



Donate



SEPTEMBER 4TH 2022 | 23RD SUNDAY IN OT

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



## The Cost and Joy of Christian Discipleship

*What is it that we find hard to let go of? What or who restricts our freedom? Questions that we could all do well to ponder and that is exactly what the Lord was challenging his disciples with. We will all have different notions of the concept of freedom. C.S Lewis writes powerfully in his book 'Surprised by Joy' about his reluctance to commit to faith because he felt that it would compromise his freedom as an individual and particularly as an academic. He spoke of himself as one of the most reluctant converts in the history of Christendom.*

*He describes the night when he knelt down and acknowledged his need to acquiesce with his maker and accept that there is freedom in obedience. Happiness and freedom are paradoxical in the extreme. You can only have them both by giving them away.*

*I was blessed to have as my first spiritual director a wonderful Benedictine monk (forgive me if I have mentioned this before). When I questioned his vow of obedience and the fact that everything had to be passed by his Abbot, to the extent of asking permission if he could visit friends outside the monastery, he would reply to me: "Tina, there is a wonderful freedom in obedience: I know exactly where I am". The rule of St Benedict which guides the monastic community and their oblates is gentle but wise in its approach and also speaks of the freedom of obedience. "Listen Oh my son to the precepts of the master and cheerfully receive and execute the admonition of the Father, that by the toil of obedience thou may return to Him"*

*My journey into the Catholic Church echoes these sentiments. I was looking for a faith structure that was uncompromising but fair: one that doesn't bend the rules but teaches that the essence of love is obedience. The psalmist echoes this in the entrance antiphon 'You are just O Lord and Your judgement is right; treat Your servant in accord with Your merciful love'.*

*St Paul in his personal letter to Philemon describes the transition of his slave Onesimus. Onesimus was a slave who ran away and sought sanctuary with Paul in his prison cell. Paul became a spiritual father to him, converted Onesimus to Christianity and sent him back not as a slave but as a child of God.*

*Scholastic philosophy makes a distinction between freedom from and freedom for. There is a false notion that freedom from inhibits us and ties us down. Duty, morality and religion can be interpreted as heavy weights. Freedom for gives us the capacity for self-donation in love, for altruism and service. This is surely what Jesus is referring to when He challenges us to put our discipleship above our family ties.*

*Last week I was in Lourdes with some wonderful volunteers; many of whom had given up a week of their annual leave at considerable financial cost to come and serve the sick and disabled on pilgrimage. There were some wonderful examples of 'going the extra mile', sharing in the suffering of others and giving way to personal freedom in order to be of service to others. And yet there was great joy: the joy that is expressed by C.S Lewis as he offered up his freedom to participate in the heart of Jesus' mission: a mission of salvation. The sacrificial giving of Himself on the Cross to His Heavenly Father out of love for each one of us. St Benedict also commends us to this mission: 'by giving up our own will we can take up the strong and most excellent arms of obedience to do battle for Christ the Lord, the true King'.*

*This invitation comes to us all. It is up to us to realise that obedience in love is what sets us free.*

Tina Quinn

## Today's Notices

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Family Mass** at the 9am & 10am where children participate more fully in the Mass

**Welcome to Father Richard** who is presiding at the 6.15pm & 10am Masses

**Second Collection** for Church Maintenance Fund

**Please continue to sanitise hands** coming into church

## Next Sunday Notices

**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Welcome to Father Richard** who is presiding at the 9am & 11am Masses

**Baptisms** at St Joseph's 11.30am and St Edmund's 12.30pm

## This Week...

**Mon** JP day off

**Wed** VH Holiday until 24th September (apart from one weekend!)

## For Info...

**Tues** St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm  
Adoration in St Ed's until 8pm (weekly - do join!)

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

## A Few Words...

*We had a great pilgrimage in Lourdes, but sadly I tested 'positive' for COVID on my return! Hey ho! I hope, hope....., that when you read this, I will be over COVID and on the way for 2 weeks in Italy with friends, and then a few days with family. Don't feel too sorry for me as all I had was a very, very slight sore throat and blocked sinuses!! Father Richard kindly came for last Sunday and poor Father John promise had to take over the weekday Masses I should have been celebrating!*

*The Closer to Christ campaign is now over £280,513 which means more will come back to Catholic Home Care and the decoration of our churches. If you promised a pledge do try to complete it in the next week if possible! For all who have contributed so generously.....thank you!*

*The synodal responses are being reflected upon by the SLT and EST and priorities are beginning to emerge. We will not be able to deal with them all in one go so will slowly unpack and act on them in the next few months. Areas/issues like identifying leaders/skills; enabling people to feel good about belonging to the Church; creating structures of discernment (there will be an evening in October on discernment; also possibly more in Advent); young people (post FHC and also teens and older!); enabling people to feel and experience being 'welcomed' and 'valued' for who they are. Watch this space!*

Have a good week **Vincent H**

## Prayers

**Parish Rosary Group.** If you would be interested in joining an in-person rosary group please follow this QR code, or contact the Parish Office. It would be lovely to restart an evening group if there is an appetite.



*Tomorrow, we celebrate the feast of St Mother Teresa of Calcutta, patron saint of the pro-life movement. We ask for her intercession as we the church seek to support all pregnant mothers through their pregnancies, and that, like her, we would become models of support and charity to all in society. Lord hear us*

**Please remember especially in your prayers**

*Laneisha Vaz, Sr Maria Innocenta, Jack, Jannette and Robert Keith, Margaret Hicks, Margaret Murray, Mary Mullen, Abi, Mary O'Reilly, Valerie, Christopher Browne, Oliver, Carmen Escorcio, Simon, Bernadette, Sue, Clifford Cross, Kelly and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or are experiencing distress.*



**Calling all Adorers!**



St Edmund's is still in need of new (or returning) Adorers during the week. Please get in touch with Anna on **07956 379 542** if you feel able to help/join!

The gaps we need filling most are:

**Monday 12 - 5pm**

**Wednesday 11am - 4pm and 5-6.30pm**

**Friday 12 - 2pm**



**Marriage** Please keep in your prayers all the couples enrolled on our **Marriage Preparation course**, which begins this weekend. *May God be with them as they prepare for their lives together.*

## Volunteers needed!

**First Aiders for the church.**

A day of training has been organised **9am-4pm on the 17th of September** in St Edmund's Hall (with break included).

We need people from every Mass - weekdays and weekend. Please do examine if you can give up this time to help the church, the training will be valid for three years.

Contact Anna in the Parish office, or put your details on the sign up sheet available at the back of church after the Mass.

**Parish Safeguarding Minister**

Training will be provided & a full discussion of the role given, but supporting DBS applications and record keeping will be the key components. Please contact Anna in the Parish Office for further details, or to chat about the role. A big thanks to Catherine who steps down from the position, we are all grateful for your ministry these past few years.

**Baptism Preparation Team Members**

Baptism is the first and most important sacrament that our children will receive. We need more hands-on deck. You will be part of a team and training will be given. Please contact Tina ([tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)) or the Parish Office ([office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)) for more information.

## Sacraments

**Please remember** Mia Mikos and Kaja Agnieszka Krampa who are being baptised this month. We keep them, and their families, in our prayers!



## What's going on?

### St George Catholic College Celebrates its Best Ever Results.

Congratulations to the class of 2022 who have achieved the best ever results with 86% achieving grades 9-4 in English and Maths and 73% achieving grades 9-5 in English and Maths. The results represent a huge milestone in our recovery from the pandemic and are testament to the hard work, positive attitude and resilience of the class of 2022 and our amazing staff. They totally deserve these results and we wish them all the best in the next stage of their journey. As a family we could not be more proud of our students. Without the commitment and trust the students and staff have in each other to be the best versions of themselves it would not have been possible. It is well deserved. There are many successful stories from the class of 2022, those that have improved significantly, those that have surprised us and the students that have achieved the very highest grades. Congratulations to Alphen Shabu who achieved grade 10 grade 9s in all his subjects, a remarkable achievement. Our mission statement "*We ASPIRE to be all that God has created us to be*" is being lived out. Well done Class of 2022, #keep-attacking.

**Diocesan Day for Catechists.** It should be a fantastic experience of fellowship, prayer and formation, where they will be able to receive support, practical advice and be encouraged in their faith. The plans for diocesan formation and support of catechists will also be presented too. Set in Winchester <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/diocesan-day-for-catechists-registration-337127185487>

**Cost of Living Conference** taking place on Friday 14th October between 9am - 4.30pm at Solent University. To sign up for the event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cost-of-living-summit-tickets-396437825207>

**CAFOD's World Food Crisis Appeal.** Saturday 10th September there is an online meeting 10:30am to 12:30pm where Catherine (Representative for Kenya & Uganda) will give an update on the desperate situation in East Africa. On Saturday 17th September there is a CAFOD meeting at St Bede's church hall 10:30am to 12 noon to hear from Ibrahim (Surge Country Representative for Africa) about the World Food Crisis and the difficulties facing communities in East Africa. To book your place contact Jo Lewry on [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) or call 07710 094447

**St Ed's family of four (2 adults & 2 children) still looking for short term rental accommodation** now to mid November. Kindly contact the Parish Office if you can help.

**Food Banks** To check what donations are really needed see <https://southamptoncitymission.co.uk/get-involved/how-to-donate>

The most needed currently are:

Coffee (Small), Custard, Sugar (Small),

Mixed Veg (Tin), Squash, Drinks, Tomatoes (Tin),

Rice Pudding, Shampoo, Soap & Shower Gel,

Deodorant, Toothpaste



## St Anne's Catholic School and Sixth Form College

**Prepares for Education Sunday, 11th September.** The students and their families of St Anne's Catholic School and Sixth Form College in central Southampton are looking forward to starting our new academic year. Please pray for us and all Catholic Schools in the region this week as we lead up to Education Sunday on the 11th September. The theme for Education Sunday is "Enlightening the mind" which we, along with all Catholic Schools, strive to do well, along with softening our hearts and preparing our hands for service. We thank God for the exceptional GCSE and A Level exam results we have achieved this summer which help prepare our young people to meet our vision statement to "Be at the heart of our rapidly changing World, revealing God's Love": over 80% of pupils achieved 4 or above in English and Maths, putting us among the top achievers in the region and country. Also as the only Catholic Sixth Form College in the Southampton area, we are uniquely placed to support our Catholic families with the next steps beyond GCSE. Although oversubscribed, Catholic students get priority admission at both year 7 and year 12. We may still be able to place some students for a September start this year, so please get in touch so we can see how we may serve you. Due to our outcomes and our reputation, there is the misconception that we are an independent school so we want to reassure all that we are a state school and there is no cost for admission to the school or sixth form college. Our website can be found at:

[www.st-annes.uk.com](http://www.st-annes.uk.com).

## Pilgrimages

1. **The relics of St Bernadette** will be at St John's Portsmouth Cathedral Thurs 8th 9.30am to Fri 9th to 10am <https://stbernadette.org.uk/registration/>
2. **A visit/pilgrimage to Portugal culminating in Fatima: 12th-19th October.** The cost is £895 (sharing) which includes breakfast & evening meals. For full details see the brochures at the back of church or from Godfrey Doyle [godfreydoyle@gmail.com](mailto:godfreydoyle@gmail.com). Once numbers are confirmed a coach will be booked.

## Weekly Green Living Suggestions...

Up to now we have been looking at what we can do as individuals to support Green Living. This month we are looking at **Community involvement**. There are many organisations we can support which contribute to the health of our planet. One of the most important things we can do to reverse climate change is to plant trees. Maybe if you have room in your garden now would be a good time to consider planting a small tree perhaps a native species that would support wildlife like Rowan, Silver Birch or Crab apple. You could also consider joining or supporting: [www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk), [www.treesforcities.org](http://www.treesforcities.org), [onetreeplanted.org](http://onetreeplanted.org), [treesisters.org](http://treesisters.org), [treecouncil.org.uk](http://treecouncil.org.uk) or [www.internationaltreefoundation.org](http://www.internationaltreefoundation.org). You would find other organisations by searching through **Ecosia** which we remind you is a search engine committed to planting trees.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

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

|                                |                   |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Saturday 3rd September</b>  | <b>6:15pm SJ</b>  | For the People of the Parish           |
| <i>St Gregory the Great</i>    | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>    |
| <b>Sunday 4th September</b>    | <b>9:00am SE</b>  | Sebastian Monteiro RIP                 |
| <i>Twenty-third Sunday</i>     | <b>10:00am SJ</b> | Madeleine Elizabeth Warburg RIP        |
| <i>in Ordinary Time</i>        | <b>11.00am SE</b> | Healing of All Sick                    |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | Franceschina Ardani RIP                |
| <b>Tuesday 6th September</b>   | <b>10:00am SE</b> | Thanksgiving for 53 years of Happy     |
| <i>Feria</i>                   |                   | Marriage                               |
| <b>Wednesday 7th September</b> | <b>7.00pm SE</b>  | Moyra Clearkin                         |
| <i>Feria</i>                   |                   |  |
| <b>Thursday 8th September</b>  | <b>12.15pm SJ</b> | For Strength, Faithfulness & Peace of  |
| <i>The Nativity of the</i>     |                   | the Persecuted, Children and Christian |
| <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>     |                   | Homes                                  |
| <b>Friday 9th September</b>    | <b>7.00pm SE</b>  | For Holy Souls in Purgatory            |
| <i>St Peter Claver</i>         |                   |  |
| <b>Saturday 10th September</b> | <b>11:00am SE</b> | William and Sheila Scott RIP           |
| <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>    | <b>6:15pm SJ</b>  | Intentions of Leonardo and Family      |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>    |
| <b>Sunday 11th September</b>   | <b>9:00am SE</b>  | Gretta Phelan RIP                      |
| <i>Twenty-fourth Sunday</i>    | <b>10:00am SJ</b> | Christopher Wong RIP                   |
| <i>in Ordinary Time</i>        | <b>11.00am SE</b> | Jose Paes RIP                          |
|                                | <b>7:00pm SE</b>  | Joseph Brian Njenga                    |

*The Pope's Prayer intention for September is for the abolition of the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, in every country.*

## 4th September

### Psalm Response:

*O Lord, You have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from My Father.  
*Alleluia!*

## Readings 11th September

### First Reading:

*Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14*

### Second Reading:

*1 Timothy 1: 12-17*

### Gospel:

*Luke 15: 1-32*

## 28th August 1st Collection

SO: £440 Cash: £758.15

**TOTAL: £1,198.15**

Thank you.

## 21st August

## Church Maintenance Fund

SO: £49.50 Cash: £130.38

**TOTAL: £179.88** Thank you.

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Parish Priest:** Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey

Email Address: [vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) 023 8033 4891

**Assistant Priest:** Father Johnpromise Umeozuru

Email Address: [jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) 02380 172 104

**Presbytery Address:** 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

**Deacon:** Deacon Andy Philpott [aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary:** Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589

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Parish Email: [office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

Parish Website: [www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](http://www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Tina Quinn [tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Catholic Home Care:**

[catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Mrs Anne Monaghan & Mrs Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Tel. No. 02381786316 [southampton@pcmew.org](mailto:southampton@pcmew.org)

**Stella Maris (AoS):** Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 07843 739579

**Catholic Chaplains:**

Sr Emiliana Silva [e.silva@soton.ac.uk](mailto:e.silva@soton.ac.uk) 07426 000213

Father Benjamin Theobald [btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Solent Chaplain:**

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

**Our Diocese:** Portsmouth Catholic Diocese

Their Website: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Their Facebook & Twitter: [@PortsmouthRC](https://www.facebook.com/PortsmouthRC)

Email [communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to share any news with the wider Diocese

**Know your numbers!** This Monday is the beginning of a nationwide campaign run by Blood Pressure UK. From the **5th - 9th of September** pharmacies will be taking people's blood pressure for free in order to help people manage their health. During the pandemic many people stopped regular testing in GP surgeries, now we need to get back on track. **Bassil Chemist** will be offering this service.



**Confessions** are held at **St Joseph's**

on Thursdays at 11.45am &

Saturdays 5.45pm and at **St**

**Edmund's** on Saturdays after that

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!**