

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



12 JANUARY 2025

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**FR. ANTHONY'S REFLECTION.** Through baptism, we are incorporated into Christ and are formed as God's people. This sacrament pardons all sins, rescues us from the power of darkness, and brings us to the dignity of adopted children. We are a new creation through water and the Holy Spirit. In such a way we are pleasing to God. Baptism is a sacrament of faith, in which we respond to the Gospel.

Although the celebration of baptism is a 'one-off event,' in fact, our baptismal graces deepen over our pilgrimage journey during this life and fully flourish in the next life. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the end of the Christmas liturgical season. There is a fittingness that we end this season with this feast day, as we celebrated at Christmas the start of the paschal mystery, with the incarnation and nativity of our Lord, the baptism of Jesus reminds us that we are incorporated into this mystery through the celebration of baptism.

**PARISH WEEKDAY SOCIALS.** Starting in February, we will have parish socials after Thursday Masses for tea, coffee, biscuits and chit-chat. All are invited!

**BIBLE STUDY** resumes this Wednesday at 7.30pm in the sacristy here at St. Swithun's.

**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.** If you are considering such a vocation, talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. Please continue to pray for more vocations.



**GOSPEL.** Luke 3:15-16,21-22. *'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'*

**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.

**LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION.** £1,030.91. Thank you for your continued support.

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

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

# MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

## Saturday 11 January - LITURGY OF THE DAY

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*



## Monday 13 January - FERIA

No Mass

## Tuesday 14 January - FERIA

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Sr. Ellen Munn*

## Wednesday 15 January - FERIA

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Sr. Yvonne Edwards*

## Thursday 16 January - FERIA

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Teo Thornton RIP*

## Friday 17 January - ST. ANTHONY OF EGYPT

10.00am - St. Swithun's - *Ron Frost RIP*

## Saturday 18 January - OUR LADY ON SATURDAY

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Fr. Patrick Cannon RIP*  
5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *Norah Hester Warren RIP*

## Sunday 19 January - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING.** This will take place in St. Swithun's Hall on Saturday 8 February 2025, starting at 11.00am. *11.00am - 12.30pm: Child protection. 1.00pm - 4.00pm: Working with adults.* This will include a comfort break. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided but please bring a packed lunch. As we need a minimum number of attendees, please let Teresa Rowe or Anne Worden know if you can attend. You can email the team at: [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