

DECEMBER 5TH 2021 | SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

# ST JOSEPH'S & ST EDMUND'S

City Centre Catholic Parish Southampton



## Prepare a way... God is coming!

Leave your sorrows and tears, put on your garments of joy:  
The one who is coming comes on the clouds!

The love of God guides us; his glory is our light:  
The one who is coming comes victorious!

Why do you not hasten toward the day of your God?  
The one who is coming comes for our joy!

Prepare his way, accept his pardon;  
each of us will see the grace of our God on the day of judgement!

Happy the one who believed that one day would be fulfilled  
the words of our God for all whom he loves!

Behold, the times are come when the Lord of justice  
will fulfil his promise of Peace for all whom he loves!

Text by D. Rimaud, in *Choristes*, 1983



## Questions to ponder for the Week...

1. "Prepare a way for the Lord" John the Baptist cries in today's Gospel. In what way must you 'prepare' if God is going to be rooted deeper in your life? What must you do? Maybe it is about just 'being'!
2. The Prophet Baruch (1st reading) exhorts people to "take off the dress of sorrow and distress" and to put on the "beauty.....of God". What causes you sorrow and distress? Why? What is "the beauty of God" for you? Is it external or internal? Why?
3. Paul's prayer for the Philippians (2nd reading) is that their love for each other will "increase more and more". In what areas of your life does your love need to increase? Why? How can you achieve this?



# Today's Notices

**Renewal of** Extraordinary Ministers at each Mass

**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

# Next Sunday 3rd Advent

**Together with Refugees...** 9am & 11am Masses to stand with them. See the newsletter elsewhere as we invite members of the Southampton and Winchester Visitor Group. Have your photo taken!!

**Jingling Bells** are at St Edmund's at 3pm (see elsewhere).

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

# A Few Words...

*Father Johnpromise, Deacon Andy and myself participated in the Clergy Conference last Monday and Tuesday. It was good to touch base, in person, with around 100 clergy from the Diocese: from Jersey in the south and Abingdon in the north! The Conference was the beginning of a process and journey to see where we are going as the local Church; and how we will be 'Church' in the future. Many challenges! A mixture of fear and hope; of sorrow and joy! But coming through it all was a sense that God is with us; that the Holy Spirit is 'blowing' as only the Holy Spirit does! But we must be willing to 'be blown'!!*

**A belated 'Happy Birthday' to Deacon Andy** who celebrated a 'major' birthday last Thursday! Andy: we give thanks to God for your 70 years, your witness to faith and the ministry to exercise in our midst. And we keep you in our prayers. Ad Multos Annos (as they say!)

**We are still looking.....always 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'). None of this is a 'closed shop' so do come forward.

**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



# This Week...

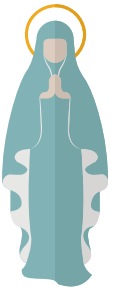
**Tues** Meditation Group at 6pm St Michael's Alpha at 7pm Zoom

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

**Thurs** Richard Rohr Group 7pm

**Sat** Alpha 'Holy Spirit Away Day'

Carols with St Michael's in St Michael's Square 4pm



## For Info:

**Mon** Day Off: VH/JP

**Tues** St George College VH; SLT VH/TQ/AP; St George Govs: VH

**Wed** Team meeting: VH/JP/AP; Housebound VH

**Thurs** CA Trustee Meet: VH

**Fri** Jesu Caritas: VH; Clergy Ministry Group: VH

# General Notices

**New Website** as some of you may have noticed we have a new website, thanks so much for all those who have taken the time to get in touch with feedback, it's very helpful and much appreciated!

**Email changes** (as a result of the website shift) that you need to be aware of: the safeguarding email has changed alongside the office email...

[safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org) and [office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org) respectively.

**St Edmund's will be closed on Monday 9am-2pm.**

This is due to a private booking, apologies for the inconvenience caused.

**Sick and housebound?** If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home as you cannot attend Mass then please get in touch with the Office.

**First Holy Communion 2022** A good number of children have been registered. Registration is now closed.

**Happy belated birthday to Deacon Andy!** Last Thursday he celebrated his 70th birthday. From the whole Parish, we wish you well!



# Funerals



**Marisa Tellegen RIP** Please pray for Marisa who died last weekend. Remember also in your prayers Reinold and the family. The funeral will be at St Edmund's 11am 30th December. May Marisa rest in peace

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

# What's going on?

**Together with Refugees** We have long supported the Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group, (SWVG), a local charity that supports refugees and people seeking asylum. SWVG has joined Together With Refugees (TWI) a UK-wide coalition of over 300 organisations, and they are asking that we support the "Show your Heart" campaign to indicate that we stand with refugees. There is a new Bill currently making its way through Parliament, that if passed will:

- Create two classes of refugees, based on how people arrive in the UK not why they make the journey. Most people seeking asylum have faced persecution, torture, or death of loved ones due to violence. They travel to the UK looking for safety, and need protection;
- Give power to move people who are seeking asylum offshore - Rwanda and Albania have been suggested;
- Give powers to place people seeking asylum in institutional reception centres;
- Criminalise people helping those seeking safety.

These proposals are worrying and as part of the national campaign, SWVG is asking people to be photographed individually or in family groups, holding a heart with the words "together with refugees" printed on it. SWVG has about 1000 photos already of people in Winchester and Southampton and they will form part of a moving picture display at the Winchester Christmas Market. Ultimately, the photos will be sent to TWI in London and will form part of a national photo board.

If you would like to be involved, a couple of representatives from SWVG, will be outside at the 9am & 11am Masses with hearts, and would like to take your photo either individually or in a small group. If you do not want your face to be shown, you may cover your face with the heart.

## **St Anne's Consultation Admissions Arrangements Sept '23**

St Anne's Catholic School will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2023 - 2024. The consultation period runs for a period of 6 weeks from 17/11/2021 until 29/12/2021. Please see their website for further information.

**2Saints welcome donations** of clothing for the homeless. T: 02380223443 / [www.twosaints.org.uk](http://www.twosaints.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.

**Mary's Meals Double the Love** 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! For more information, please visit [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

# CHRISTMAS 2021

**Joint Carol Service in St Michael's Square:** Saturday, 11th December at 4pm. Come along and join us for a Carol Service followed by 'refreshments', in St Michael's Square

**Jingling Bells** Sunday 12 December 2021 at 1500h collecting cards for NHS followed by tea in the hall. Post boxes in churches. Please bring your card and a plate to share. Everyone welcome. Admission free.

## **St Joseph's Christmas Tree Decoration Morning**



**Saturday 18th December, 10 am - 1 pm**

This year we would like to decorate the Christmas Tree at St Joseph's with our own recyclable decorations. We have some very simple and attractive decorations to make on our tree decoration morning, with all materials and instructions provided, plus refreshments and Christmas music! All are welcome but we would particularly like to invite our young people to help with this - those who recently have made their First Holy Communion or been Confirmed, plus any other young people and their families. Alternatively you might like to make your own more advanced decoration at home and bring it along! Just turn up or phone Rachel on 0787 9082351 with any queries.

**Decorations:** we would like children/families/individuals to create tree and other decorations from natural products. Feel free to be creative!

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

**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!

**Home Care Christmas Gifts** Baskets available in the porches this weekend & 12 December. These gifts make a big difference - thank you!

**Stella Maris Christmas Gifts** Rucksacks have been placed in the back of each church.. Thank you in advance.

**CAFOD World Gifts** Buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts) or pick up a catalogue from the back of church.

**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... Keep getting in touch if you can help!



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 5TH DEC

(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)

|   |                |           |  |
|---|----------------|-----------|--|
| <b>Saturday 4th Dec</b>                                     | <b>6:15pm</b>  | <b>SJ</b> | Eileen & Peter Coles                               |
| <i>St John Damascene</i>                                    | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>                |
| <b>Sunday 5th Dec</b>                                       | <b>9:00am</b>  | <b>SE</b> | PJ Phelan RIP                                      |
| <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>                              | <b>10:00am</b> | <b>SJ</b> | Deceased members of the Hayward Family RIP         |
|   | <b>11:00am</b> | <b>SE</b> | Thanksgiving for Soton Constabulary                |
|   | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | Dolores Smyllie RIP                                |
| <b>Tuesday 7th Dec</b>                                      | <b>10:00am</b> | <b>SE</b> | Michael & John Yates                               |
| <i>St Ambrose</i>   |                |           |  |
| <b>Wednesday 8th Dec</b>                                    | <b>7.00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | Happy Birthday Tina God's Blessings & Thanksgiving |
| <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> |                |           |  |
| <b>Thursday 9th Dec</b>                                     | <b>12:15pm</b> | <b>SJ</b> | Anna Ayles RIP Birthday Anniversary                |
| <i>St John Diego Cuahtlatotzin</i>                          |                |           |  |
| <b>Friday 10th Dec</b>                                      | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | John Scullion                                      |
| <i>Our Lady of Loreto</i>                                   |                |           |  |
| <b>Saturday 11th Dec</b>                                    | <b>11:00am</b> | <b>SE</b> | Bill Burke RIP                                     |
| <i>St Damascus I</i>  | <b>6:15pm</b>  | <b>SJ</b> | Jack Craig RIP Birthday Ann                        |
|   | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | <b>Msza Polska / Mass in Polish</b>                |
| <b>Sunday 12th Dec</b>                                      | <b>9:00am</b>  | <b>SE</b> | Deceased members of Hastings & Moran family        |
| <i>Third Sunday of Advent ('Gaudete')</i>                   | <b>10:00am</b> | <b>SJ</b> | Terry Clarke RIP (Anniversary)                     |
|   | <b>11:00am</b> | <b>SE</b> | Jose & Millie Vaz Wedding Ann                      |
|   | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>SE</b> | Jan Rojko RIP                                      |

## Prayer of the Church

Week 2

**5th Dec**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**Psalm Response:**

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we are glad.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

*Alleluia!*

**Readings 12th Dec**

**First Reading:**

Zephaniah 3:14-18

**Second Reading:**

Philippians 4:4-7

**Gospel:**

Luke 3:10-18

**28th November Weekly Collection**

Standing Orders: £1,700

Cash Donations: £984.14

**Total: £2,684.14**

## 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) / 023 80172104

Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO152EQ

**Deacon:** Deacon Andy Philpott

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

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

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

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

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

**Pastoral Assistant:** Mrs Tina Quinn

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

**Catholic Home Care:** Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498

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

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz Urbanowski

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

**Safeguarding Rep:** Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589

Email: [safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:safeguarding@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org)

**Stella Maris (AoS):** Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 7843 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) 07414462636



## Homemade Nativities / Wreaths

We'd love to post some pictures of parishioners preparing for Christmas on our social medias... Please do send pictures if you have any!

Perhaps you're drawing/crafting a nativity scene as a family - we'd love to see...



## Second Collections:

This week: **Christmas Flowers**

Next week: **Church Maintenance Fund**



## Wednesday 8th

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a time to celebrate the great joy of God's gift to humanity in Mary, and to recognize with greater clarity the truth that each and every human being has been created by God to fulfill a particular mission that he and only he can fulfill. *"The word of the Lord came to me thus: 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.'" (Jeremiah 1:5-6)*

**Confessions** at 11.30am St Edmund's

"It does not spoil your happiness to confess your sin. The unhappiness is in not making the confession."

*Charles Spurgeon*