

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES & ST. SWITHUN'S NEWSLETTER



1 DECEMBER 2024

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

REFLECTION FROM FR. ANTHONY. During this season of Advent, we have now shifted our attention to the Incarnation, the birth of Christ, God becoming man, which we will celebrate at Christmas. We need some time to prepare for this great mystery. Advent is a time of joyful preparation, where we are called to be renewed in Christ.

To help us achieve this goal at the end of Advent, the Catholic Church, through the liturgy, puts before us three major themes, or three types of Advents: Christ has come, Christ is coming, and Christ will come. Let us make good use of this season of Advent to prepare well for the coming of Christ at the moment, but also to keep our heads up high as we look forward to the Second Coming with hopeful expectation.

NEW TRANSLATION OF LECTIONARY. Starting in Advent, we will be using a new translation of the Lectionary which is based on the English Standard Version Catholic Edition (ESV-Catholic). We have some Sunday Missals in stock. If you would like a copy ordered, please contact the parish office.

PARISH CONFESSION TIMES. From 9.30am and 5.00pm onwards on Saturdays.

PARISH REGISTRATION. We are developing a new parish database and would like to keep in contact with you in a more effective and efficient way. In order to do this, we would like you to visit the website www.caspar.church/me?ID=9840 and fill in a few details. You can also access the site by swiping the QR code to the left of this notice. If you don't feel confident using the internet, please speak to the parish office.



GOSPEL. Luke 21:25-28,34-36. *"That day will be sprung on you suddenly like a trap."*

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS. Starting in Advent, the faithful will have the opportunity to receive Communion under both kinds (the host and Precious Blood) at Sunday Masses. The "meaning" of Communion is most clearly signified when given under both kinds. However, as our faith teaches, communion received under one kind, such as the Host alone, receives the whole and entire Christ. The choice is left to the communicant.

APPEAL FOR CROSS. Urgent repairs are needed to secure the cross on the north end of the church. Work will begin shortly. It will cost around £2,000. We have raised £1,222.44 so far. Thank you! We would appreciate your generosity towards this urgent repair.

BIBLE STUDY. Starting on Wednesday 4 December, the parish will be hosting a bible study group on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm onwards. We will focus on the Gospel of Luke. For more details, please contact the parish office.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 30 November - ST. ANDREW

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Thanksgiving*

5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *Graces for the new liturgical year*

Sunday 1 December - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30am - St. Swithun's - *People of the parish*

10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Rudi Rudziak*

Monday 2 December - 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

No Mass

Tuesday 3 December - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Beth Robinson RIP*

Wednesday 4 December - 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Sick & suffering*

Thursday 5 December - 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Pope Francis*

Friday 6 December - ST. NICHOLAS

10.00am - St. Swithun's - *People of Portsmouth*

Saturday 7 December - ST. AMBROSE

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Bishop Philip Egan*

5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *People of the parish*

Sunday 8 December - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Bernard Gabriel RIP & Family*

10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Faithful of the Diocese of Portsmouth*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

24 December - 5:30 pm - Vigil Mass (Family & Children Mass)

24 December - 8:00 pm - Christmas night Mass

25 December - 8:30 am - Dawn Mass

25 December - 10:15 am - Christmas Day Mass

SUNDAY COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

£1,199.77

OFFERTORY. The Parish bank account details are as follows:

Lloyds Bank Account name: CDP Our Lady of Lourdes' and St Swithun Church

Sort code: 30-93-04

Parish Account no: 01730453

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS.

'Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.' (Matthew 24:42-44)

As the season of Advent draws closer, the children have been reflecting on what it means to let the light of God's love into their hearts. They have been spending time reflecting on how they can prepare for this season of preparation and spending time in thoughtful contemplation with God. The older year groups have also been attending the sacrament of reconciliation with our parish priest, Fr. Anthony, and Fr. Tom, who has kindly supported him from the cathedral parish.

PRE-SCHOOL AT ST. SWITHUN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL. Sunbeams, the Pre-School at St Swithun's Primary School, has spots available for children. Contact Debbie Horton, the Deputy Pre-School Manager for more details. 023 9281 2802 or email sunbeams@sscps.co.uk.

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES & ST. SWITHUN'S

Address: 105 Waverley Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO5 2PL United Kingdom

Priest in Charge: Fr. Anthony Fyk - 023 9282 8305

Email: afyk@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish office: southseaparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish office opening hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9.00am - 1.00pm

Safeguarding: safeguarding.porls@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk (Anne Worden and Teresa Rowe)

Website: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea

Charity number: 1199568