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**Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> **Pauline Clarke HR**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May is the feast of the Ascension of the Lord and Holy Day of Obligation**

**Page 264 or 268 Acts of the Apostles 10: 25-26, 34-35. 44-48 1 John 4: 7-10 Gospel John 15: 9-17**

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles features Cornelius, the first Gentile, or non-Jew, recorded in the New Testament to become a follower and believer in Jesus and received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Cornelius was a Roman centurion, an officer in the Roman army, who had become convinced that Jesus had a message that was true and appealed to him and his family. He had a vision of an angel who told him to call for the apostle Peter. In the Jews salvation history, the Old Testament laws had ensured that the Jewish people of Israel remained separate from their pagan Gentile foreign neighbours and the Israelites alone were included in the Covenant with God. Now Peter accepts that anybody of any nationality who believes in Jesus and fears God should be baptised as Jesus Himself had talked about as a New Covenant that replaced the Old Covenant with the Jews. Peter's Jewish friends are amazed when the Holy Spirit enables people from all nationalities to understand his preaching. In the second reading from John, he emphasises that love originates from God. We need to know the meaning of "love" in this context. This "love" goes way beyond a fleeting feeling that we have when we say "I love an ice cream". The "love" John is referring to is a true love which must be rational and a real relationship. Ice cream might make us feel good for a time but we can never enter into a relationship with ice cream. God's love leads to a self-giving action and we see the supreme example of this true love in Jesus when the Father sent His only Son to die on the cross for our sins. God is the essence of love itself, and loving others is how we truly know God. This love is not just a human emotion but a reflection of the divine presence within us. This weekend's Gospel reading from John records some of the last words of Jesus before His crucifixion. Jesus first refers to how the Father loved Him and how He passed on this love to everyone who kept His commandments just as He obeyed His Father and remained in His love. His primary message is the same as we heard in the second reading. We have already seen that this love is self-giving and active. Jesus now says we must "*love one another*" which is giving us a high calling which is not always easy to achieve. He also emphasises that the ultimate expression of love is sacrificing one's life for friends. With regards to friendship with God, He elevates his followers from servants to friends, and Jesus shares divine truth with them. This shift illustrates the deep personal relationship God seeks with us, based on transparency and mutual love. This love must be steadfast, unchanging, patient, sympathetic, considerate, gentle kind, not jealous, not arrogant, not selfish and should seek to serve rather than being served, always ready to give rather than to receive and work for the good of all in society. Malcolm.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Elsa	<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> St Hilary of Arles</b> Born in 401 in southern France to a pagan high class Roman family. A Christian in his youth. Left his honours and riches to join his relative St Honoratus in Lerins Abbey on an island off the coast which followed the <i>Rule of St Pachomius</i> . Hilary led a very austere life style. St Honoratus was made Archbishop of Arles. Hilary went with him to help him. Unfortunately St Honoratus died 3 years later. Hilary was appointed in his place as Archbishop at the age of 29. Known for his kindness and charity. Eloquent preacher. Presided over two Church Councils. Strengthened the discipline and orthodoxy of the Church.
9.30 am Mass	<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Thanksgiving Mass for the birthday of Marie- Hanna.</b>
6.30 pm Mass Wedding Anniversary of Santhosh and Gigi	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> St Petronax of Monte Cassino</b> Born i670 in Italy. Joined the hermits in the ruins of Monte Cassino monastery. Elected the superior of monks. Rebuilt the monastery which Benedict had founded. Pope Gregory II gave him an autographed copy of <i>Rule of St Benedict</i> . Known as <i>Second founder of the Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino</i> . Attracted many notable monks.
10 am Mass	<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> St John of Beverley</b> Born in Yorkshire in 7 <sup>th</sup> century. Educated in the monastic school in Canterbury. Benedictine monk at Whitby Abbey double monastery ruled by St Hilda. Made Bishop of Hexham. Retreated at times to the countryside with companions to pray and meditate. Restored speech to dumb boy. Ordained St Bede as a deacon and priest. Appointed Bishop of York. Founded a monastery at Beverley near Hull in Yorkshire. He died on 7 <sup>th</sup> May 721 and was buried there. Tomb became a place of pilgrimage. King Athelstan of the Anglo-Saxons prayed for victory in a battle in 937. King Edward I was a devotee and built a chantry in Beverley Minster in 1295 and later a shrine. In 1415 King Henry V won the Battle of Agincourt after praying to St John.
6.30 pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass for 11 <sup>th</sup> birthday of Tia Jomy	<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> St Pope Boniface IV</b> Born around 550 in Italy. Benedictine monk. Appointed treasurer by Pope Gregory I. Elected Pope in 608 after 2 short term papacies. Problems of famine, plague, wars and natural disasters. Converted Roman Pantheon into Christian Church. Hosted Church Council to restore monastic discipline attended by Bishop of London. He still lived as a Benedictine monk and converted his home in Rome into a monastery. Died in 615 aged 65

<b>10 am Mass Success in GCSE exams for Renly Rey and all students 6.30 pm Mass</b>	<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May The Ascension of the Lord - Holy Day of Obligation – 2 Masses St Pachomius the Great</b> Born in 292 in Egypt into a wealthy pagan family. Was forced into the Roman army. Galley slave on the River Nile. Met Christians in port who gave help to the troops. Became a Christian. 7 years a hermit with Paloemom who taught him building skills. Developed the first real monasteries with a strict <i>Rule</i> which defined monastic life. When he died in 348 aged 56 there were 9 monasteries for men and 2 for women. His <i>Rule</i> influenced St Benedict in the West and St Basil in the East and later St Hilary of Arles in France in the 5 <sup>th</sup> century				
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> St John of Avila</b> Born in 1499 in Spain to wealthy and pious parents. Sent to study law but changed to philosophy and theology. Both parents died. Ordained a priest. First Mass at the church where his parents were buried. Always wanted to be a missionary to Mexico. Archbishop of Seville asked him to be a missionary in Spain in land recently regained from the Moors. Very successful preacher. Attracted large crowds and many converts. Strongly criticised the rich and powerful which caused him to be imprisoned and tried by the Spanish Inquisition for a year. Acquitted to the delight of his many followers. Wrote <i>Audia Filia (Listen, Daughter)</i> . Among his disciples were St Teresa of Ávila, St John of God, St Francis Borgia and Ven. Louis of Granada. Poor health in the last 15 years. Died in 1569 aged 70.				
<b>6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> St Francis of Girolamo</b> Born in 1642 in Italy into a large pious family. Sacristan and catechist in his parish. Educated at Jesuit College. Ordained aged 24. Taught at College in Naples. Entered the Jesuits aged 28. Wanted to be a foreign missionary against the wishes of his father. Kept in Italy to evangelise in Naples area. Eloquent preacher. Visited people in hospitals, prisons, brothels and galley slaves in the docks. Imposing figure attracted large crowds. Trained young Jesuits in his preaching style for the missions. Founded a congregation of “lay workmen” to support priests. Died aged 74. Dedicated chapel in Naples Basilica.				
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>				
<b>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</b>					
<b>Your prayers are needed for the following people</b>					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	Valerie Baker

### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Parishioner looking for a room to rent'

Anna Maria, a young nurse in our parish, is seeking a room to rent. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Anna Maria on 07341544321.

#### Sad news concerning long standing parishioner May Conway

We have just heard that May Conway, a parishioner for many years in St Vincent de Paul, has died in a Nursing Home near her family in Wiltshire. At the moment there is no news of the funeral which will take place in Wiltshire.

#### Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – 1pm to 3 pm - Just confirmed by Renee

This is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of 2 hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat.

#### Letter of thanks from Mo Houlden UK Co-ordinator of Reaching the Unreached (RTU)

Thank you so much for your recent gift from your Lenten collection for the work of Reaching the Unreached (RTU) in South India. It is very kind of you to give so generously during Lent and we are very grateful for your continuing support which enables them to run their life changing programmes for orphaned and destitute children that their care for in *Children's Villages* and the very poorest families in the remote rural villages.

I had great pleasure of visiting RTU in February with various groups of UK visitors and was so pleased to be back there again. At RTU's schools it is nearing the end of the academic year and the older children have set their State Board exams that they take at 16 and 18 years of age which will allow them to gain entry to the professional courses of their choice. RTU will support them through College until they are in employment and ready to lead independent lives. These young people will have spent most of their lives living at RTU and, despite the tragedy that brought them to live in the *Children's Villages* in the first place, they have great prospects for the future thanks to the love, care, security and first rate education that RTU can provide and the help of all of us who support their work. So thank you for your part in making this possible.

With our blessings to you all and grateful thanks for all your help.

#### Invitation from Fr Innaiah Maddineni, Director of Missio (Pontifical Mission Society) in Portsmouth

#### Special Mass on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm at St Teresa's Catholic Church in Totton

Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite everyone to celebrate a special Mass for Mission at St Theresa's Church Beaumont Road, Totton SO40 3AL, on Wednesday 8 May at 7pm. Come and hear how the Red Box is supporting our global Catholic community through donations and prayerful support. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. All welcome

#### Parish collection for last weekend 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April

							Clergy Training Fund		
Parish Envelopes Easter Gift Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Use of church for Children's Retreat	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£122	£30,50	£140.31	£242.54	£51.98	£587.33	£100	£20	----	<b>£707.33</b>