

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



5 JANUARY 2025

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**FR. ANTHONY'S REFLECTION.** Today, we celebrate the great solemnity of Epiphany, which is one of the principal festivals of the whole liturgical year since it celebrates in the child born of Mary the manifestation of the one who is the Son of God, the Messiah of the Jewish people, and a light to the nations.

The Magi offered three gifts to the Christ Child – Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. Rich with symbolism and meaning. Where these items would have been offered to an earthly king, they are now offered to a divine king. Gold takes on a symbol of Christ's kingship on earth. A kingship of serving others. Frankincense, a type of incense with a sweet, fragrant odour, takes on the symbol of the divinity of Christ. And finally, myrrh, a type of embalming oil, foreshadows the death of Jesus, who has a mortal nature. So, in a sense, these three gifts are a profession of faith in the kingly role of Christ, in his divinity and in his humanity.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Formerly, the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

**THANK YOU** very much for the numerous Christmas cards and gifts. I am very grateful of your kindness and support. *Fr. Anthony*

**PARISH REGISTRATION.** We are developing a new parish database and would like you to visit the website [www.caspar.church/me?ID=9840](http://www.caspar.church/me?ID=9840) and fill in a few details. If you don't feel confident using the internet, please speak to the parish office.

**VOCATIONS.** Pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, especially for our diocese. If you are considering such a vocation, talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke.



**GOSPEL.** Matthew 2:1-12. The visit of the Magi.

**INVITATION TO ENGAGED COUPLES.** Saturday 8 February 2025 at 9.15am in the Cathedral Centre for a special engaged couples breakfast for all those in the diocese looking forward to marriage in 2025. This will conclude at 11.45am with a short service of blessing for the couples and their engagement rings. An opportunity to affirm our faith in the original plan of God for marriage. To register, contact Kirsten on 023 9421 6511.

**SECOND COLLECTION - 25 JANUARY.** This will be for St. John's Cathedral.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS.** 21/22 December: £1,001.00. 28/29 December: £1,082.00

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC.** If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Catholic, please speak to Fr. Anthony.

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER.** Please email the parish office by 9.00am on Wednesday. We reserve the right to edit. Thank you.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea)

# MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Saturday 4 January - EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *People of the parish*

**Sunday 5 January - EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Private intention*  
10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Fr. John Lawrence RIP*

**Monday 6 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
No Mass

**Tuesday 7 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Sr. Maura Chin*

**Wednesday 8 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Fr. Wenna Henry Tiku*

**Thursday 9 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Sr. Yvonne Edwards*

**Friday 10 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
10.00am - St. Swithun's - *May & Michael Hughs*

**Saturday 11 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Private intention*  
5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *Private intention*

**Sunday 12 January - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
8.30am - St. Swithun's - *People of the parish*  
10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Tom & Kathleen Kinoulty*



**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

**IF YOU VOLUNTEER** with children or vulnerable adults in any groups connected to the Church, it is a requirement that you take part in safeguarding training every 3 years. We have some training booked to take place in St. Swithun's Hall on Saturday 8 February 2025, starting at 11.00am. As we need a minimum number of attendees, please let Teresa Rowe or Anne Worden know if you can attend. You can email [safeguarding.porls@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.porls@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY.** *For the right to an education.* Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

**GETTING MARRIED?** Please note that you need to give 12 months' notice. Contact Fr. Anthony or speak to Emma in the office. They will be pleased to support you through the process.

## 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](mailto:afyk@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish office:** [southseaparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:southseaparish@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

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

**Website:** [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea)

**Charity number:** 1199568