

St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park

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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

Fourth Sunday of Advent, 24th December 2023, Year B, the Year of Mark's Gospel

Parish Mass Book page 90

and Christmas, the Nativity of the Lord, 25th December 2023

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Botticelli, The Mystic Nativity, circa 1500

Let us love the Child of Bethlehem.

*Come souls and love a God who has become a Child, poor and so lovable,
in need of our tender love, who has come down from heaven to give Himself entirely to you.
If we but ask for pardon and salvation, He has come to pardon us and to save us. **St. Francis of Assisi***

I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.

Scriptures at Mass for Christmas are drawn from the prophet Isaiah, Saint Paul's letter to Titus and the Gospels of Luke and John. They ponder on the deepest meaning of the birth of Jesus, the mystery of our salvation and the need we have within us to give praise and glory to God.

Catholicism Come and learn about the Church & its history at 7.30 pm on Friday 12th January at Sacred Heart, Waterlooville: a short video by Bishop Robert Barron & an enlightening conversation.

Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick, anxious or in particular need.

Christmas Collection Donations... at St Michael's are given by tradition to Parish Funds.

Please click [here](#) to donate. **Parish BACS details Lloyds Bank** CDP Leigh Park St Michael 30-93-04

Account number: 00882004

Our Liturgies this week

Reconciliation: in the half hour prior to Mass.

Saturday 23rd December

O Emmanuel

5 pm Reconciliation

6 pm Mass for the Parish

Fourth Sunday Of Advent 24th December

10 am Mass Deacon Diego Hoyos

4 pm Mass for Parish families

6 pm Mass for peace in our world

The Nativity of the Lord

Monday 25th December

10 am Mass Marie & Colin's intentions

Tuesday 26th December St Stephen

10 am Mass for Noble Eldho

Wednesday 27th December St John

10 am Mass Michael Dixon RIP

Thursday 28th December

The Holy Innocents

Canon Gerard is away today.

The Tea and Chat Group meet at 2pm.

All are very welcome.

Friday 29th December

St Thomas of Canterbury

10 am Keith Beaton RIP (Vivienne Willis)

Saturday 30th December

5 pm Reconciliation

6 pm Vigil Mass Carole Welch RIP

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday 31st December

10 am Mass Teresa Boyle RIP

Catholicism: want to know more?

On Sunday 28th January at 4 pm in St Michael's you are invited to come along with Any Questions! This could be helpful, especially if you *are hoping to become a Catholic, have thoughts or questions following Alpha, are a parent wanting to answer children's questions or just want to reflect on what we believe.* Canon Gerard & Deacon Nick would appreciate hearing your questions in advance. You can send questions to

gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Mary's Song by Charles Causley



Adoration of the Shepherds, Matthias Stomer, 1632

*Your royal bed
Is made of hay
In a cattle-shed.
Sleep, King Jesus,
Do not fear,
Joseph is watching
And waiting near.*

*Warm in the wintry air
You lie,
The ox and the donkey
Standing by,*

*With summer eyes
They seem to say:
Welcome, Jesus,
On Christmas Day!*

*Sleep, King Jesus:
Your diamond crown
High in the sky
Where the stars look down.*

*Let your reign
Of love begin,
That all the world
May enter in.*

A happy and holy Christmas to you all!



Tomás and Jack admire the bambinelli we blessed. Canon Gerard & Deacon Nick thank, on the Parish's behalf, everyone who works so kindly & well to make our Advent & Christmas worshipful & reverent. They are also grateful for personal kindness, cards & gifts.

