



25 APRIL 2021
FOURTH
SUNDAY
OF EASTER



**ST JOSEPH'S &
 ST EDMUND'S**
CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC
PARISH SOUTHAMPTON
 ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
 PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

STELLA MARIS DEANERY
INCLUDES:

- ST. BONIFACE, SHIRLEY
- HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, LORDSWOOD
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, PORTSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION, HEDGE END
- ST BRIGID, WEST END
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION, NETLEY ABBEY



SACRIFICIAL LOVE AND SHEPHERDING

Over the last year and in this last week we have witnessed poignant examples of sacrificial love. Of people laying down their lives for others at great cost to themselves. The NHS workers through COVID, the Duke of Edinburgh who laid aside a successful career in the forces to serve his Queen and country and health care workers who are working evenings and weekends at the expense of their families to continue to roll out the vaccination programme. I am also reminded and exposed to, on a daily basis, heroic acts of family members who put everything on hold to care for dependent and sick relatives often at a cost to their own health. These are all the 'Good Shepherds' referred to in our Gospel this weekend. This presents a challenge to us all. Are we prepared to be shepherds for one another? *'No one may claim the name of Christian and be comfortable in the face of the hunger, homelessness, insecurity, and injustice found in this country and the world'*. (US Bishops 1986).

Shepherding in the time of Jesus was a hazardous occupation. Outdoor living was rough and hyenas, jackals and wolves roamed the hills. The shepherd was usually armed with a knife and his courage and care was legendary; a wandering figure who anxiously tended his sheep to the extent that he would surrender his life for them. This is the image used in the Gospel today.

But this also presents us with an example of servant leadership. Leadership not of detachment and defensiveness but that of physical involvement and self-sacrificial love. In His life and death Jesus refuses to accept the loss of one sheep, and He goes off leaving the ninety—nine to find the one that is lost. The good shepherd challenges our own way of leaving people that are lost; and particularly in this current time when many may have lost their connection with the church and their sense of belonging, who feel disconnected from the community. How will these people know that they are welcomed back if no one tells them or no one is there with open arms?

Servant leadership has many characteristics and is modelled on the life of Christ who warns His followers of the difficult times ahead. Who goes there before them, who endures isolation and insult, who faces His own fear but stays loyal, who risks being slaughtered Himself. Pope Francis, our Bishops, our priests are all called to be servant leaders. But this extends to you and I.

The Senior Leadership Team and Evangelisation Strategy Team are currently looking at ways of re-connecting with the flock (our parish community) to explore how they are feeling, how COVID has impacted on our lives and our beliefs and how we can ensure that people feel welcomed back into a community they can call their own. We will be wanting to hear from the experiences of all, and it is from these experiences that we will draw the knowledge that will inform our way forward together.

Pope Francis wrote about the experience of the Pandemic *'If we are to come out of this crisis better we have to remember that we have a shared destination. What ties us together is solidarity'*. (2020. Pope Francis. *Let us Dream*. Simon & Schuster UK LTD).

The shepherd would be responsible for a large flock, leading them into sheepfolds and protecting them from harm. Let us do the same and so care for one another.

Tina Quinn

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

1. Besides suggesting that priests stay close to the marginalized by being *"shepherds living with the smell of the sheep,"* (Homily for Chrism Mass, March 28, 2013) Pope Francis also said that *"The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to the revolution of tenderness"* (Evangelii Gaudium - page 72). In what way do you live with 'the smell of the sheep' (e.g.: those in need etc.)? Also how do you live this 'revolution of tenderness'?
2. Peter says that it was Christ who healed the crippled man. Christ *"is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone."* (1st reading). What gave Peter the courage to speak out like this, when before Jesus died he couldn't even admit that he knew Him? Do we receive that same gift when we speak out for truth or goodness? Have you tried?

Anne Osdieck (Adapted by Vincent Harvey)

TODAY 25 APRIL 2021—4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY when we pray for vocations; especially vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. *The Second Collection today is for the Clergy Training Fund* which supports our seminarians through their training for the priesthood. Our Diocese is blessed with 12 seminarians currently in training, two of whom are due to be ordained later this year.

As you may know, as a charity, we are responsible for generating all our funding needs. It takes 7 years to train for the priesthood, and costs £27,000 per year for each seminarian. Investing in the future generation of priests is a great privilege and responsibility for our Diocese; we rely on the generous support of our faithful community.

In addition to the usual methods of giving, an online page has been set up to support the collection and can be accessed here: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-training-fund>

2021-2022 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE SETS are available in the porches for parishioners who have chosen to donate in this way.

MASSES ARE BEING STREAMED:

St Edmund streaming link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx08VII2ww0whsj6gLPptcQ>

St Joseph streaming link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUxGYYxAgmPBgKbk2ufciVw>

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY PUBLIC MASSES: Look closely at the times and method of booking. Do not turn up without booking as you may be denied entry (they may be space but you are taking a risk!). **There must not be any congregational singing.....you may hum through your mask! Masks must be worn by law.**

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED to casual visitors. Please phone or email in.

RECENTLY DIED:



Sheila Cavanagh RIP late of Barchester Health Care Home and Lord's Hill. Funeral service will take place at 12 noon on Tuesday 27 April 2021 in St Edmund Church followed by committal at the Southampton Crematorium. *May Sheila rest in peace. Please keep her family in your prayers.*

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY ONLINE EVENING PRAYER at 6:00pm. To join email Deacon Andy aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MONDAY ONLINE EVENING PRAYER at 6:30pm. Join the Baptism Preparation Team; email Deacon Andy.

53RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABORTION ACT COMING INTO EFFECT takes place on Tuesday 27th April. Since then, over 9 million babies have been aborted in the United Kingdom. *Please join us in praying and fasting on that day for an end to abortion in this Country.* (As we are in the Easter Season please limit your fasting to some small sacrifice) www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

A few words from Father Vincent

I had a great few days away, sleeping, reading and walking! The walking enabled me to walk some of my 'Pentecost Challenge' for 'Friends of the Holy Land' to raise £1,200 towards the education of a disabled child. As you know I am cycling/walking virtually from Bethlehem to Nazareth see my page <https://fhl.enthuse.com/pf/vincent-harvey>

*I have finished the journey so have decided to 'walk back' to Bethlehem!! I've also exceeded the £1,200 target: thank you to all who responded and donated. I have kept all donors up to date with my progress with descriptions of places visited and videos of clergy, churches and the like. **I am still open to more donations as I know every penny (well pound!) counts!***

The Parish has received a number of grants towards our buildings: some of it for very specific works; others to ensure the buildings are in good order for fully reopening! More later.

*As the Vaccines continue to roll out we are moving into a better place (I had my second yesterday Saturday). Nevertheless think of others, and remember: if you suspect you have been near someone with coronavirus, or are not feeling well yourself, stay at home and certainly **DO NOT** mix with others; also refrain from coming to church. **Keep safe! Be safe!***

Thank you for reading this I hope! Have a good week.
Vincent H

THE NEXT ALPHA COURSE ONLINE AT SOUTHAMPTON CITY CENTRE CATHOLIC PARISH BEGINS TUESDAY 11TH MAY AT 7PM VIA ZOOM.

We are running our third online course starting in 2 weeks' time.

Nicky Gumbel (pioneer of the Alpha Course) advocates that Alpha online is here to stay and is one of the most effective ways of making this course accessible for all. Alpha is an opportunity not to be missed. It provides a comprehensive introduction to the Christian faith and answers those questions that we all need to ask:

- **Is there more to life than this?**
- **Who is Jesus?**
- **How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?**
- **How can I make the most of the rest of my life?**

Come and join us and invite friends and family. Register with the Parish Office by email at southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFESSIONS: Saturday 1st May 4pm—5pm in St Edmund Church only for those who have been booked in.

200 CLUB FEES: 2021-22 fees now due for members. Email southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you would like to join. £12pa with a chance of winning 2 prizes per month; all proceeds for Parish income.

CONFIRMATION 2021: We will be starting a confirmation programme soon with a view to celebrate the sacrament in October / November 2021. We will begin with a Zoom meeting and then hopefully meet in person for 6-8 sessions, following the Alpha programme. The programme is open to young people CURRENTLY IN YEAR 9 OR 10. Due to space restrictions, we are unable to welcome those younger than Year 9. Please send an email to Fr Ansel anseldmello@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk giving your name, date of birth, school and year group together with a paragraph telling him why you wish to be confirmed, **by SUNDAY 23 MAY**. This will be followed up by a conversation with Father Vincent or Father Ansel to discuss the programme and your commitment to it.

FOR INFO:

Mon VH/AD'M off
Tues SLT with Fr M: VH/AP/TQ/AW
Christian Meditation: VH
St George Steering Group: VH
Wed Team meeting: VH/ADM/AP
Vocation session Winchester: VH
Divine Renovation Webinar: VH/AP/TQ/AW
Thurs Richard Rohr Group: VH
EST: VH/ADM/AP/TQ
Fri Housebound visits: VH
Ministry Group: VH
Unity 101: VH
Sat First Confessions: VH/ADM/FHC Team

RESTORED LIVES

Relationship breakdown can be the hardest experience of a person's life. No one should have to face it on their own.

By joining one of our courses we hope that you will become part of a group where you can feel supported by others who have faced separation or divorce.

Together we explore all the challenges commonly faced when a relationship breaks down, from the emotional struggles to the practical issues.

New course commencing June/July 2021. Speak to or email Fr Vincent, Fr Ansel or Tina Quinn southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you would like to register.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES Subscription: see website www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call 0161 820 5722 to arrange to email or post it to you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Peggy Bell, Yasmin, Mark Evans, Pat Alborough, Jen Bridges, John Berridge, Indu Dissanayake, Wayne Barron, Robert Howe, Carol Butt, Mark Jones, Michael Parker, Andrea Barsi, Mary Burke, Geoff & Margot Lagerwall, Madeleine Clarke, Daham, Mallika, Mano, Christopher Browne, Clifford Brown, Maureen C, Cath Gardiner, Joan, Donna & James (reconciliation), Therese Hayter, Daphne Cope, Tina Currie, Anushka P, Laneisha Vaz, Catherine Lyne, Joseph Connolly, John Jack, Margaret Hicks, Ewa Evans, Teresa Hodges, Sue Hanrahan, Marisa Tellegen, Myra & Bosco Andrade, Bunty Weerakoon, Pat & Don Devers, Azad & Vyville Perera, Jean White, Sheila Morris, John Hennessy, Marcus Boulton-Smith, Jean Mooney, Bobby Murphy, Jackie Galbraith, Joan Forbes, Doris Leggett, John O'Reilly, Bill Eastman, Shane Wing, Kathryn Morley, NW, Joe and Maureen Lee, Roy Reeves, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Noreen Kealy, Colm O'Riordan, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, Malcolm Cross, Paul Sassu, Peter Scott, Maria Annunziata, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Pauldia Grant **and all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or affected by the Coronavirus in any way or are experiencing extreme poverty.**

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR APRIL: Universal: Fundamental rights. For those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

CATHOLIC HOME CARE is looking to **recruit new carers** to join a friendly and supportive team undertaking general domestic tasks. *If you like elderly people and have a few hours spare during the week, this is the job for you with a good rate of pay.* Car driver is an advantage (but not essential) and full training will be given. Success at interview will lead to an enhanced DBS check before appointment. Permanent and holiday cover carers required. *We are also looking for a person who can help on a voluntary basis for jobs around the home – small repairs & technical support.* Full details and application form available from Anne Monaghan, Tel. 023 8017 0498. **Closing date for applications – 14 May 2021.**

COLLECTIONS: ongoing income is, as we know, vital. This can be done:

- **Online....** already mentioned, but as a reminder: accessible via the Parish Website
- **Bank Transfer** (details also on the Parish website)
- **In a clearly marked envelope** put through the Presbytery or Office letter box
- **A 'bucket' at the back of church**

DIY ABORTIONS: At the 1st anniversary of the Government granting access to women obtaining early medical abortions at home (EMA's) which we all know as DIY abortions. **The Government are considering making this move permanent.** In reality an unprecedented move Pro-life organisations have come together to challenge this, and have formed a coalition and they have a website: www.careforwomen.co.uk The repercussions of DIY abortions since its introduction last year:

- 75,000 women have accessed this procedure
- 11,786 incomplete abortions
- 3,588 surgical interventions
- 264 — 999 calls
- 495 women attending hospital per month due to abortion complications
- 52 illegal abortions
- 4 abortions at over 24 weeks

There are valid concerns over coercion and that the service offered crosses legal boundaries. Pro-life organisations that have formed this coalition are: Christian Concern/CBRUK/March for Life/Pregnancy Crisis Helpline/Rachel's Vineyard/SPUC/The Good Counsel Network/Voice for Justice/40 Days for life. **Please pray that the government will decide not to make DIY abortions permanent.**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2021

(Church key to City Centre Catholic Masses below are SJ = St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street, SO14 2AH and SE = St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ)

SAT	24 APR	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM	SJ	TONY MADDEN RIP (PR)
SUN	25 APR	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9:00AM	SE	JOAQUIM RODRIGUES RIP (AR)
			10:30AM	SJ	DOROTHY COUGHLIN—WELLBEING & HEALING (PP)
			**	**	RAPHAEL M—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS, COLLETTE C (RIP), SUJUTA D (HEALING)—(ANUSHKA PONNIAH)
			7:00PM	SE	ANGELA & CHRISTINA—SPECIAL INTENTIONS (TM)
TUES	27 APR	OF THE 4TH WEEK OF EASTER	10:00AM	SE	JOAQUIM RODRIGUES RIP (AR)
			12 NOON	SE	FUNERAL: SHEILA CAVANAGH RIP
WED	28 APR	ST PETER CHANEL	7:00PM	SE	JANET GARGARO RIP (JG)
THURS	29 APR	ST CATHERINE OF SIENA	12:15PM	SJ	BRIDIE MILES RIP—ANNIVERSARY (GC & HP)
FRI	30 APR	OF THE 4TH WEEK OF EASTER	7:00PM	SE	PRIESTS & VOCATIONS (HH)
SAT	1 MAY	ST JOSEPH THE WORKER	11:00AM	SE	ARUL VICTORIA (81), SESHANTI C (35) & ALL THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS—GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (ANUSHKA & FRANCIS)
			6:15PM	SJ	IN THANKSGIVING FOR PRAYERS ANSWERED (MR)
			7:00PM	SE	MASS IN POLISH
SUN	2 MAY	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9:00AM	SE	JOHN & GERRY CROFT—50TH ANNIVERSARY—GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (GC)
			10:30AM	SJ	ELLEN DABREO RIP (RP)
			**	**	CAPTAIN TOM MOORE (HERO); DAME BARBARA WINSOR, 007 SEAN CONNERY, PC ALEX HARPER AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RIP (ANUSHKA PONNIAH)
			7:00PM	SE	JANET GARGARO RIP (JG)

CONTACT DETAILS:

Parish Priest: Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey
 Email address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Father Vincent Tel. No. 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton SO152EQ

Assistant Priest: Father Ansel D'Mello
 Email address: anseldmello@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Father Ansel Tel. No. 023 8017 2104

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

Parish Secretary: Mrs Anne Wheeler
 Parish Office Tel. No. 023 8033 3589
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Email Address: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Tina Quinn / Mobile 07827 810 457
 email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Catholic Home Care: Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498
 Email address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Chaplaincy: 023 8120 8517—Father Joe McNerney

Stella Maris (AoS): Father John Lavers Mob. No. 07720 093 156

Poitiers Care Project: Brian Arthur 07796 161 047/0238029 2692

Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski
 Tel. No. 023 8178 6316
 email: southampton@tchr.org

Safeguarding Rep: 15 Landguard Road Southampton SO155DL
 Catherine Marshall-Cox (023 8033 3589)
 Email: safeguarding@southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

Solent Uni. Chaplain: Sister Emiliana Silva—Mob. 07426 000 213
 email: emiliana.silva@solent.ac.uk

S'oton Uni. Chaplains: Sister Valentina Stilo
 Mob 07983883377

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: Springhill Primary 023 8033 3954
 St Anne School 023 8032 8200
 St George College 023 8032 2603

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH WEEK 4

25 APRIL 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalm Response:

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know
my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

READING 2 MAY 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 9: 26—31
 Second Reading: 1 John 3: 18—24
 Gospel: John 15: 1—8

2ND COLLECTION TODAY CLERGY TRAINING FUND

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND

PARISH INCOME 18.4.2021	DONATIONS & STANDING ORDERS	2ND—CATHOLIC HOME CARE
Totals	£1,995.89	£155.00
Donations	125.00	—
Standing Orders	1,518.71	124.00
Gift Aid Rebate	352.18	31.00