



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Aldermoor Close, Coxford Road, Lordswood, Southampton
Hampshire. SO16 5ST Office: 07887452313

Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Parakandathil tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Lina Maria Speigal email: svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Newsletter editor: Malcolm Forster email: malcolmandrita@btinternet.com

Safeguarding Officer Liz Challand safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator Lina Maria is available preferably by email on in emergency by the office telephone on Thursdays

Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-vincent-de-paul/> (To open: Select link then Ctrl + left Click)

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

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 15th December 2024

This Weekend there is a Special Second Collection to pay for the flowers for Christmas.

Page 87	Zephaniah 3: 14-18	Philippians 4: 4-7	Gospel Luke 3: 10-18
<p>The Third Sunday of Advent is popularly known as “<i>Gaudete Sunday</i>”. The term Gaudete means “<i>to Rejoice</i>”. As we come closer to the feast of Christmas, the Church encourages us to rejoice because God is about to fulfil His promise to us. Today’s readings exalt us to be happy and joyful as we wait for the coming of the Lord. To emphasise our joyful celebration we light the candle coloured rose and the priest can wear rose vestments, a colour that signifies joy, peace and hope in the future. In the first reading it is probable that neither Zephaniah nor his hearers saw the full meaning of the consoling words he uttered. But now we see the full meaning of his prophesy and the reason he said: “shout for joy”. God has come to dwell amongst us. This theme is continued from St Paul in the second reading when he tells his friends in Greece “I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord”. This is amazing since it was written by St Paul when he was in prison in Rome awaiting trial during the reign of the Roman Emperor Nero. He explains there is no need to worry. Just pray to God for any help and trust in the Lord. The Gospel from Luke has a more serious message from John the Baptist. Although he foretells the joyful coming of Jesus who “<i>I am not fit to undo the strap of His sandals; He will baptise with the Holy Spirit</i>”. John tells the crowds they must share with those in need, collect only what is really requires and not hoard possessions and be honest especially in business. Malcolm.</p>			

Mass times		Feast Days	
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Trevor Delves for treatment success	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 Dalí’s painting. Died 1591 aged 49.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 15th December	Third Sunday of Advent	
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 16th	St Adelaide of Italy	Born 931 at Orbe Castle, daughter of the King of Burgandy, what is now Switzerland. Married King Lothair II of Italy and had a daughter. Her husband was poisoned and the new king tried to marry her to his son. Adelaide fled. She was saved by King Otto the Great of Germany and they had 5 children. Otto made Holy Roman Emperor by Pope John XII. He also crowned Adelaide as the Holy Roman Empress due to her charity work. Emperor Otto restored new Pope John XIII after Roman rioters deposed him. Her son succeeded as Holy Roman Emperor Otto II but was still a child so Adelaide acted as regent and exerted a powerful influence in the royal court. She was devoted to the service of the Church, restoring peace in areas of conflict. Gave alms and food to the poor. Founded a convent to which she retired in old age. On a journey to support her nephew King Rudolf III of Burgandy she died on 16 th December 999, days short of the millennium.
10 am Mass Cheriya RIP	Tuesday 17th	St Winnibold	Anglo-Saxon born 700 in Hampshire near Winchester about 700. Son of St King Richard the Pilgrim and St Wuna of Wessex. His sister was St Walburga and uncle St Boniface who, before his missionary work in Germany, studied at the Benedictine monastery in Nursling near Southampton. Went on pilgrimage to Rome with his father and St Willibald his brother. They set sail from the River Hamble for France. His father died near Florence before they reached Rome. Winnibald stayed to study in Rome for 7 years while his brother continued the pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Winnibald then became a monk. Returned to England. Recruited another brother and others on another pilgrimage to Rome. In Rome he found his brother Willibald was a monk at Benedictine monastery of Monte Cassino. Winnibald was ordained a priest and his brother made a bishop. Their uncle St Boniface then asked them to help in the mission in Germany. Started a double monastery at Heidenheim and asked their sister Walburga, who was in a double monastery in Wimbourne, Dorset, to be in charge of the nuns. Winnibald became the Abbot of Heidenheim. Died 761 in the arms of his brother and sister.
5.30 pm Penitential Mass with Confessions	Wednesday 18th	St Flannan	7 th century Irish monk, son of King Turlough of Thomond. Educated by St Blathmet, renowned as a great teacher in Ireland. Joined Killaloe monastery near Limerick under the abbot St Moulda. Worked in the kitchen. After baking continuously for 36 hours a heavenly light shone through the fingers of his left hand so he could complete his task. After this St Moulda retired and made Flannan Abbot of the monastery of Killaloe. Ireland then had a time of peace and abundant crops. Appointed by public acclaim Bishop of Thomond. Great preacher who converted many including a local chief. Persuaded elderly father King Turlough to become a monk. His eloquent evangelisation achieved peace and justice for the most vulnerable in the area.
10 am Mass	Thursday 19th	St Nemesius of Alexandria	3 rd century Egyptian, martyred for being a Christian in Alexandria. He was arrested suspected of theft with two others. During questioning it was clear he was innocent but discovered he was a Christian. This was as bad as being a thief during persecution by the Roman Emperor of all Christians. He was scourged when he refused to renounce his faith. Then sentenced to death by burning. He was tied to a stake between the 2 thieves, symbolic of Christ’s death on the cross.

NO MASS	Friday 20th St Dominic of Silos Born in 1000 in Spain in the foothills of the Pyrenees to a peasant family. A shepherd in his youth. Joined Benedictine monastery and was made Prior. Refused to hand over land to the king. Driven out of the kingdom. Found refuge in Old Castile with King Ferdinand. Appointed abbot of decaying Abbey and monastery in Silos by king. Abbot Dominic then started to rebuild the monastery, making it a centre of learning, producer of manuscripts and book design. He creates gold and silver workshops to fund works of charity including paying ransom to free the Christian prisoners held by the Moors. He reforms the religious practices of the monks and soon the monastery attracts new monks and becomes the most famous in Spain. When Abbot Dominic dies on 20 th December 1073 there are over 40 monks in the community. His tomb becomes a centre of pilgrimage. In 1170 a young woman visits the tomb to pray for a successful birth. St Dominic appears to her and assures her of the birth of a son who she names Dominic. This Dominic becomes the founder of the Dominicans.					
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 21st St Peter Canisius Born 1521 in Nijmegen now in the Netherlands to a wealthy family. Graduated as a doctor of civil law at Cologne University. There met Peter Faber, one of the founders of the Jesuits. Peter was the first Dutchman to join the Society of Jesus. Became one of the most influential Catholics of his time. Leader of the Catholic counter Reformation in Germany against people such as the German priest Martin Luther. Attended Council of Trent in 1547. Engaged in preaching, teaching, writing and instructing in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Bohemia and Poland. Wrote short catechism in Latin and German - had 200 editions. Translated into 12 European languages. Died 21 st December 1597 aged 76, Fribourg, Switzerland					
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 22nd December		Fourth Sunday of Advent		Diana Stimson RIP	
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

Special Second collection this weekend for the flowers for Christmas

Please help Shirley Keats to be able to decorate the church appropriately for Christmas

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

Requiem Mass and funeral of Fr Michael Cronin

Fr Michael's family wish to thank everyone who helped to organise and take part in the celebration of Fr Michael's life, his generous ministry as a priest, his support as a hospital chaplain to patients and their families and as a kind friend and entertaining individual who will be missed by many

Last chance this weekend for Christmas Collection of sweets for Southampton Sunday Lunch Project

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.

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.

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?

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.

Parish collection for last weekend 7th and 8th December

Parish collection for last weekend 7 th and 8 th December							Refreshments for funeral of Fr Michael Cronin		TOTAL of all money
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Adoration use of the church	Gift Aid	Loose	
£317	£79.25	£91.55	£242.54	£51.98	£782.32	£50	£60	312.40	£1,204.72