


NOVEMBER 28TH 2021 | FIRST SUNDAY IN AFDVENT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Finding the beginning by looking toward the end



Well, here we are again at the start of a new liturgical year. And how do we know that from our readings at Mass? Because we have as the first Gospel for this year a look at the end of time. This might strike us as rather odd, but then as we ponder we realise that in setting out on any journey, we need to have some thought as to where we are going, what is our destination. After all, when we catch the bus, we look to see its destination, not where it began its journey.

And so starting with the end is a very useful thing. Our lives gain some of their sense of purpose and shape by having some goals, some ambitions, as well as our ultimate destination. Myra and I have just returned from a long weekend on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour. We knew it would be cold and largely countryside and so we took thermals, warm sweaters and walking boots. There was no swimwear in the suitcase.

As Christians all of us are well served by being aware of the end, that we will ultimately all be judged. Equally, knowing how we should lead our lives in the here and now is an important part of our formation. We live out our lives cognisant and concerned for our salvation, living each day fully alive, fully awake, seeking to be found worthy to be with God in His glory.

As we embark once again on our passage through Advent, let's give ourselves some time, - some time to take stock, some time to contemplate those moments when we drifted into spiritual drowsiness, or perhaps even complete and utter spiritual slumber. From this contemplation, perhaps only through that contemplation, can we adequately learn to be fully awake to the good news that is coming.

Dcn Andy Philpott

Questions to ponder for the Week...

- 1."Stay awake, praying at all times....." Jesus exhorts in the Gospel. In what areas of life do you need to 'stay awake' or 'be alert'? Why? What can you do about them?
- 2."See the days are coming.....when I am going to fulfil the promise....." we hear in Jeremiah (1st reading). God fulfils promises. Do we? Do you?What 'promises' are we/you still having to fulfil?
- 3.".....make more and more progress in the kind of life you are meant to live...." St Paul exhorts (2nd reading). What progress can you make during this Advent season? Go for it! God is with you.

Vincent Harvey

Today's Notices

If you have a Pyx at home, perhaps from previously being an **Extraordinary Minister**, may we ask you to consider donating it to the Parish for our new EMsHC to use while ministering to the sick and housebound.

First Holy Communion Registration at 9am, 10am and 11am Masses (see elsewhere). This is the last week.

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

Masses are being streamed as usual on our YouTube.

A Few Words...

Last week saw even more people at Mass. Some came due to FHC registration and others the first time since lockdown. It was heart-warming. Of course we still welcome those online be they in the Parish or beyond. All are welcome!

My 5 days away was good just to touch base with friends and family and to 'relax': sleeping, reading, walking.....and other things! Mind you I write this before I go.....so fingers crossed I have got it right!

*Do note the times of Masses over Christmas elsewhere in the newsletter. Also the introduction of a **Crib Service** (volunteers required: contact the Parish Office or me or Fiona): this will be for the families only as we cannot risk an overfull church!! This will not be a Mass. Note also the planned Penitential Service on Monday, 20th December.*

Vodcasts are back!! This weekend we listen to the wise, and energetic words of Father Johnpromise.

We are still looking for people to be involved with 'welcoming' at Mass and also 'Mass coordinators' (to set up the altar for Mass); collectors; Children's Liturgy of the Word (during the 9am Mass) and refreshments after the 9am and 10am (the latter has already recommenced). We hope also to reintroduce the Offertory Collection (but we will monitor it in terms of 'safety')

Christmas decorations: do get the children creating items to put on the Christmas Trees.....see elsewhere.

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



Next Sunday

Renewal of Eucharistic Ministers Faculties at all Masses.

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

This Week...

Tues Meditation Group at 6pm St Michael's
Alpha at 7pm Zoom

Wed Evening Prayer at 6pm
Journey in Faith after 7pm Mass

Sat EMHC Home visit training

For Info:

Mon-Tues Clergy Conference: VH/JP

Tues SLT: VH/TQ/AP

Wed Team meeting: VH/JP/AP

Thurs Deanery Clergy meet: VH/JP/AP
Bamenda Committee: VH

Fri Vicariate Day: VH

Ministry Group: VH

Sat EM training: JP/TQ



Sacraments

First Holy Communion 2022 During November we have been 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

Registration will take place after the 9am, 10am and 11am on Sundays: **today is the last day you may register.** You must register in person.

If you have already approached the Parish Office you must still come to one of these registration mornings. *Please note that there is a thirty-five pound fee for this course so please bring correct change when you come.*

We welcome to the faith Maya who was baptised this weekend. We remember her in our prayers as her family marks this special day with her.

Funerals



Please pray for Joe Lee who died last week. Joe had been ill for some time. Remember also in your prayers, Maureen his wife, and the family. Joe & Maureen will be well known by the 6.15pm congregation. Joe's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday, 2nd December at 10.30am. May Joe rest in peace.

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

What's going on?

St Anne's Consultation Admissions Arrangements Sept '23

As required by regulations the governing body of St Anne's Catholic School, Southampton, SO15 2WZ will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2023 – 2024. The consultation period runs for a minimum period of 6 weeks from 17/11/2021 until 29/12/2021

Please see our website below for further information and to review the proposed admissions arrangements:

https://www.st-annes.uk.com/web/admissions_consultation/254331

Any feedback is welcome and should be emailed to info@st-annes.uk.com with the subject 'Admissions Guidance 2023-24 Consultation'.

2Saints welcome donations of clothing for the homeless. For further details, T: 02380223443 / www.twosInts.org.uk.

Defibrillator outside St Edmund's CATHSOC Students & the Catenians are raising money for this important project. Please pass on any donations to the Parish Office or in a clearly marked envelope so the funds get to the students.

Christmas Matters - Fanning The Flame Day - 4th

December: A day for young people to discover why the Incarnation matters, how it must affect our daily lives, from how we treat ourselves and others to our understanding of the dead and belief in the Resurrection. Led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, it's an opportunity for young people to come together and grow in faith and fellowship, and have some fun too! Ages: 10-21. Location: Holy Family, Southampton. Time: 9:45am - 6:00pm Cost: £10 - please bring your own lunch. For more information and to book a place: www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/christmas-matters

CAFOD World gifts Buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue from the back of church.

Dudley Plunkett (a parishioner) has just published **Strangers and Nomads: Catholic Martyrs of England and Wales** (Gracewing, 2021). This follows his spiritual biography of St Philip Howard, The Noble Martyr (also published by Gracewing, 2019), and profiles the 43 canonised martyrs of the penal times against a background of the political and legal persecution that threatened the survival of the Catholic faith. Both books are available from the publishers or in bookshops and on Amazon (each priced £9.99).

Mary's Meals Double the Love From November to January, every gift given to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. This means a gift of just £15.90 will feed, not one, but two children, a life-changing daily school meal for a whole school year! Your kindness brings joy to more than two million children around the world who we serve – including those affected by natural disasters, conflict and the ongoing Covid pandemic.

For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk

CHRISTMAS 2021

This Christmas we are planning the following Masses:

Penitential Service Monday, 20th December at 7.30pm in St Edmund Church

Christmas Eve/Day:

St Joseph's 8pm Christmas Eve
10am Christmas Day

St Edmund's 10.30pm Christmas Eve
9am & 11am Christmas Day

Boxing Day (Sunday 26th): Feast of the Holy Family

St Edmund's 9 & 11am and 7pm
St Joseph's 10am

Children's Christmas Crib Service: Christmas Eve (Friday 24th) at 4pm in St Edmund's Church; a Service by and for children (not a Mass).....[this is providing we manage to get volunteers to plan and run the celebration].

Decoration of St Joseph's & St Edmund's: we would like children/families/individuals to create tree and other decorations from natural products (to reduce our reliance on plastic and the like). Things like: Fir cones/sprayed gold or silver/with a ribbon to tie onto the tree in the churches. And any other ideas!!

Christmas Stars available during Advent for £1 for Catholic Home Care: put your loved one's name on the tree.

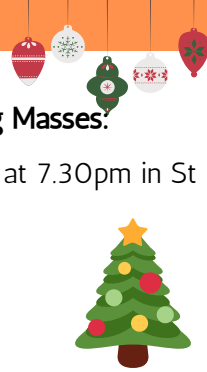
Walk with me Advent reading for adults available in the porch of each church for £1. **Advent Children's Calendars** are available also with a thought or an action for every day 50p

The 'Big Clean' St Jo's & St Ed's sparkle each year due to the brilliant work of the Cleaning teams. We are very grateful to all who step in around Christmas to assist with preparing the churches. Looking for volunteers for each church to help this year, so do get in touch if you can or look out for a list appearing at the back of church to put your name down.

Jingling Bells 2021 Postboxes are in the churches for Christmas cards for NHS Staff. Carols to be sung Sunday 12th December at 1500h followed by tea in St Edmund's. Your cards will be delivered before Christmas.

Home Care Christmas Gifts Baskets will be available in the porches this weekend (28 November) and the 5 & 12 December. These gifts make a big difference - thank you! Please consider picking up a small gift or two for us to pass on to our elderly clients. If you are unable to shop, or attend Mass, you may like to donate a monetary gift for us to buy on your behalf?

Stella Maris Christmas Gifts Please consider providing sailors with small gifts for Christmas which will have a substantial positive impact on them. Rucksacks have been placed in the back of each church for you to fill with gifts in for the sailors for Stella Maris to collect and distribute for Christmas. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 28TH NOV

(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 1

Saturday 27th Nov	6:15pm	SJ	Holy Souls in Purgatory
<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	7:00pm	SE	Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
Sunday 28th Nov	9:00am	SE	Joaquim Rodrigues RIP
	10:00am	SJ	Charles Joyce RIP
<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	11:00am	SE	Liam O'Reilly
	7:00pm	SE	Imelda and Don Weingart God's blessings and thanksgiving
Tuesday 30th Nov	10:00am	SE	MASS CANCELLED
<i>St Andrew</i>	7:00pm	SE	Hilary Parker, Hugo Puthena, Marta Fernandes, Mano Dissanyake, Quintus & Lalani M, Kanthi B, Surangi & Sandeep, Sheila M Flora, Fr Vincent and all November birthdays.
Wednesday 1st Dec			Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping
<i>1st week in Advent</i>			
Thursday 2nd Dec	12:15pm	SJ	Etheldreda Conway RIP
<i>1st week in Advent</i>			
Friday 3rd Dec	7:00pm	SE	Romeo & Jean Zanellotti RIP
<i>St Francis Xavier</i>			Eileen & Peter Coles
Saturday 4th Dec	11:00am	SE	Msza Polska / Mass in Polish
<i>St John Damascene</i>	6:15pm	SJ	PJ Phelan RIP
	7:00pm	SE	Deceased members of the Hayward Family RIP
Sunday 5th Dec	9:00am	SE	
<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	10:00am	SJ	Thanksgiving for Soton Constabulary
	11:00am	SE	Dolores Smyllie RIP
	7:00pm	SE	

28th Nov 1st Sunday of Advent**Psalm Response:**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Gospel Acclamation:*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

*Alleluia!***Readings 5th Dec****First Reading:**

Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading:

Philippians 1:4-6; 8-11

Gospel:

Luke 3:1-6

14th November Weekly Collection

Standing Orders: £1,700

Cash Donations: 950.72

Total: £2,650.72**Second Collections:**This week: **Catholic Home Care**Next week: **Christmas Flowers****CONTACT DETAILS:****Parish Priest:** Monsignor Canon Vincent HarveyEmail Address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk / 023 8033 4891**Assistant Priest:** Father Johnpromise UmeozuruEmail Address: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk /023 80172104

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.ukParish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org**Pastoral Assistant:** Mrs Tina Quinn tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**Catholic Home Care:** Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498Email: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz UrbanowskiTel. No. 02381786316 southampton@pcmew.org**Safeguarding Rep:** Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589Email: safeguarding@southampton-city-catholics.org.uk**Stella Maris (AoS):** Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 7843 739579**Catholic Chaplains:** Sr Emiliana Silva e.silva@soton.ac.uk 07426 000213Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**Solent Chaplain:**Isabelle Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414462636

200 Club November winners

1st Prize Stephanie Mercer

2nd Prize Henry Monaghan

The Parish has a New Website!!!

I for one am incredibly excited, so I do hope you are too!

I am after some contributions if people can spare the time:

- Photographs of St Joseph's
- Information on groups I may have missed
- Proofreaders. who will take a page or two to check over for me as I am by no means perfect!
- History buffs who can add anything I have missed from my quick overview - see particularly previous clergy as I have some 'gaps'

southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org**Confessions** at 11am St Edmund's

Before the sin Satan assures us that it is of no consequence, after the sin, he persuades us it is unforgivable.

Ven. Fulton Sheen