



26 JANUARY 2025

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**FR. ANTHONY'S REFLECTION.** Today is the Sunday of the Word of God. It was instituted by Pope Francis to invite us to reflect more deeply on the place sacred scriptures have in our lives. Throughout the centuries, God has revealed himself in various times and places. Jesus Christ is the fullness of revelation and is therefore the main source. Sacred scriptures and sacred tradition are the means by which revelation has been transmitted to us. Both are bound together closely, and it is the Catholic Church, being a servant to revelation, that safeguards this. On this Sunday of the Word of God, we may ponder on the place sacred scriptures have in our own lives. Do we spend time reading the sacred scriptures? Do we spend time prayerfully using the sacred scriptures?

The Church proposes the beautiful practice of *Lectio Divina*. In this practice we read the sacred scriptures slowly, reflect on a word or a phrase that may strike us, we respond back in prayer with intercessions and petitions, and finally rest in God's presence. With the vast availability of the sacred scriptures in our day and age, it is a practice we can easily do. We can try to make five minutes in our busy day for this wonderful practice.

**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](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.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY.** St. John's Cathedral.



**GOSPEL.** Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21. *'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'*

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

**LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION.** £2,059.67 (Building fund - £165.00)

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

**IN-PERSON SAFEGUARDING TRAINING.** If you volunteer with children or vulnerable adults in our parish and have not completed the new online training in the last year, you must join the next round of training in the church hall on Saturday 8 February. This starts at 11.00am and is in two parts. The training for those working with children starts at 11.00am. If you work with adults, this training starts at 1.00pm. Refreshments are provided but please bring a packed lunch if you are attending both sessions. Thank you.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Saturday 25 January - CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL**  
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*



**Monday 27 January - FERIA**  
No Mass

**Tuesday 28 January - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Fr. John McFadden RIP*

**Wednesday 29 January - FERIA**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *The Carroll family*

**Thursday 30 January - FERIA**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Private intention*

**Friday 31 January - ST. JOHN BOSCO**  
10.00am - St. Swithun's - *Richard Moran*

**Saturday 1 February - SATURDAY OF OUR LADY**  
9.00am - St. Swithun's - *Private intention*  
5.30pm - St. Swithun's (Vigil Mass) *Private intention*

**Sunday 2 February - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**  
8.30am - St. Swithun's - *Robert Hancock Wilson*  
10.15am - St. Swithun's - *People of the parish*

**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

**Address:** 105 Waverley Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO5 2PL United Kingdom

**Priest in Charge:** Fr. Anthony Fyk - 023 9282 8305

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**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