



8 DECEMBER 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

REFLECTION FROM FR. ANTHONY. The prophets Baruch, Isaiah, and John the Baptist all point to the direction to salvation. They are the light that guides the people in moments of despair and darkness, pointing and directing the way to God with a message of hope. There is a common thread in the events surrounding Baruch, Isaiah, and John the Baptist, and even during our very time - it was in a moment of uncertainty, darkness, and dislocation. It was and is a time of restlessness and despair, but, more importantly, it was and is a time to hope, to trust and wait for the Lord.

Today we hear from Bishop Philip about the upcoming Jubilee Year, which is about hope. Let us all continue to trust in the Lord in hope, always knowing that the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of our hearts.

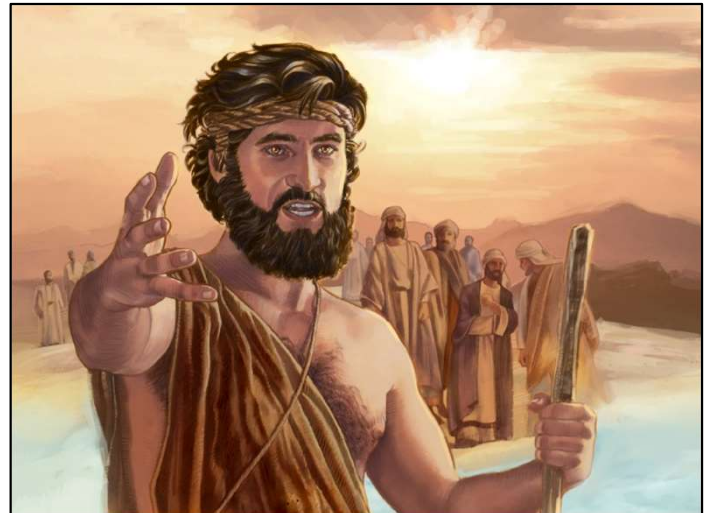
NEW TRANSLATION OF LECTIONARY. We are now using a new translation of the Lectionary that is based on the English Standard Version Catholic Edition (ESV-Catholic). If you would like a copy ordered, please contact the parish office.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING for volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults. Saturday 8 February, 11.00am, St. Swithun's Hall. Full details to follow next week.

PARISH REGISTRATION. We are developing a new parish database and 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 3:1-6. *"The call of John the Baptist."*

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS. With the introduction of communion under both kinds, just a reminder that the faithful can receive communion either standing or kneeling, in the hand (indicated by having your palms fully open) or on the tongue (sticking out your tongue totally). If you are not Catholic, have not received your first communion, or have not prepared for communion, you may come up for a blessing, indicated by crossing your chest with your arms.

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 £1,336.44 so far. Thank you! We would appreciate your generosity towards this urgent repair.

OUR BIBLE STUDY GROUP is on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm in St. Swithun's Hall. We will focus on the Gospel of Luke. For more information, please get in contact with the parish office. Please join us if you can.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 7 December - ST. AMBROSE

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*

Monday 9 December - THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

No Mass

Tuesday 10 December - 2ND WEEK OF ADVENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Violet Lee RIP*

Wednesday 11 December - 2ND WEEK OF ADVENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Tom McShane RIP*

Thursday 12 December - 2ND WEEK OF ADVENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Eileen Mary Spencer*

Friday 13 December - ST. LUCY

10.00am - St. Swithun's - *Tom McShane RIP*

Saturday 14 December - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Agnes Stevenson RIP*
5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *People of the parish*

Sunday 15 December - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Alan Lewis*
10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Selina Fairhall*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

24 December - 5:30pm - Vigil Mass (Family & Children Mass)
24 December - 8:00pm - Christmas night Mass
25 December - 8:30am - Dawn Mass
25 December - 10:15am - Christmas Day Mass

SUNDAY COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

£1,108.82

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.

"The Lord Himself will come, first as a child born to us, a Savior to deliver His people, and then as the King of glory, to gather all nations before Him." (Inspired by Isaiah 7:14)

Advent is an exciting time for all children, but it can sometimes be tricky for them to understand the dual meaning. We have been studying this special time in our year groups, discussing remembering Jesus' birth and how we can look forward to his second coming. We have also been creating pieces of artwork that represent both and discussing how we can open our hearts and minds to Christ this Advent season.

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

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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