

**5TH SEPTEMBER
2021**

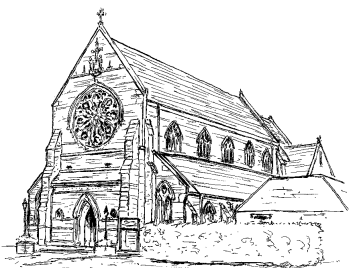
**23RD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



**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



Called to listen, speak and respond!

In this Sunday's readings we are presented with three interwoven messages which have huge relevance and significance in today's world and current situation:

The prophet Isaiah speaks about deliverance from exile and the need for those who are suffering to be liberated.

The apostle James reminds us of the need to honour the poor and not to judge by appearance.

In the gospel we see the practical working out of Isaiah's prophecy: that it is the Lord who gives sight to the blind and raises up those who are bowed down.

Pope Francis speaks eloquently on these readings:

'Jesus revealed to us the secret of a miracle that we too can imitate, becoming protagonists of "Ephphatha," of that phrase 'be opened' with which he gave speech and hearing back to the deaf and dumb man. It means opening ourselves to the needs of our brothers and sisters who are suffering and in need of help, by shunning selfishness and hardheartedness.

It is precisely the heart, that is, the deep core of the person, that Jesus came to "open," to free, in order to make us capable of fully living the relationship with God and with others. He became man so that man, rendered internally deaf and mute by sin, may hear the voice of God, the voice of Love that speaks to his heart, and thereby in turn, may learn to speak the language of love, transforming it into gestures of generosity and self-giving.' "Be Opened" Angelus September 9th 2018.

During my week in Lourdes I witnessed many practical examples of volunteers serving and supporting the sick and disabled. Lourdes is truly a place where the sick take priority and are given prestige and respect above the able and mobile. Pre-Covid pilgrims would queue to 'take the water' to be immersed in the healing spring reminding them of their Baptism and the healing properties of water.

Now; post Covid pilgrims are invited to perform the gestures asked of Bernadette when The Blessed Virgin appeared to her in the apparitions. Our Lady asked Bernadette to wash her hands, to wash her face and to drink from the muddy spring. It is a practical gesture that opens the heart to that fiat, the Yes of Mary, when she was asked to be the Mother of Our Lord. It did not matter which language each pilgrim could or could not speak or understand. Actions spoke louder than words. As volunteers we were taught to smile and welcome with our eyes.

Jesus did not just use words in the gospel: he touched the ears and the mouth of the dumb and mute. He invited a similar response: an unconditional openness to the will of God in our lives and the lives of others.

What should our response be to our brothers and sisters still struggling with Covid, or the victims of hate crime, or those who have been abandoned by their country by a government takeover?

As I have prayed and pondered over the desperate situation in Afghanistan, today's readings presents us with our response: to listen to the prophet, to allow Jesus to open our ears and our hearts to be able to hear the cries of our Afghan brothers and sisters, to speak for them and welcome them into our country, our families, and our hearts whoever they might be: poor, destitute. This is the language and response of love that Christ modelled for us in today's gospel. We cannot be deaf or mute to this crisis: we need to respond!

Tina Quinn

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK...

1. "He has done all things well" the people say of Jesus (Gospel). Why do they say this? What would people say of what you do? What we do? Of who we are? Would they say the same or something else? Why?

2. "Courage! Do not be afraid" the Prophet Isaiah says (1st reading). For what do you need/want 'courage'? Why? How can you 'get' the necessary courage?

3. Do not make distinctions between classes of people St Paul writes (2nd reading). When have you made distinctions in this way? When have you discriminated against others? Why? What can you do to rectify?

Vincent Harvey

BAPTISMS: We welcome into our faith community:



Fraser Booth, son of Philippa & Andrew, being baptised on Sunday at 12.30pm in St Edmund's.

Nadia Machaj, daughter of Natalia & Gniewomir, being baptised at 2pm on Sunday in St Edmund's.

We welcome them into the Parish and celebrate the start of a beautiful journey in Faith!

TODAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WELCOME TO FATHER JOHN PROMISE

UMEOZURU who will be presiding at the 9am and 7pm Masses and celebrating Baptisms as St Edmund. With Father Vincent away it makes Father Johnpromise's first weekend a challenge!

THANK YOU TO FATHER EMMANUEL for helping out the Masses at 6.15pm and 10.30am
EVENING PRAYER 6pm to join email Dcn Andy.

MASSES ARE BEING STREAMED AS USUAL

SUNDAY MASSES: Please book on Eventbrite.
Masks are encouraged to be worn.

THIS WEEK

ONLINE EVENING PRAYER MONDAYS (join the Baptism Preparation team) 6.30pm and
WEDNESDAYS at 6pm; email Deacon Andy
aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

A few words from Father Vincent

I hope you have had a good week. When you read this I will be on holiday.....I hope! A 'staycation' in Cornwall (forecast saying a 'wet Cornwall'!!!).

Father Ansel collected all his belongings during the week so that Father Johnpromise would be able to sort out his belongings on arrival. He is still fatigued but getting there as it were. Pray for his move to Rome. We hope to arrange to get him back over Christmas to say 'hello & a formal farewell' (I hope)!

Father Johnpromise Umeozuru arrived from Jersey on Wednesday and is settling in. He and I have spent a good few hours familiarising himself with the two churches, personnel and the parish way of doing things! Do remember that his name is Father 'Johnpromise' and not 'Father John'; it is one name!

Have a look at the post-Covid survey. Do let us know if anything jumps out at you that you think we need to think about.

Church Opening Working Group we are opening up more and more. Let's pray that with the school holidays finishing and schools reopening we do not get a dangerous Covid 'spike'!

Welcome back to all our teachers, staff and pupils at our schools. We pray for a successful and uneventful term.

Altar Servers, Readers (rotas being organised), **Mass Co-ordinators, Welcomers etc.:** If you are willing to pick up these ministries please do contact me or the Parish Office.

Please see the short piece about **Green Living** elsewhere in the newsletter.

Have a good weekend and thank you for reading this.

Vincent H

GENERAL ITEMS

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER:

Universal: An environmentally sustainable lifestyle That we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

JACKET AND WATERPROOF left in St Joseph's Foyer. We have brought it to the Presbytery. If it belongs to you let us know!

STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS a parishioner is looking for a lodger. Central Southampton, close to St Edmund's.

Please contact the Parish Office for details.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK



Today 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.**

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

On line.....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

APPEAL FOR SHOEBOXES do not throw them away! Please bring them to St Joseph's & St Edmund's so that we can collect them in readiness for 'the shoebox appeal' to provide gifts for children in deprived parts of the world. More later but do bring in shoeboxes now!

Afghanistan and CAFOD CAFOD is fundraising to help in the disaster unfolding in Afghanistan. To find out more: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Afghanistan-crisis->

ADORE ONLINE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT MORNING.

September 18th 10.00-13.00 with Mass, Adoration, Reflection, Praise, Talk, Prayer and Discussion. Theme: "Gifts of Healings" - Special focus on charisms of Healing and Deliverance.

Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADORESEP2021

Southampton Hate Crime Network Disability Hate Crime Virtual Discussion Thursday 16th September – 11.30am – 1pm

Southampton Hate Crime Network will be hosting an online discussion to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime and issues relevant to Disabled People. The session will involve staff from SPECTRUM Centre for Independent Living, an organisation run and controlled by Disabled People, speaking from their own personal experiences. About the session, on Thursday the 16th of September from 11.30 am – 1pm, is part of the Southampton Hate Crime Network's initiative to better inform the public about different strands of Hate Crime. SPECTRUM, dedicated to supporting Disabled People in leading independent lives, will be hosting the first of several Hate Crime awareness raising sessions over the next six months. Each session will be led by an organisation that has relevant knowledge on a specific type of Hate Crime; Race, Religion, LGBTQ+ or Disability. The groups hosting the discussions all belong to the Southampton Hate Crime Network, and like SPECTRUM have experience in supporting their own communities on a number of issues.

You are invited to join the session via this ZOOM link: Disability Hate Crime discussion: 16/09/21 (11.30am – 1pm) - <https://zoom.us/j/97433849853> To find out more about the other Hate Crime discussions, feel free to email the Southampton Hate Crime Network Co-ordinator, Sam Waddington – sam.waddington@spectrumcil.co.uk

ADORATION Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join the team.

GREEN LIVING 'Why should we declare a climate emergency?'

Other faith organisations we support and trust have already declared a climate emergency. The Methodists did in July 2019. The Church of England did in February 2020. Tearfund did in February 2021. Christian Aid did in May 2021. Pope Francis was ahead of the game by writing 'Laudato Si', a letter to the entire Roman Catholic church warning of the climate crisis, in May 2015, and the Quakers even further back, in 2011. Let's join in with our ecumenical partners.

We are already planning with Avenue St Andrew's (URC Church across the Avenue) a pulpit swap for Climate Sunday, a joint display outside the church buildings of how seriously we take the climate change emergency, and a joint litter pick in our local area. Please continue to watch this weekly update.

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA): For anyone looking to **find out more about the Catholic Faith** - come along and ask your questions, find out what the church teaches and what it means to live as a Catholic. This group also offers preparation for anyone interested in adult (over 18) **Baptism, Confirmation or Reception as a Catholic**. Meetings will be Wednesday evenings starting Wednesday 15 September at 7:45 pm. To register, or find out more, please send your contact details to the Parish Office.

A warm welcome awaits you, come and see.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Audrey Edgar, Bic Evans (op. recovery), Catherine Clements, Paul Davies, Bosco Andrade, Mike Greaves, Peggy Bell, Mark Evans, Pat Alborough, Jen Bridges, John Berridge, Wayne Barron, Robert Howe, Carol Butt, Mark Jones, Michael Parker, Andrea Barsi, Mary Burke, Geoff & Margot Lagerwall, Madeleine Clarke, Christopher Browne, Clifford Brown, Maureen C, Cath Gardiner, 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, Bunty Weerakoon, Pat & Don Devers, Jean White, Sheila Morris, John Hennessy, Marcus Boulton-Smith, Jean Mooney, 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, Jeanette Brookes, Joy Grant, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, Malcolm Cross, Paul Sassu, Peter Scott, Maria Annunziata, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Pauldia Grant, Katie Bizley, Carmen Escorcio, Linda Seikus, Marissa Tellegen, George Francis Ponniah (heart operation), Lucky Dissanayake, Dolores Smyllie **and all in the Parish who are ill, undergoing treatment or affected by the Coronavirus in any way or are experiencing extreme poverty.**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 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	4 SEP	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	STEVEN BULMAN RIP (MC & MB) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	5 SEP	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:00AM SE 10:30AM SJ ** **	SEBASTIAN MONTEIRO RIP (F) MADELEINE ELIZABETH WARBURG RIP (F) NILAKSHAN. D., PRASANTHA. D, DR. LAURA & ANDY WASTALL—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS (AP) FRANCESCHINA ARDANI RIP (F)
TUE	7 SEP	23RD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	10:00AM SE	MOYRA & PETER MICHAEL CLEARINKIN RIP (CC)
WED	8 SEP	THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	7:00PM SE	PATRICK MCCARTHY RIP (MPS)
THURS	9 SEP	ST PETER CLAVER	12:15PM SJ	DOLORES SMYLLIE—GOD'S STRENGTH & COURAGE (AS)
FRI	10 SEP	23RD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	7:00PM SE	ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GAWRONSKI FAMILY RIP (MK)
SAT	11 SEP	OUR LADY ON SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	CRAIGE, HYCINTH, W. RIP (AP) TERRY CLARKE RIP (MC) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	12 SEP	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9:00AM SE 10:30AM SJ 7:00PM SE	LUIS MENDONCA RIP (CM) JAN ROJKO RIP (JR) ANGUS MACKINNON RIP (MMS & CMS)

CONTACT DETAILS:

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Assistant Priest: Father Johnpromise Umeozuru
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 Tel. No. 023 8017 2104
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO152EQ

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

Parish Secretary: Miss Anna Smyllie
Parish Office Tel. No. 023 8033 3589
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ

Parish Email: 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: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Chaplaincy: 023 8120 8517—Father Joe McNerney
Stella Maris (AoS): Mr Charles Stuart Mob No 7843 739579
Poitiers Care Project: Brian Arthur 07796 161 047
Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski
 Tel. No. 023 8178 6316 southampton@tchr.org
 Address: 15 Landguard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL

Safeguarding Rep: Catherine Marshall-Cox 023 8033 3589
 Email: safeguarding@southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

University Chaplain: Sr Emiliana Silva—Mob. 07426 000 213
 Email: emiliana.silva@solent.ac.uk

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH WEEK 3

5TH SEPTEMBER 2021
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Psalm Response:

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have
the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

READINGS 12 SEPTEMBER 2021 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading:	Isaiah 50: 5-9
Second Reading:	James 2: 14-18
Gospel:	Mark 8: 27-35

2ND COLLECTION TODAY

Church Maintenance Fund

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Catholic Education Service

PARISH INCOME 29.8.2021	Donations & Standing Orders
Totals	£2,480.14
Donations	200.14
Standing Orders	1,730.00
Gift Aid Rebate	550.00

CONFESSIONS:

11:30am Saturdays
at St Edmund's Church