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Away from 9th to 29th November Monday: 2.30 - 4.30pm Wednesday: 1.30 - 4.30pm Friday: 2.30 - 4.30pm

Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-vincent-de-paul/> (To open: Select then Ctrl + left Click)

Thirty- Third Sunday in Ordinary

Sunday 19th November 2023

Page 155 Proverbs 11: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Matthew 25: 14-30

The first reading sends a message similar to the first reading last weekend of wisdom. Judging someone's value should not be distracted or influenced by external material appearances. Proverbs chooses to highlight the virtues of a worthy wife, her value "*is far beyond pearls*. For once women are mentioned as normally we only hear about men. However the picture painted is a wife who is almost a servant to her husband in charge of all the menial duties in the home, is not an image that would be so acceptable today. However, the main idea is that real beauty is not her physical appearance, costly jewellery and expensive clothes, but an internal beauty due to commitment, ingenuity, creative and industrious work and reaching out to those who need help outside her family. Real beauty is not external but comes from the heart and the husband is instructed to *Give her a share in what her hands have worked for*" and sing her praises at the city gates. This blends with the Gospel message that a loyal and faithful wife uses all God given talents to the full for the benefit of all. The second reading, from St Paul to his friends the Thessalonians in Greece, is concerning the "Second Coming of Christ", which some rumoured was in the near future. Paul tells them to forget about that as being faithful to their daily Christian duties is much more important. Their final judgement would be when they died and *the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night*", when we least expect it. So Christians should always "*stay wide awake and sober*". The gospel reading from Matthew relates the parable of the "Talents". Again this reading is similar to the one last weekend about the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Instead of always being prepared and vigilant, we are now told we have a duty to use the talents and skills that God has given us to spread the message of Jesus and strive to make the world a better place. The parable is in the context of a business man, an area well known to Matthew, who is given money and expected to use it to increase the value and wealth. The person who buries it in the ground it is condemned as he does not increase its value. This is similar to someone today who is too afraid to use his talents for the benefit of those around him. All in the Church today have received at least one talent, the gift of Faith, that must be used and not hidden. Malcolm.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Theophilus Thomas RIP Irene Delves RIP	Saturday 18th Dedication of the two Basilicas of St Peter and St Paul Outside the Walls The feast combines the celebration of the dedication of churches on the sites of St Peter's Basilica and the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls, both built by the Roman Emperor Constantine I, the first Christian Roman Emperor, during the 4 th century and celebrated on this day since the 12 th century. The two basilicas replaced older buildings over the tombs of St Peter and St Paul. Other papal basilicas in Rome are St John Lateran Archbasilica and St Mary Major Basilica
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 19th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Wedding Anniversary of Siby Mathew
6.30pm Mass	Monday 20th St Edmund, King of East Anglia Young King of East Anglia born 840 in Saxony, Germany, a pious devout Christian. Model king who cared for those in his kingdom especially the poor. Developed military skills so he could lead an army to fight with King Alfred the Great, King of Wessex and King of England, against the Viking invasions. Lost in battle against the Danes. Captured and tortured to renounce his faith but refused. Martyred on 20 th November 869 aged just 29. Eventually buried in a town that was then named Bury St Edmunds. Originally the patron saint of England until 1348 when Edward III changed to St George despite no connection with England.
10 am Mass	Tuesday 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary The account of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple is not from the New Testament but from the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James. Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, who had been childless, received a heavenly message that they would have a child. In thanksgiving for the amazing gift of their daughter, they brought her, when still a child at age three years old, to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate her to God.
6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 22nd St Cecilia Born to a noble Christian family in Rome in about 210. Much of her story relies on legend. From very young Cecilia was determined to remain a virgin but her parents arranged a marriage to a rich pagan nobleman, Valerian. On her wedding night told her husband of her vow and that she had an angel to protect her. Valerian wanted to see the angel. Needed to convert to Christianity. He agreed and his brother Tiburtius converted. The young brothers, encouraged by Cecilia, gave support to Christians, did works of mercy and buried martyrs against Roman rules. Both arrested. Refused to offer sacrifice to imperial gods. Executed as martyrs. Cecilia was then arrested and also stayed true to her faith. Tried to kill by choking on toxic gases but kept singing Christian songs. Tried to behead her survived for 3 days. Patron saint of musicians.

10 am Mass	Thursday 23rd St Columbanus Greatest of the Irish missionaries to the European Continent Born to noble family in 540 in Ireland near Dublin. Distracted from his studies by the temptations of the opposite sex. Became a monk to avoid temptation .Disciple of Finnian of Clonard, Went to Wales to continue his studies. Then joined a group of missionaries evangelising in Europe starting in Frankish France. He founded monasteries in Frankish and Lombard kingdoms notably Luxeuil Abbey in France and Bobbio Abbey in Italy. Had a special relationship with birds and animals.
NO MASS	Friday 24th St Andrew Dung Lac and the Martyrs of Vietnam Missionaries first arrived in Vietnam in 1535. Not until 1635, when Jesuits arrived in Hanoi, were there significant conversions to Christianity. But from 1745 persecution of Catholics started and by 1800 they were being tortured and killed. By 1862 between 100,000 and 300,000 were killed or tortured due to their faith. 117 were canonised by Pope John Paul in 1988, the largest mass canonisation in history. 96 Vietnamese, 11 Dominican Spanish missionaries and 10 French missionaries. 8 were bishops, 50 priests and 59 lay Catholics. The most famous was St Andrew Dung Lac, born Dung An Trần to a poor family in about 1795. He became a Catholic and. took the Christian name Andrew. Having been a catechist, he was chosen to study theology and was ordained a priest in 1823. Fr Andrew Dung was very successful as a priest in his preaching and ministry. He was arrested in 1835 in the persecution by Emperor Minh-Mang. Money collected to gain his release. Changed his name from Dung to Lac and moved to another area of Vietnam.. Fr Andrew Lac was again arrested with Fr Peter Thi in 1839. Liberated by exchange of money. Later that year both arrested and taken to Hanoi. After torture, both were beheaded as martyrs. Today Vietnam has the 5 th largest Catholic population in Asia after the Philippines, India, China and Indonesia with about 7 million Catholics.
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 25th St Catherine of Alexandria (Catherine Wheel) Born about 287 Alexandria, Egypt. Intelligent and beautiful daughter of governor of Alexandria. Was a convert who challenged the pagan Roman Emperor Maxentius and converted some of his best pagan philosophers and his wife. Maxentius was furious and executed the converts. Tried to kill Catherine tied to a wheel with blazing torches. Failed as the ropes broke and the wheel fell apart. Then martyred by the sword.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 26th November Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Jean Sinpore RIP

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION

Your prayers are needed for the following people

Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Shelagh Moon		
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NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Appeal for readers, welcomers, Eucharistic ministers, children's Liturgists, altar servers and choir members
The parish needs volunteers for the above important roles. Please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

Christmas Collection of sweets for Southampton Sunday Lunch Project by Sunday 10th December
Collection of wrapped sweets such as Roses, Celebration and Quality Street needed. Please place your donations in box in the porch by Sunday 10th December. Many thanks in anticipation, Shelagh Moon. Tel: 023 8073 6275

St Vincent de Paul Children's Disco and Party on Sunday 3rd December at the parish
We are delighted to announce that the St Vincent de Paul Children's (3-16) Christmas disco will be held at on Sunday 3rd December 12 noon to 2pm. Tickets are £5 per child and include festive food, disco and party bag. Tickets available after the 9:30am Mass from Liz Challand. Volunteers welcomed to set up and help at the event.

From Liz Challand. Another way to help the Homeless through the Southampton Sunday Lunch Project
I am trying, as in previous years, to provide 100-120 bags to be distributed by the Project at their Christmas meal service on Sunday 17th December. A recommended bag will be no more than £10 in value and will contain some, if not all, from this list: **NOTHING ALCOHOLIC**. Gloves and hat, savoury and sweet biscuits, chocolate, baby wipes, basic toiletries like toothpaste and toothbrush, deodorant and soap, socks and a Christmas card. All in a bag for life. As many people are facing financial hardships themselves. All pledges to lizchalland@btinternet.com, by Thursday 30th November and I will send you payment details. The Southampton Sunday Lunch Project, who have just won the King's Award for Voluntary Service will also operate on Christmas Day and are looking for additional volunteers to man their kitchens. **I really welcome you sharing this message with anyone who may be interested to help this year. it's an excellent team building/networking project and will help us get to our total of £1100.**

New Sacristan needed at St Vincent de Paul to replace the long serving Philomena
We are looking for a new Sacristan. This is a voluntary position. It could be a shared role with more than one person involved. A poster in the Porch outlining the duties. If you have any interest please speak to our current Sacristan, Philomena, who would like to step down after a long time serving our priests and our church.

Parish collection for last weekend 11th and 12th November

							Bamenda		
Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money Use of church	Envelopes	Loose plate	TOTAL of all money
£87	£21.75	£96.70	£242.54	£51.98	£499.97	£45	£9 (£2.25)	---	£556.22