

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



'What do you want?'



O Glorious St. Simon, you were a cousin of Jesus and a devoted follower as well. You were called "the Zealot," indicating that you were willing to give your life for your religion and your freedom as a human person. Obtain for us the grace to be willing to give our lives for Christ and to labor for the freedom and peace that only God can give. Help us to spend ourselves for God on earth and be received by him in eternal bliss in heaven.

Two weeks ago in our gospel encounter, Jesus had asked Peter and us the question "Who do you say that I am?" It is a question worth asking daily as we strive to journey deeper and deeper into our personal relationship with Christ. Our responses will differ dependant on where we are at and how we are feeling: but this is ok. The most important thing is that we are honest with ourselves and honest with Christ.

Today Jesus asks another question, this time of the blind man Bartimaeus. 'What do you want me to do for you?' The response was direct and honest 'Let me see again'. The gospel writer does not describe Jesus approaching the blind man but instead Jesus waits for the blind man to come to Him. Bartimaeus has been shouting for Jesus, so much so that those standing near the blind man ask him to be quiet. For me this so aptly describes those times of wrestling with my thoughts trying to work out in my own head and heart what is going wrong without taking my spiritual blindness to Jesus and asking Him to show me the right way forward. Bartimaeus did not ask for 'sight', he asked for the ability to see which describes a longing to see the deeper reality of life: It is to see and understand the truth about things and the truth about ourselves. Peter in his response to Christ clearly recognised the incarnate God 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God'. Bartimaeus had the incarnate God standing before him and this is who and what he wanted to see and experience in all its fullness.

Our next Alpha Series starts this Tuesday and the title of the first session is "Is there more to life than this?". We are inviting our guests not only to 'come and see', but to discover in their hearts who the person of Jesus is to them. Is this invitation for me and you?

As we present our needs and hopes to God in prayer this week, may we have the courage and the faith to allow Him to show us what really matters and what He wants for each one of us.

Tina Quinn

Question to ponder for the Week...

1. Bartimaeus was blind and then could see; all because of Jesus (Gospel). In what way do you think you are blind? When have you experienced 'seeing something' which has changed your way of thinking, even your life?
2. "I will bring them back" God says (1st reading): back from exile. Are you 'exiled' from home, others or faith? Why? Can you do anything about it? Ask God!
3. The Letter to the Hebrews (2nd reading) says that every high priest (Temple priest) "lives in the limitations of weakness". We all do! What are the limitations or weakness you wish to put in God's hands? Do it today!

Vincent Harvey

Today's Notices

Climate Change Sunday

Welcome and thank you to Bishop Peter Doyle (Emeritus of Northampton) who is presiding at the 11am in St Edmund's so that Father Vincent can attend and preach at the 11am Service at Avenue St Andrew's.

Litter picking at 12.30pm. A joint activity with Avenue St Andrew's. For those who signed up as volunteers last week, gather outside St Edmund's Church to litter pick in the Bedford Place area.

Welcome to Rev Dr Sarah Hall from Avenue St Andrew's (URC) who is preaching at the 7pm Mass this evening.

Please continue to sanitise hands on entry to the churches and we strongly recommend wearing face masks (unless not possible for health reasons).

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

Sacraments

First Holy Communion 2022 During November we will be inviting registration for First Holy Communion preparation. Children must be 8-9 years old (e.g.: Year 4 at school) or above. They should be parishioners who come to Mass at St Joseph's or St Edmund's (6.15pm, 9, 10, 11am or 7pm).

Registration will take place after the 9am, 10am and 11am on Sundays the 7th, 14th, 21st or 28th November. You must register in person.

If you have already approached the Parish Office you must still come to one of these registration mornings. These days/times are the official registration.

Congratulations to all Confirmed yesterday (Saturday) in St Edmund's Church:

Christopher Airiemiokhale, Alejandro Andino, Tessa Aresca, Timothy Brady, Juleanne Cinco, Kirsten Cinco, Emelia Codlin, Oscar Cunio Browne, Shane Desouza, Alfonso Gutierrez, Nicole Harris, Eoin Joyce, Isobel Moran, Romany Peters, Chris Puebla, Kyle Puebla, Katarzyna Russell, Filip Tomicic, Jude Sebastiao Vaz, Reyne Villanueva, Edward Walker, Bethany Waterfield and Klaudia Wilk

This is an impressive group of young people of whom we (the families and parish) should be proud. The Team have enjoyed working with them (Vincent H).

Thank you to the Team, led and coordinated by Ruth Cunio.

Now what next for them, in terms of faith, participation, action and involvement in the Parish and beyond?



This Week...

Week Information

Tues Parish Finance Committee
Meditation Group 6pm @ St Michael's Alpha @ 7pm

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

Thurs Richard Rohr Group

Fri 7pm Mass & Rosary for priests



Masses are being streamed as usual on our YouTube.

Ongoing income is, as we know, vital. This can be done online, via BACS, cash/cheques to the Parish office.

A Few Words...

Another step in the right direction as groups begin to reform and various parish activities commence (or desire to commence). We are looking for people to be involved with 'welcoming' at Mass and also 'Mass coordinators' (to set up the altar for Mass); also Children's Liturgy of the Word (during the 9am Mass) and refreshments after the 9am and 10am (the latter has already recommenced).

Wishing all pupils and school staff a good and relaxing half-term break.

*I hope no one is offended by my refusal to give **Holy Communion 'on the tongue'** unless at the end of the line! This is not a matter of theology or ecclesiology but purely from a health perspective. COVID (as also with flu and colds) is an air-borne infection, so any close proximity to someone's mouth is a risk! Then cross-contamination can occur. Nevertheless, we are inviting anyone who wishes to receive on the tongue to come at the end of the Communion line (see item elsewhere).*

*I hear that some people miss my **Vodcasts** (though I would think like a hole in the head!!). Father Johnpromise and I are going to produce them fortnightly. So watch this space (or rather the website!)...*

Synodal Approach. I invite you to read the Synodal Document which you will find on the front page of the Parish Website.

If you have ideas/or initiatives in any of these areas let us know so that we can look at a response (let Tina Quinn, Chair of EST, or Fr Johnpromise or myself know).

*Have a good weekend and **thank you for reading this**.....*

Vincent H

What's going on?

Alpha is starting again! Our next Parish Alpha course starts on Tuesday October 26th and will run for 12 weeks online with one or two opportunities to meet face to face. If you haven't experienced Alpha, now is the time to sign up. An amazing opportunity to ask those big questions:

- *Is there more to life than this?*
- *What is the purpose of it all?*
- *Wondering what is next?*



If you have already attended then why not invite someone else? Everyone is welcome. **Not too late to sign up**, contact the parish office or register on alpha.org.

COP26 is on the horizon (31st October to 12th November)

'Holy Hour' on Sunday 31st from 6pm: a time of prayer for action on the environment as COP26 opens. Come along and pray quietly and together (the occasional scripture reading and prayer and time to be 'still in the present of the Blessed Sacrament')

Recycling Bins: at the back of both churches for: Blister packs, plastic milk bottle tops, coloured bottle tops, and stamps and postcards.

Lobby your MP. You will find a template letter on the website, with bullet points and suggestions of those to target. Please send a letter to your MP to raise their awareness

CLIMATE CHANGE: ACT NOW!



JINGLING BELLS 2021 POSTBOX in both churches ready for Christmas cards for NHS Staff. We will sing carols on Sunday 15 December at 1500h followed by tea in St Edmund's. Your cards will be delivered before Christmas.

CATHSOC Students are raising money for a **Defibrillator** to be placed outside St Edmund's. Please support them if you can.

Prayer Corner

27th October is the 54th anniversary of the Abortion Act being passed in England and Wales. Since 1967 over nine million babies have lost their lives to abortion. **Please join us in praying and fasting for the end of abortion in this country on Wednesday 27th October.**

This week, we celebrated the feast of Pope St John Paul II, patron saint of the pro-life movement. We ask for his intercession as we, the church, seek to support all pregnant mothers through their pregnancies, and that, like him, we would become models of support and charity to all in society. Lord hear us.

Please Pray for Ken Burden whose Anniversary occurs around this time. We also pray for his daughter Erica as she remembers him on his birthday this weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Margaret Hicks, Joe and Maureen Lee, Marissa Tellegen, Zeljko Uvanovic, Margaret ('Molly') Jarvis and all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.

Rotary Shoebox Appeal is for disadvantaged children in Albania, Montenegro, Moldova, Romania and Philippines. **Take home a shoebox AND a leaflet.** The leaflet is essential as it gives instructions of the items being sought for 1-3 yr olds, 4-7 yr olds etc. We have to follow the instructions as certain items cannot be sent. How to wrap + £1.50 towards transportation all explained.

Please return to the Office/Church this week as they are sent over the October half-term.

Symposium – Saturday 6th November 2021 on Politics and Religion – is timed to coincide with COP26 and will be held online on Saturday 6th November 2021. The keynote speakers are the Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP and Ruth Kelly MP, former Education Secretary. Workshops will be run on a range of topics by Lord David Alton, Rt. Hon. Mark Hoban, Dr. Elizabeth Slinn, Dr. Mary Sutton, George O'Neill from the Cardinal Hume Centre and Dr. David Goodill OP, from Blackfriars, Oxford. David Wells, the popular inspirational speaker, will be front of house as presenter and guide. More information can be found on the Diocesan website or through Eventbrite.

Thursday Soup Lunch Returns. Volunteers wanted to make soup on an occasional basis for soup lunches in aid of CAFOD and Christian aid. These take place at Stella Maris on Thursday after the 12:15 Mass, once a month and every week in Lent. We are looking for a small team to take turns to make soup, or help with serving & washing up. Contact the Parish Office or Sue McCall if you are willing to be involved.

Distribution of Holy Communion at Mass

We are gradually adjusting to life with Covid. The preferred and safest means of distributing Holy Communion continues to be on the hand. Reception of Holy Communion 'on the tongue' will now resume for those who, understandably, prefer this way of receiving.

We ask that those seeking to receive Holy Communion on the tongue come forward when the rest of the congregation has received. There is no offence intended by this distinction but a respect of the health of the minister and of the rest of the congregation. We would remind all Mass attenders of the health risks from cross contamination. This possibility is heightened when more than one person receives on the tongue!

Scheduling Changes

No confessions on Saturday 30th as at 11am there is a Memorial Service (not Mass) for Matt Conrad who died during lockdown. *All welcome.*

Funerals

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Dolores Smyllie whose Requiem is on the 29th of this month in Cumbria.

The Requiem Mass for Mr Terry O'Farrell, one time Deputy Head at Springhill School, is on Thursday October 28th at 3pm at St Boniface. May he rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 24TH OCT

(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 23rd Oct *Diocesan Day of Prayer & Reparation*

6:15pm SJ Lloyd RIP

7:00pm SE Msza Polska / Mass in Polish

Sunday 24th Oct *30th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:00am SE Phos Alethia - Thanksgiving

10:00am SJ Kevin Duggan RIP

11:00am SE Eugene & Kitty Cummins RIP Sonnie & Pat Cummings RIP

7:00pm Concetta Longo RIP

Tuesday 26th Oct *Ss Chad & Cedd*

10:00am SE Joaquim Rodrigues RIP

Wednesday 27th Oct *30th Week in Ordinary Time*

7pm SE Health & Wellbeing of Mary O'Reilly

Thursday 28th Oct *Ss Simon & Jude*

12:15pm SJ Staff from Highland looking after Mary O'Reilly

Friday 29th Oct *30th Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00pm SE Priests & Vocations

Saturday 30th Oct *Our Lady on Saturday*

11:00am SE Liam O'Reilly RIP

6:15pm Valerie Ann Smith RIP

7:00pm Msza Polska / Mass in Polish

Sunday 31st Oct *All Saints*

9:00am SE Marissa Tellegen Wellbeing

10:00am SJ Margaret Golding RIP

11:00am SE Birthday Anniversary Princy Ponniah Beck RIP

7:00pm SE Adolfo Antonio Longo RIP



There is nothing small in the service of God

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey

Email Address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk / 023 8033 4891

Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru

Email Address: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk / 023 8017 2104

Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO152EQ

Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott

aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589

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

Parish Email: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

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

Catholic Home Care: Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498

Email: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Tel. No. 02381786316 southampton@pcmew.org

Safeguarding Rep: Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589

Email: safeguarding@southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

Stella Maris (AoS): Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 7843 739579



Interested in Volunteering?

Get in touch!

Stella Maris is on the lookout for a new addition to their vital team... see next week for further details.

Extraordinary Ministers of HC

We would like to resume having one minister to assist the priest with communion at weekend Masses. If you are a 'resting' minister and would like to resume your duties, please email Marina by Tuesday 26th October: mjoyce@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

No need to reply if you do not wish to be included at this time. Aim is to have a rota starting on first Sunday of November. Most rotas are sent by email. If you do not have access to email, but would like to be included, please call the parish office.

Second Collections:

This week: HCPT

Next Week: Catholic Home Care

Congratulations to Carolyn Wing and Maureen Freeman who are October's 200 Club winners!

Prayer of the Church Week 2

24th Oct 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Psalm Response:

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Christ Jesus abolished death, and he has proclaimed life through the Good News.

Alleluia!

Readings 31st Oct All Saints

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Second Reading: Hebrews 7: 23-28

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.

- Blessed John Paul II (14.9.1987 Homily)