



Aldermoor Close, Coxford Road, Lordswood, Southampton, Hampshire. SO16 5ST

Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Parakandathil

Contact: email: tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Mobile: 07512 402607

Retired Priest: Father Michael Cronin

Mobile: 07400262398 (1pm to 5pm)

Newsletter editor: Malcolm Forster

email: malcolmandrita@btinternet.com

21 Bassett Crescent West, Bassett, Southampton SO16 7EB Mobile: 07774 400115

Office Administrator: Margaretta Livingstone email: svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Office mobile: 07887 4523 13

Tuesday: 1 - 3.30pm Thursday: 1 - 3.30pm Friday: 2 - 4pm

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday 31st December 2023

Happy New Year

Page 106

Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3: 12-21

Luke 2: 22-40

In the first reading God honours the authority of parents and how children showing respect for them brings blessings and atonement for sins. Also to respect them in their old age even if their "*mind should fail*" and how important it is to show sympathy and not despise them in their infirmity is an act of kindness. (Very reassuring for those of my age !!)

In the second reading St Paul's writes to the Colossians in Asia Minor, now Turkey, as he is concerned about them keeping to Christian principles. As God's chosen race, they must embrace compassion, kindness, humility and patience. Forgive as the Lord forgives, let "*the peace of Christ reign in your hearts*" and do all in the name of Christ. He has advice for parents and a message for wives who must "*give way to your husband*" typical of St Paul's attitude to women..

In Luke's gospel we are told of how Mary and Joseph, obeying Jewish tradition, took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem 40 days after his birth to complete Mary's ritual purification after childbirth and to perform the redemption of the first born in obedience to the Law of Moses. Simeon, guided by the Holy Spirit, recognised Jesus as the Messiah, prophesying His impact and Mary's future sorrow. The prophetess Anna also acknowledged Jesus, praising God and speaking of Him to those awaiting Jerusalem's redemption. Then the family returned to Nazareth where Jesus "*grew to maturity, and was filled with wisdom, and God's favour was with him*". This emphasises the importance of the growth of virtue and grace and that spiritual and moral development is a lifelong process nurtured within the family. We must use Mary and Joseph in the Holy Family in Nazareth as a model for how we interact in our families. Malcolm.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Maureen and Michael Duggan RIP	Saturday 30th St Egwin An Anglo-Saxon born in about 660, a descendant of the Mercian kings in central England. He became a monk in his youth. Appointed Bishop of Worcester in 692. With his zeal, the severity of opposing evil and his reforms he incurred the hostility of some in his diocese. He went on a penitential pilgrimage to Rome to answer to the pope for complaints that had been made against him. He returned to England and was more forgiving. With the help of King Ethelred of Mercia he founded the famous Abbey of Evesham in the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He then undertook another pilgrimage to Rome in the company of King Conrad of Mercia and King Offa of the East Saxons. He obtained considerable privileges for his foundation from Pope Constantine. Bishop Egwin died on 30 th December 717 and was buried in the monastery at Evesham.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 31st December Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Benny Kochulparambil and Joseph Devasia Manamel RIP 2 hours of Adoration from 9 pm to 11 pm
10 am Mass Thanksgiving Mass for 54th Wedding Anniversary of Devasia and Mary (No 6.30pm Mass)	Monday 1st January New Year's Day Mary, the Holy Mother of God It is often forgotten that Mary was in her early teens when Jesus was born. St Bernadette, who had the apparition in Lourdes, described Our Lady as no taller than her and of the same age. Bernadette was short for her 14years at 4ft 7ins and said the tall elegant statues of Mary bore no resemblance to the young Jewish girl who appeared to her. Considering the ages of Mary and Joseph, both in their teens, the journey of about 95miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem and the much longer flight into Egypt through difficult and dangerous territory is quite amazing. Mary and Joseph were devoted model parents. Joseph was probably not just a carpenter but an artisan well known in the area for working in wood and stone. Mary was with Jesus right up to his death when she would have been in her late 40's
10 am Mass Elyamma Joseph RIP	Tuesday 2nd St Basil the Great of Caesarea Born in 330 in Caesarea to wealthy and saintly Christian Greek family, one of 10 children. His paternal grandmother, mother, father, one sister and three brothers are all venerated as saints. Educated in Caesarea where he met his close friend Gregory of Nazianzus. He then studied advanced rhetoric and philosophy in Constantinople and Athens where he met up with Gregory of Nazianzus again.
SVP Social 1pm to 3pm 6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 3rd St Genevieve of Paris Born about 422 in France. Was a shepherd when she was young. St Germanus encouraged her piety and wish to have her life consecrated to God. When her parents died went to live with her godmother in Paris. Devoted herself to works of charity which upset some traders. Lived austere life style. Reported she had visions which her enemies declared was fraud and tried to drown her. St Germanus supported her and convinced her enemies she was genuine. Bishop of Paris put her in charge of consecrated virgins in Paris area. Saved Paris from famine in 451 and from Attila the Hun in 464. She died in about 502. Patron saint of Paris.

