

*St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park*  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*  
*31<sup>st</sup> December 2023*

437, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 5BD, 023 9248 4323

**Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth** charity number 1199568

**Parish Priest** Canon Gerard Flynn, The Presbytery, 83, Bramdean Drive, Leigh Park, Hants, PO9 4RR

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

**Instructions for living a life**

*Pay attention.*

*Be astonished.*

*Tell about it.*

**Mary Oliver**

*When was the last time that you could not help tell somebody about something you saw, or heard, or even experienced? What are you bearing witness to?*

*How long has it been since you were bowled over by the mystery and sacredness of life?*

*How long has it been since you were filled with gratitude because of something small and ordinary?*

*When did you last taste joy?*

*When did you last hear hope whispering in your ear?*

*When did beauty last leave you speechless?*

*How long has it been since silence said everything that needed to be said?*

*How long has it been since you looked at your life and thought to yourself, "Yes! Yes, thank you?"*

*When did love last take your breath away?*

*When did you last feel that you were genuinely part of something bigger and beyond yourself?*

*How long has it been since tears were the baptismal water renewing your life?*

*How long has it really been since you were truly astonished?*

*How long has it been since you told someone about it?*

*Isaiah, Mary, John and poets like Mary Oliver, all know that we always have something to tell others about, we always have something to be astonished by and that we always have something to pay attention to.*

*If we are not willing to tell others about it, maybe it's because we are just not astonished.*

*And if we are not astonished, maybe that is because we are just not paying attention.*

Blessings, Nick **Rev. Nick O'Neill, Parish Deacon, St Michael and All Angels, Leigh Park**

**Catholicism** Come and learn about the Church & its history at 7.30 pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> December**

5 pm Reconciliation

6 pm Vigil Mass Carole Welch RIP

### **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

#### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December**

10 am Mass Teresa Boyle RIP

#### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024**

#### **Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

10 am Mass for the intentions of Fr Mark Whiting & family (MS)

#### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January Ss Basil & Gregory**

10 am Mass Keith Beaton RIP (J&C G)

#### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January Liturgy of the Day**

10 am Mass

deceased members of the Martin family (MS)

#### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January Liturgy of the Day**

*No Mass today*

#### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January Liturgy of the Day**

10 am Diane Quinn RIP

#### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January Liturgy of the Day**

5 pm Reconciliation

6 pm Mass for the Parish

#### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **The Epiphany of the Lord**

10 am Mass Marie Cooper on her birthday

### **Be Our Light for the New Year**

*Come, Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Risen Christ,  
be with us today and always.*

*Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.*

*Be our Strength, our Courage, & our Sanctifier.*

*May this new year be a time of deep spiritual  
growth for us,*

*a time of welcoming your graces and gifts,*

*a time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,*

*a time for growing in virtue and goodness.*

*Come Holy Spirit, be with us today and always.*

Author Unknown

***Canon Gerard edits this Newsletter  
and welcomes items for inclusion by the  
Sunday prior to publication, please.***

## **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

### **Scripture readings at Mass**

**Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3** God promises the childless Abraham an heir and innumerable descendants.

**Hebrews 1:8.11-12.17-19** This stresses the faith of Abraham and Sarah and how God's promise to them was to be fulfilled.



**Presentation in the Temple** 1648 P. de Champaigne

**Luke 2:22-40** This tells about the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and provides us with a glimpse of his life at Nazareth.

## **Catholicism: want to know more?**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## **First Holy Communion 2024**

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January after 10 am Mass we meet to outline our programme. The most important thing is to participate in Sunday Mass, our weekly celebration of Jesus' Resurrection.

