



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 8th December 2024

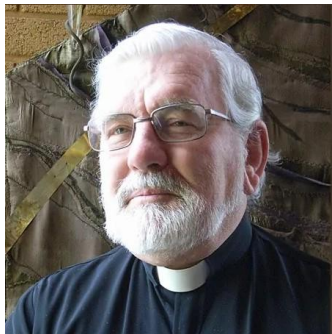
This Weekend there is a Special Second Collection to pay for the food which will be provided after Fr Michael Cronin's funeral. Please be as generous as possible.

Page 84	Baruch 5: 1-9	Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11	Gospel Luke 3: 1-6
<p>The first reading is from the Book of Baruch, written around 200 BC, probably at Alexandria for the Jews living there who had a problem keeping their faith. The Temple was far away, they were living in a culture which was completely opposed to the heritage of Judaism. The prophet Baruch speaks of God bringing His people back to Him. This reminds us that God always keeps His promises of salvation, leading His people with joy and giving us guidance in our faith journey.</p> <p>St Paul's letter to his friends the Philippians in Greece, written while in prison, expresses his delight for the unity and joy in their Christian community and how he misses being with them. It reminds us today to seek harmony and humility, embrace deep joy in our faith and persevere through challenges so we can build strong Christian communities and find lasting happiness in Christ.</p> <p>Luke's Gospel relates a time during the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when God's word came to John in the desert. He preached a baptism of repentance and forgiveness of sins, fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy to prepare the way for the Lord and reveal God's salvation. John the Baptist existed in a world where some people had plenty and others had nothing and under the occupation of a ruling Empire. He comes from a religious tradition that believes in justice, and a time in the future when all will be made right. John calls on the people to turn away from these systems of oppression and degradation and prepares the way for the coming of Jesus. We today must make our hearts ready for Christ's coming by following His teaching. Malcolm.</p>			

Mass times	Feast Days
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 7th St Ambrose Born 340 in Germany to Roman Christian family. Studied law, Eloquent speaker in court. Provincial Governor. Made Bishop of Milan due to his eloquence in uniting the clergy and people with orthodox beliefs. Great theologian. Baptised St Augustine of Hippo, the famous saint from North Africa.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 8th December Second Sunday of Advent
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 9th St John Diego Cuahtlatatzin An Aztec Indian born in 1474 in Mexico. Converted by Franciscan missionaries from Spain. Had visions of Virgin Mary on Tepeyac Hill. Requesting a shrine to be built to her there. As a proof of the vision flowers bloomed in the middle of winter. Mary wrapped the flowers in his cloak and told him to take them to Bishop Juan. When the flowers were unwrapped there was an image of the Virgin Mary imprinted on the cloak. John's sick uncle was cured and had a vision of the Virgin Mary as well. Shrine of "Our Lady of Guadalupe" was built. John died in 1548 aged 74 and was buried in the first chapel built at the shrine. The cloak, preserved from 1531, is kept in the Basilica of Guadalupe in Mexico.
10 am Mass	Tuesday 10th St Swithun Wells Born 1536 in Bambridge House between Winchester and Southampton, named after St Swithun, Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. Country gentleman, founded school at Monkton Farleigh near Bath. His Catholic wife hid priests on the English mission. Moved to London. House with a secret Mass room. Arrested many times but eventually executed as a martyr.
11 am Requiem Mass and funeral Fr Michael Cronin	Wednesday 11th St Pope Damascus I Born of Spanish parents in Rome 305. Ordained to serve with his father who was also was a priest. Religious conflicts between orthodox Nicene Christians and heretical Arians. Pope banished by Emperor and puppet Arian pope put in place. Conflicts continued. When both popes and Emperor died Damascus was elected pope. Controversial start to his papacy with massacre of Arians. Theologically orthodox who strongly opposed the heresy of Arianism. Tried to establish the supremacy of Rome.
10 am Mass Olivia de Souza RIP	Thursday 12th St Jane Frances de Chantal Born 1572 in France. Mother died when she was young.. Father then brought her up to be a devout Christian. Developed into a refined, cheerful and beautiful woman. Married a nobleman, lived in a castle. 4 out of 7 children survived. Engaged in many charitable works. Husband killed in shooting accident. Depressed she took a vow of chastity. Visiting her father, heard sermon from Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, who became her spiritual advisor. Wanted to be a nun. Left son with brother, Archbishop of Bourges; eldest daughter had married so took other two daughters with her and founded <i>Congregation of the Visitation</i> . Order of nuns accepted widows and those who had been rejected due to their health or age by other Orders. Work and ministry outside Convent. Clergy objected so became enclosed Order. Francis de Sales died in 1622 and. Vincent de Paul became her new spiritual advisor. She died aged 69.
NO MASS	Friday 13th St Lucy of Syracuse Born 283 in Syracuse in Sicily to rich, noble Christian parents. Her father died when she was 5 years old. Lucy dedicated her virginity to God unkown to her mother who arranged a marriage with a rich noble pagan young man. When Lucy convinced her mother to give her dowry and wealth to the poor he was furious. He denounced her to the Governor who demanded she offered pagan worship. When she refused he tried to punish her but was unable to harm her. He had her eyes gouged out and killed by the sword as a martyr. St Lucy became one of the most famous and venerated virgin martyrs of the early Church.

6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 14th St John of the Cross Born 1542 in Spain. John was educated in a poor school. Then apprenticed to various trades but failed at all. In 1559 he entered College run by newly formed Jesuits. Joined the Carmelites and studied theology and philosophy. Ordained a priest in 1567 aged 25. Met Carmelite nun St Teresa of Avila then 52 years old. She teased him about his youth, serious attitude and small statue. With St Teresa reformed Carmelite Order. Founded "Discalced Carmelites" monasteries which believed in basic lifestyle. Had the vision of Crucified Christ from above which inspired Salvador Dali's painting. Died 1591 aged 49.					
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 15th December		Third Sunday of Advent			
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	Ruth Gleeson

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Fr Michael Cronin - Funeral arrangements are as follows:

Fr Michael's body will be received into St Vincent de Paul Church on Tuesday 10th December at 4pm and Fr Thomas Parakandathil will celebrate a Vigil Mass at 6pm. If you are unable to attend the funeral the next day this is an ideal chance to show your respects. As we are expecting a large attendance for the funeral the more that attend this evening Mass it will reduce the number for the funeral on Wednesday.

The funeral, a Requiem Mass celebrated by many priests, will be held at **11 am on Wednesday 11th December** at St Vincent de Paul followed by a private committal at Southampton Crematorium at 12.15 pm.

After the Requiem Mass there will be light refreshments provided in the parish hall.

Please be generous in the Special Second Collection this weekend which will be used towards the cost of food.

Ruth Gleeson is 99 years old and very ill and needs our prayers

Ruth, wife of deceased Deacon Paddy Gleeson, mother of Dee Heatley and mother in law of Joe Heatley, is currently in a Nursing Home and will celebrate her 100th birthday on 17th January 2025



Are you able to host the Posada, figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey, for the night?

Leading up to Christmas, Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people, dressed as Mary and Joseph, travel from house to house asking for a room for the night.

The modern Posada uses nativity figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey who travel from place to place in the parish. This gives parishioners the chance to "host" the Posada and to create their own celebration, making room for Jesus in their lives. Our Posada will be blessed at St Vincent de Paul on the First Sunday of Advent, 1st December at the 9.30 am Mass.

Parishioners wishing to host the Posada should fill in the "*Posada Journey Rota*" in the church porch with your name and contact details. The person hosting the Posada on the day before you will deliver the Posada to you at an agreed time. You must then make arrangements for

the Posada to be delivered to the next host on the following day. For the evening that you host the Posada, you can invite family and friends to join in your celebration, or you might prefer a quiet evening of prayer and reflection.

Hosting the Posada can be an opportunity to share our faith with family and friends but, above all, it is a chance to celebrate the period of Advent and think about our journey towards the great feast of Christmas.

Christmas Programme at St Vincent de Paul

Wednesday 18th December: Penitential Service with Confessions at 5.30pm

Sunday 22nd December: Christmas carols, readings and mince pies at 3 pm

Tuesday 24th December: Christmas Vigil Mass at 8 pm

Wednesday 25th December: Christmas morning Mass at 9.30 am

Thursday 26th December: 10 am Mass

Tuesday 31st December: New Year Eve Adoration at 10pm followed by Mass at midnight.

Wednesday 1st January 2025: New Year Mass at 6.30 pm.

Christmas Collection of sweets for Southampton Sunday Lunch Project by Sunday 15th December

Collection of wrapped sweets such as Roses, Celebration and Quality Street needed. Please place your donations in box in the porch by Sunday 15th December. Many thanks in anticipation, Shelagh Moon. Tel: 023 8073 6275

150 gift bags needed for the homeless by the Sunday Lunch in their sites in Woolston and Portswood

Each bag contains basic toiletries, seasonal treats as well as a hat, gloves and pair of socks and can be sponsored at £10 each. To help this Christmas appeal contact Liz Challand lizchalland@btinternet.com for more details..

Parish collection for last weekend 30th November and 1st December

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
£117	£29.25	£154.43	£242.54	£51.98	£595.20	----	----	----	£595.20