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

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Big Clean at St Vincent de Paul next Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10 am to 1 pm. Please come and help if possible.**

**Page 112**

**2 Kings 4: 42-44**

**Ephesians 4: 1-4**

**Gospel: John 6: 1-15**

In the first reading from the Second Book of Kings, a man from Baal-shalishah brought a variety of food to the prophet Elisha, the successor of the prophet Elijah. This happened at a time of drought so food was scarce and people were hungry. Elisha instructed him to give the food to the hundred people that were in the area. The man states that there will not be enough to share among that number of people. However, Elisha insisted he should share the food with the 100 people and, with his trust in God's infinite power and generosity, he assured him there would be food left over. Much to the man's surprise this is what happened. A few centuries later, Jesus would carry out a similar miracle with the loaves and fishes related in the John's Gospel.

The second reading is from St Paul's letter to the Ephesians in Asia Minor, present day Turkey. He exhorts them to live their Christian faith in a manner "worthy of your vocation" that you have been called to fulfil. In doing so, a basic attitude needs to include humility and meekness and being charitable to each other. This must be done with "complete selflessness, gentleness and patience". They are encouraged to "preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together". He wants them to realise that true strength lies in God's gift to us and not our own accomplishments. We are always to look hopefully to the Lord who answers our call and is always near. As the Lord opens His hands to satisfy the deepest desires of the human heart, we are to bless the Lord at all times.

In John's Gospel Jesus is outside Jerusalem on the other side of the so-called *Sea of Galilee*, the enormous lake in Galilee, called by various names and still a landmark in the Holy Land where pilgrims now usually spend time recounting the various activities and miracles of Jesus on and around that lake. A very large crowd followed Jesus up the hillside at a time shortly before the Jewish Feast of the Passover, a feast recalling the events of the Israelites Exodus from Egypt. Jesus was concerned about feeding the vast crowd of some five thousand not counting the women and children. Philip is very pessimistic and can see no way of solving the problem. Andrew on the other hand is more an optimist and an entrepreneur who introduces to Jesus the boy with the loaves and fishes who most probable had come along as a hawker hoping to sell them to the crowd. Jesus then carries out the miraculous feeding of the crowd which reminds us of the *Holy Eucharist* where we receive the "Bread of Life. This sacrament of the Church is no mere symbol, but the Real Presence of the Lord, under the form of bread and wine. Trans formed by the Eucharist we are nourished for our journey through life to spread the *Good News* Jesus has taught us.

**Mass times**

**Feast Days**

<p><b>6pm: Confessions</b> <b>6.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Blessed Titus Brandsma</b> Anno was born in 1881 in the Netherlands province of Friesland one of 6 children. 3 became nuns and 2 priests including Anno. Joined Carmelites and took the name Titus. Ordained in 1905 aged 24. Started a journal of Marian devotion and a Catholic newspaper. Founded Catholic Secondary School. Professor of philosophy at Catholic University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands in 1923. Wonderful sense of humour. Always had time for students. Travelled Europe and USA speaking on Carmelite mysticism and Christian unity. Chaplain to Catholic journalists. In 1935 opposed Hitler in the press and in lectures. Drew up plans to evacuate Dutch Jews to Carmelite missions in Brazil. Strongly opposed Nazis after invasion of Holland in 1940. In 1941 Jewish students forbidden to attend Catholic schools. Fr Titus, as President of Association of Catholic Schools, condemned policy in press and in sermons. Also opposed the policy that Catholic papers must publish Nazis propaganda. Arrested in 1942 and told to retire to a monastery but he refused. Martyred in Dachau concentration camp on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1942.</p>
<p><b>9.30 am Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Eileen Morgan RIP</b></p>
<p><b>6.30 pm Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> St Martha of Bethany</b> The dominant and active sister compared to Mary of Bethany who was the quiet contemplative sister. Sister of Lazarus. Bethany was a small village 2 miles from Jerusalem so Jesus often visited and stayed with the family. She took the initiative at the death of her brother Lazarus. Life summed up by statement "Martha served".</p>
<p><b>10 am Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> St Peter Chrysologus</b> Born in 380 in Bologna, Italy. Educated by Bishop Cornelius of Imola. Initially lived as a monk. Then made archdeacon. When Archbishop of Ravenna died, people chose a person to replace him. Peter went with Cornelius to Rome to obtain approval. However, Pope Sixtus appointed Peter as Bishop of Ravenna. Known as "Doctor of Homilies" for his short concise but theological rich reflections. He advocated daily reception of Eucharist. Opposed monophysitism heresy. As Archbishop of Ravenna built churches. Improved Cathedral.</p>

**6.30 pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Divine Settlement from Ikweice Chimaobi Chukwuneke**  
**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> St Ignatius of Loyola** Born in 1491 at Loyola Castle in Basque area of Spain. Last of 13 children. Mother died soon after his birth and was brought up by blacksmith's wife. Became a page. Joined army aged 17. Was a fancy dresser, expert dancer, womaniser, playboy, sensitive to insult and good swordsman involved in many duels. Used his privileged status to escape prosecution for violent crimes. He was involved in many battles from 1509 aged 18. In 1521 his leg was shattered by a cannonball. Taken prisoner by French. His leg was not set properly. Returned to his father's castle in Loyola to recover. Underwent operations on his leg. While recovering he read religious works. Decided to be *Knight of Christ*. Went on pilgrimage to Holy Land to convert Muslims. Sent home for causing trouble. At University studied philosophy and theology. Wrote *Spiritual Exercises*. Started to call himself Ignatius. Questioned by the Spanish Inquisition. Left Spain for Paris. He gathered a group of six companions. Decided to go to the Holy Land from Venice but delayed. Ordained a priest in 1537 in Venice. 6 companions were all now priests and started preaching and tending sick and poor in nearby Vicenza. Group grew to nine and went to Rome to put themselves at the disposal of Pope Paul III. All co-founders of "The Society of Jesus" – the Jesuits. Dedicated to teaching, preaching and ministering to the poor and sick. New Order to be flexible to the needs of the age. Evangelised for conversion of Muslims and against Protestant movements. Most of the English Mission after the Reformation were Jesuits. Many of English and Welsh martyrs were Jesuits. 1,000 Jesuits when Ignatius died. 25,000 by the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century. Pope Francis is a Jesuit.

**10 am Mass Joseph Varkey RIP 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August St Ethelwold of Winchester** Born in Winchester between 904 and 909. Courtier and companion to King Athelstan. Ordained a priest by the Bishop of Winchester at the same time as the bishop's nephew, Dunstan. So started a great friendship. He studied in Winchester. Became a monk at Glastonbury Abbey where Dunstan was abbot. Made Abbot of Abingdon monastery. Established Benedictine Rule and discipline reforms copied from French monasteries. In 955 the new 16 year old King Eadwig who had very bad morals, exiled Dunstan, by then Bishop of London, to France. Abbot Æthelwold became one of his advisors to try to control the king's accesses. King Eadwig died after 4 years. His brother King Edgar, who had been taught by Abbot Æthelwold, succeeded him. Dunstan returned from exile and was made Archbishop of Canterbury. Abbot Æthelwold helped the king with many of the charters of the time. In 963 Archbishop Dunstan consecrated him Bishop of Winchester. Again carried out reforms replacing clerics by monks from Abingdon. Founded a nunnery in Winchester and many monasteries elsewhere. Had strong support from King Edgar and his Queen Ælfthryth for his establishing of the Rule of St Benedict. King Edgar died; succeeded by King Edward his son by a former marriage. Queen Ælfthryth wanted her son Ethelred to be king. 3 years later King Edward the Martyr was murdered in Corfe Castle in Dorset, most likely the victim of his step-mother Queen Ælfthryth. Bishop Æthelwold personal skill helped build a large church organ at Winchester. He was a skilled as a goldsmith and metalworker, producing many precious items. Also a skilled bell founder. He rebuilt the Old Minster, and named it after St Swithun. In 971 he moved St Swithun's relics into the new cathedral and it rained for 40 days.

**NO MASS**  
**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> St Eusebius of Vercelli** Born in 283 in Sardinia. His father died as a martyr. Mother took him and his sister to Rome. He was trained as a lector and moved to Vercelli in northern Italy. Became so popular the people chose him as Bishop of Vercelli. Enforced semi monastic rule for his clergy and lived in community with them. He strongly defended Christian orthodoxy against the heresy of Arianism. St Athanasius, Patriarch of Alexandria wrote the *Athanasius Creed*, using some of the work of Bishop Eusebius. A Synod was called in 355 by Roman Emperor Constantius to address dispute between orthodox and Arian beliefs. Emperor, a supporter of Arianism, banished three of the orthodox bishops including Eusebius. Sent to Syria in care of Arian bishop who ill-treated him trying to make him change his orthodox beliefs. Emperor died in 361 and new Emperor set free the 3 bishops. Had Council of Alexandria with Patriarch Athanasius. Decided to deal mildly with repentant clergy but harshly with those who not change from Arian beliefs. Bishop Eusebius then returned to his diocese of Vercelli in Italy. He then opposed Arianism in Western Church with Bishop Hilary of Poitiers.

**6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Bernard Maciejewski RIP 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> St Lydia Purpuraria of Thyatira and Philippi** Born in 1<sup>st</sup> century in Thyatira, Asia Minor, famous for its dye works. Lydia sold purple dye and purple goods that were rare and expensive. A wealthy woman she moved with friends to sell her purple goods in Philippi in Greece. St Paul arrived to preach in Philippi and Lydia was the first to be converted to Christianity. After being baptised to invited St Paul to stay in her home. The Church in Philippi was the strongest that St Paul established and due to Lydia's hospitality he never had to work at his career as a tent maker to sustain himself when he revisited Philippi. Lydia was a key member of the Church. St Paul wrote to her saying she was always in his prayers for her influence and support of the Christian community

**9.30 am Mass Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**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	Fr Shaun Budden	Trevor Delves	Valerie Baker	
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**NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMEN**

**Big Clean at St Vincent de Paul next Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10 am to 1 pm**

Please come along to help this important job and stay as long as you can. Cleaning materials and refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome and will be greatly appreciated by Fr Thomas and all in the parish.

**Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August – 1pm to 3 pm**

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.

**Parish collection for last weekend 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£125	£31.25	£98.80	£242.54	£51.98	£549.57	----	----	----	<b>£549.57</b>