| <i>Within Octave</i>           | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>                     |
| <b>Sunday 24th April</b>       | <b>9:00am SE</b>  | Tony O'Donnell 5yrs Anniversary                         |
| <i>Divine Mercy</i>            | <b>10:00am SJ</b> | Mike Mantle 100th Birthday Blessings                    |
| <i>Sunday</i>                  | <b>11.00am SE</b> | Celia Coutinho                                          |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | For all the Faithful Departed                           |
| <b>Tuesday 26th April</b>      | <b>10:00am SE</b> | Thanksgiving for Fr Vincent's 43rd Ordination           |
| <i>St George (transferred)</i> |                   |                                                         |
| <b>Wednesday 20th April</b>    | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | Thanksgiving for Shawn and all his works for the Church |
| <i>Easter Weekday</i>          |                   | JR Personal Intentions                                  |
| <b>Thursday 21st April</b>     | <b>12.15pm SJ</b> |                                                         |
| <i>St Louis de Montfort</i>    |                   | Priests and Vocations                                   |
| <b>Friday 22nd April</b>       | <b>7.00pm SE</b>  |                                                         |
| <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>   |                   | Albert Tan RIP                                          |
| <b>Saturday 23rd April</b>     | <b>11:00am SE</b> | Iain MacFirisigh RIP                                    |
| <i>Easter Weekday</i>          | <b>6:15pm SJ</b>  |                                                         |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>                     |
| <b>Sunday 24th April</b>       | <b>9:00am SE</b>  | John Smyth RIP                                          |
| <i>Third Sunday of</i>         | <b>10:00am SJ</b> | Kataryna Rojkova RIP (Ann.)                             |
| <i>Easter</i>                  | <b>11.00am SE</b> | Special Intentions                                      |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | Sean Carrigy RIP                                        |

**24th April**  
**Divine Mercy**  
**Sunday**  
**Psalm Response:**  
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His love has no end.  
**Gospel Acclamation:**  
*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."  
*Alleluia!*

**Readings 1st May**  
**First Reading:**  
*Acts 5: 27-32. 40-41*  
**Second Reading:**  
*Apocalypse 5: 11-14*  
**Gospel:**  
*John 21: 1-19*

**Priest's Col:** SO: £770 Cash: £5626.41 Online GAYL: £445 **TOTAL: £6,841.41****CONTACT DETAILS**

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Isabelle Kirby [volunteer239@solent.ac.uk](mailto:volunteer239@solent.ac.uk) 07414 462636

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

"My daughter, have fear of nothing; I am always with you. All your adversaries will harm you only to the degree that I permit them to do so. You are my dwelling place and my constant repose. For your sake I will withhold the hand which punishes; for your sake I bless the earth."  
*(St Faustina's Diary 1273, page 431)*

**Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.**

**For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.**

**2nd Collections:**

This week: **Catholic Home Care**  
Next week: **Church Maintenance Fund**

**Confessions:**

**St Joseph's:** Thursdays 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm (*before Mass*)  
**St Edmund's:** Saturdays 11.30am (*after Mass*)