



Donate



JANUARY 29TH 2023 | 4TH SUNDAY IN OT

ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



Website



Peering into our Hearts

Here in the opening chapters of Matthew's Gospel we are taking our first steps with the Christ on His public mission to the world. If we were to understand Matthew's entire Gospel as an essay, then here we are in chapter 5 at the end of the introduction - the setting of the 'scene' - and all that follows will be in essence an extensive elaboration on what has gone before.

The Beatitudes are familiar to us all, perhaps too familiar, so that we no longer notice how profound they are. But the first reading sets us on the right path, wherein we are reminded to seek out justice and humility, in order to arrive at our final destination with God in heaven, which is of course holiness. Or as our current translation of scripture states, 'Happy'.

In the Beatitudes Jesus expresses the unconventionality of His message, a radical change in spirit as compared to the teachings of the Pharisees who considered misfortune and adversity as God's punishment and earthly happiness as God's reward. Whilst we may no longer meet Pharisees, their mindset still exists. The rich, the famous, and the powerful are often referred to as the "blessed" ones implying that the rest of us are not blessed. This Sunday we are invited to peer into the depths of our heart, so that we might see where we find our security in life.

The Beatitudes give us a portrait of a saint who is within our reach more than we might think. Saints can be poor by worldly standards, mostly because they share generously what they have with others; saints can mourn without despairing; saints deal with others gently rather than violently; saints can withstand insult and injury; saints forgive others their failings.

Are you reminded of anyone by that description? More significantly perhaps do you find any traces of yourself in the Beatitudes?

Dcn Andy



'Blessed are the poor in spirit, Blessed are those who mourn, Blessed are the meek, Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, Blessed are the merciful, Blessed are the pure in heart, Blessed are the peacemakers, Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

Today's Notices

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Appeal at the end of Mass for the work of Lepra

Second Collection for Lepra

Please continue to **sanitise hands** on entry to the church

Next Sunday Notices

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No Second Collection

This Week...

Tues St Michael's Meditation Group @ 6pm
Pre-Marriage Course on Zoom

Wed Evening Prayer @ 6pm.... to join, email Dcn Andy
Journey in Faith @ 7.30pm St Edmund's Hall

For Info...

Mon Day off: VH/JP

Sacraments

Please remember especially in your prayers all those who have passed recently.



Pray for Father Isaac Achi who was burned to death in Nigeria earlier this month after bandits set fire to his church. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let Perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*

Please pray for all those in our parish who have been Baptised this month: *Natan, Marcel, Wiktor, George, Audrey, Ellie, Jacob, Reina and Elizabeth.* We remember them in our prayers as they enter the Faith, and also remember their parents and godparents who have undertaken the promises involved in baptism.

Confirmation 2023 Registration has closed meaning we are now not able to accept any further applications. We will be in touch this week with dates and times of sessions.

Prayers

Adoration We are in need of more parishioners to cover the following days and times: **Mondays 3-6pm, Wednesdays 2-6pm & Fri 12-2pm.**

Please contact Anna on **07956 379 542** if you feel able to join Adoration during the week in St Edmund's!



The Pope's Prayer Intentions:

January - For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

February - For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Please remember especially in your prayers *Sr Maria Innocenta, Mary Mullen, Christopher Browne, Peter Scott, Vasile, Michaela* and all in the Parish who are ill, dying, undergoing treatment or experiencing distress.

Gift Aid

Two weeks ago there was a small talk on gift aid at the end of each Mass, which hopefully made some sense to you! Here is a recap:



Gift aid is a tax relief for charities in the UK that increases donations by 25% at no extra cost to the donor. The charity is able to claim back tax that a donor has already paid to the government.

If in a year you give £20 a month to the Parish this adds up to £240, gift aid lets us claim 25% of this donation from the government - bringing the total gift aid claimable on this donation to £60. As long as you have paid more than £60 in tax to the government throughout the year, we can claim this money at no additional cost to you!

1) I have been a gift aider in the parish for years, do I need to do another declaration form?

Yes, as the Diocese has changed to the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth we have been asked to fill in new forms under the new name. If you change address or change your name you must also fill in a new gift aid declaration as well.

2) I have filled in the declaration form and signed it, what do I do now?

Now you need to return the form to Anna in the Parish Office. You can hand deliver it, post it, email a scanned copy or you can give your forms to the priests at Mass to return to Anna.

3) How can I donate to the parish so they can identify me as a gift aider?

As long as we have your gift aid form all donations you make (that we can identify!) we claim on: **Standing Orders** with the donors name are the easiest way for the Parish to identify gift aiders, and the reliable predictable income helps the parish to budget.

Bank Transfers are equally easy to match to a gift aider as long as the bank account is a donors name (or the reference).

Cash must be in an envelope marked with your name, or can be brought directly into the Parish Office.

Cheques (made payable to CDP SOUJE) as long as we know their purpose we can claim.

Contactless Machines take care of the gift aid forms automatically once you donate. Apologies to all who had registered before as you will have to do it again now we have a new name. The machine will automatically claim gift aid on the same card once registered.

4) Can I gift aid to the Second Collections charities too?

Yes! For a one off donation you can make a bank transfer with the reference as the name of the charity, or an abbreviation.

Those paying to the Parish via Standing Order please contact Anna if you wish to make a contribution to second collections from your standing order each month. The next second collection calendar will be out in March.

What's going on?

Poetry Share. We are hoping to restart Poetry Share in March 2023, and if you are interested in this group we would be delighted to hear from you.

To find out more about the Poetry Share group, and register an interest in joining us, please email Kate Greaves at poetryshare@btinternet.com

CAFOD meeting Saturday 4th February 10:30am to 12:30pm at Immaculate Conception Church hall, Portswood Road. You are invited to come to a meeting to see how your donations make a difference to the communities that we work with. There will be an update on our work tackling climate change in Bangladesh as that is our focus story for Lent fast day. Please contact Jo Lewry for more details and to book your place by emailing jlwry@cafod.org.uk or call **07710 094447**

Retrouvaille Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a **Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023**, or a **Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023**, call or text **07887 296983** or **07973 380443** or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

At present we are locking the church outside of Adoration hours in order to protect the building and our possessions. We hope that the theft and vandalism will cease to allow us to open all day, but in the meantime if anyone wishes to join our adoration schedule to help keep the doors open just contact Anna.

Food Banks Please consider donating to Southampton City Mission Food Bank if you are able to. You can do this by making use of the collection baskets in supermarkets when you go shopping, or by bringing items with you to church to place in the boxes in the porches. To check on the current out of stock items please see the link at the bottom of the page or the list below:

Small Jars of Coffee, Nappies size 5+, **Small Bags of Sugar**, Tinned Carrots, **Tinned Cold Meat** (Ham, Spam, etc.), Tinned Fish, **Tinned Hot Meat** (Curry, Pies, Stew, etc.), Tinned Macaroni Cheese, **Sanitary Products**, Treats (Chocolate, Crisps, etc.), **Vegetarian Food**, Vegan Food, **Baby Food**, Carrier Bags, **Cook-In Sauces** (Jars & Packets), Custard, **Gluten Free Food**, Hot Chocolate, **Jams & Spreads**, Noodles (Packets), **Rice**, Toothpaste, **Toothbrushes**, Male & Female Deodorant, **Toilet Rolls**, Soap & Shower Gel, **Shampoo**, UHT Milk

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



Lepra is a UK registered international charity changing the lives of people affected by disease, poverty and prejudice. With a history spanning 90 years we currently work on the frontline in India and Bangladesh to treat, educate, rehabilitate and give a voice to people living on the margins of society. We focus on people who find themselves trapped at the intersection of disease, poverty and prejudice and help them to improve their health, lives and livelihoods. To see more of their work go to <https://www.lepra.org.uk/> or see this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBVcCAoG13c>

St Edmund's Repository is stocked with statues, medals, candles, rosaries, faith jewellery, religious gifts and books. We also have a selection of missals, bibles and cards. If you would like to purchase something from the repository it is open throughout the month at various times depending on volunteers, but it is open **every first Sunday of the month** after the 9am and before the 11am Mass. It is possible to pay via cash or to use the contactless machine at the back of church. Thank you to Maria and Keri for your help in organising and selling.

Bishop Philip on the Ten Year Plan I wish hereby to thank all the parishes and individuals who responded to the consultation about our ten-year mission plan 'You will be My Witnesses'. We have had over 60 parish responses and 46 individual responses, of which 5 were from priests, 38 from laypersons, and 3 from groups of parishioners. The feedback will now be analysed to inform the final shape of the plan.

A group of clergy and lay people are helping us with this so that the detail can be further tested and refined. The work will include a small number of meetings and comment on the material as it is developed.

If you are interested in helping with this aspect of the plan, please let us know via the dedicated email address: missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Green Living Update...

Why save water? If human society takes dramatic action to curb climate change, we can stop the worst environmental damage.



Sometimes it's obvious where we can save water. We can collect rainwater to water our gardens, or take showers instead of baths. Other times, the water connection is less obvious, but could be just as important for wildlife and the environment.

Consider the food in your shopping basket. Produce such as potatoes, tomatoes and oranges which need a lot of water to grow. Some food production in arid countries relies on unsustainable sources of water, which in turn shrinks wetlands and the wildlife which depends on them.

You can help tackle water stress overseas by buying water-hungry produce from countries with plentiful water supplies.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY

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

Saturday 28th Jan <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	6:15pm SJ	Prayers & God's Blessings for Good Health & peace in universe
Sunday 29th Jan <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am SE	Joachim Rodrigues RIP 2nd Ann.
	10:00am SJ	Margaret & Lesley Grover RIP
	11:00am SE	Marissa Tellegen RIP
	7:00pm SE	People of the Parish
Tuesday 31st Jan <i>St John Bosco</i>	10:00am SE	George & Paddy (Kathleen) Chandler RIP
Wednesday 1st Feb <i>Feria</i>	7:00pm SE	Eric Clarke RIP
Thursday 2nd Feb <i>Presentation of The Lord</i>	12.15pm SJ	Intentions of Ellen Brophy
Friday 3rd Feb	7:00pm SE	Salvador Rodrigues RIP 2nd Ann
Saturday 4th Feb <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	11:00am SE	Stella & John Burns RIP
	6:15pm SJ	People of the Parish
Sunday 5th Feb <i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:00am SE	Stella & Fred Winter RIP
	10:00am SJ	People of the Parish
	11:00am SE	Mary O'Reilly (Health & Wellbeing)
	7:00pm SE	Staff of Highland looking after Mary O'Reilly

29th January

Psalm Response:

How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Alleluia!

22nd Jan 1st Collection

SO: £446 Cash: £884.21

Contactless: £90

Gift Aid: £77.75

TOTAL: £1,497.96

Thank you.

5th February

1st Reading:

Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm: 111

2nd Reading:

1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

Gospel: *Matthew 5: 13-16*

CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey

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Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru

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

Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie 023 8033 3589

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

Parish Email: office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Parish Website: www.southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

Our Instagram: [SouthamptonCityCentreCatholics](https://www.instagram.com/SouthamptonCityCentreCatholics)

Our FaceBook: [@SotonCatholicsCityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/SotonCatholicsCityCentre)

Our Twitter: [@SotonCatholics](https://twitter.com/SotonCatholics)

Safeguarding: safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org

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

Catholic Home Care: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Mrs Anne Monaghan & Mrs Marina Joyce 023 8017 0498

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski

Telephone: 02381786316 southampton@pcmew.org

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Catholic Chaplains:

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Father Benjamin Theobald btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Solent Chaplain:

Sr Issy Kirby volunteer239@solent.ac.uk 07414 462636

Vocations: www.portsmouthvocations.org/

Diocesan Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

*We are part of Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth,
Registered Charity Number 1199568.*

If God gives you an abundant harvest of trials, it is a sign of great holiness which He desires you to attain.

*Do you want to become a great saint?
Ask God to send you many sufferings.*

The flame of Divine Love never rises higher than when fed with the wood of the Cross, which the infinite charity of the Savior used to finish His sacrifice.

All the pleasures of the world are nothing compared with the sweetness found in the gall and vinegar offered to Jesus

Christ. That is, hard and painful things endured for Jesus Christ and with Jesus Christ.



-Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Confessions

St Joseph's on Thursdays at 11.45am & Saturdays 5.45pm

St Edmund's on Saturdays after the 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!