

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



19 JANUARY 2025

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FR. ANTHONY'S REFLECTION. We have now entered the liturgical period of 'Ordinary Time.' The scripture readings in the liturgy focus on the public ministry and teachings of Jesus Christ. The colour green is used liturgically, which symbolises growth, renewal, and, importantly, hope. The period of Ordinary Time reminds us that life is a time of growth and renewal, which takes time. Our relationship with God and with each other is in constant need of growth and renewal. This takes time, and we are invited to be patient with ourselves and with each other for God.

This jubilee year we are invited to pay special attention to hope. Pope Francis reminds us that '*hope opens new horizons, making us capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable.*' Sometimes situations in our own lives and the world seem so insurmountable, and it can be easy to fall into despair. But hope invites us to trust in God in all aspects of our life and what is happening in the world, knowing that his divine assistance is at work and always remembering that all will be well at the end of the day. Let us take to heart the words of Julian of Norwich: '*All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.*'

PARISH WEEKDAY SOCIALS. Starting in February, we will have parish socials after Thursday Masses. There will be tea, coffee, biscuits and chit-chat in the Canon Kuner Room. All are invited!

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. If you don't feel confident using the internet, please speak to the parish office.

THANK YOU to all our parish volunteers.



GOSPEL. John 2:1-11. '*My hour has not yet come.*'

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (18 - 25 January). Pope Francis: '*Only a love that becomes gratuitous service, only the love that Jesus taught and embodied, will bring separated Christians closer to one another.*' Almighty, ever-living God, who gathers what is scattered and keeps together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your son, that those whom one baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity. Amen.

PARISH SOCIAL. We will be hosting a social event on Saturday 8 February after the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. All are welcome!

SECOND COLLECTION - 25 JANUARY. St. John's Cathedral.

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION. £1,032.55.

OUR BIBLE STUDY GROUP takes place at 7.30pm each Wednesday in the sacristy. Please join us if you can.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/southsea

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 18 January - OUR LADY ON SATURDAY

5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *Norah Hester Warren RIP*

Sunday 19 January - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE)

8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Selina Fairhall RIP*

10.15am - St. Swithun's - *People of the parish*



Monday 20 January - ST. FABIAN

No Mass

Tuesday 21 January - ST. AGNES

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Richard Share RIP*

Wednesday 22 January - ST. VINCENT

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Fr. John Smethurst RIP*

Thursday 23 January - 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Unity of all Christians*

Friday 24 January - ST. FRANCES DE SALES

10.00am - St. Swithun's - *Private Intention*

Saturday 25 January - CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Unity of all Christians*

5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *People of the parish*

Sunday 26 January - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD)

8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Selina Fairhall RIP*

10.15am - St. Swithun's - *Poor and rejected of society*

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

MASS INTENTIONS & OFFERINGS.

It is a long-standing Catholic tradition to have the Eucharist offered for a particular intention, for the living and the dead. We do this because our faith is centred on the celebration of the Eucharist, the source of our life in Christ. Of course, Mass is 'free' but it is customary to make a donation in a form of a Mass offering. If you would like to arrange a Mass offering for yourself or loved ones, whether living or dead, please contact Emma in the office.

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 help you.

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