


Parochial Admin: **Rev. Fr Matthew King**  
 Parish Secretary: **Clarinda Mansfield**  
 Deacon: **Dcn John Cumpsty**  
 Office Hours: **Mon to Fri 9am—12pm**  
 Email: **office@stmarysgosport.org.uk**  
 Telephone: **(023) 9258 0119**



Chaplain War Memorial: **(023) 9258 0119**  
 Chaplain QA Hospital: **(023) 9228 6408**  
 Safeguarding:  
**safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**  
 **@catholicchurchingosport**

**ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S**  
 The Catholic Church in Gosport



**16 February 2025 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)**

15	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Georgina Savege INT	<b>CONFESSION TIMES</b> Wed 6:15pm-6:45pm (if Mass is celebrated) Sat - 12:00nn—1:00pm  <b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION</b> Thu—after the 7pm Mass <i>Holy half hour with Night Prayer</i> Fri 10:00am-12:00nn with <i>Rosary for the unborn at 10am</i>  <b>OUTREACH</b> Thu from 12:00nn
16	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Maureen McClaren RIP Edwin Alvarez RIP	
17	Mon	<b>No Service</b>			
18	Tue	12:00nn		Joseph INT	
19	Wed	07:00pm		Ms Mary Anne Cornelius RIP	
20	Thu	07:00pm		Les Savege RIP	
21	Fri	12:00nn	St Peter Damian	Irene Cranstone RIP	
22	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	People of the Parish	
23	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Kathleen Nora Wallace RIP Zied Solomon RIP	

**REFLECTION**

What does it mean to be a Christian? We may sometimes think that it is about doing things – going to Mass on Sundays, going to confessions, saying our prayers, doing fasting and works of penance, or giving financially to a good cause. And although these have a certain place in our Christian life, ultimately being Christian is far more than this. Today’s readings give us great insight. It first involves a foundation of trust in God, which is based on our faith, a gift given to us, to believe in God and all that he has revealed to us and living a life in him. The Psalmist reminds us that “Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord” (Ps 40 (39): 5a) for as the Prophet Jeremiah says, “He is like a tree planted by water, that send out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heart comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.” (cf. First Reading: Jeremiah 17:8). This trust is based on the reality that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead, that he conquered sin, death, and destruction, and that we will rise again in glory (cf. Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20). With this in mind, we hear in today’s Gospel of how Christians are to be in the world through living out the Beatitudes. In a sense, it is a job description of the values, the attitude, the ethos that we stand for as being followers of Jesus Christ. In some of the Eastern Churches’ liturgies, the Beatitudes are sung almost every Sunday to remind the faithful of how important they are. Yes, the Beatitudes are radical, and go against the flow of the world and culture that we live in. But as Pope Francis mentions that “we can only practise them if the Holy Spirit fills us with his power and frees us from our weakness, our selfishness, our complacency and our pride.” (Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, 65) The Beatitudes make an excellent examination of conscious to see if our life is alighted to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Hearing the Word of God and celebrating the Eucharist together shapes and forms us to be more conformed to Jesus Christ and to be his living presence in the world through living out the Beatitudes.

*Reflection by Fr Anthony Fyck, Priest & Liturgist of Portsmouth Diocese*

**TO MAKE DONATIONS:**

For **BACS Transfer**: Account Name: **CDP Gosport** Account No.: **00878538** Sort Code: **30-93-04** . Make all cheques payable to **CDP Gosport**, or you may scan the QR code. Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are available in the office.

*Please Gift Aid your donations if possible.*



## PARISH KEY DATES

### FEBRUARY

**18 - Tue** The parish office will be closed for the day. This will not affect the church opening times

**22 - Sat 10:00am** ▪ RCIC Session ▪ In St Mary's Hall Upper room.

### MARCH

**01 - Sat 9:00am** ▪ First Holy Communion Catechism Session 4

**05 - Wed** ▪ **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**08 - Sat 10:00am** ▪ RCIC Session

**09 - Sun** ▪ **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

## THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

This week's second collection is for **Racial Justice**. The theme this year is 'Coat of Many Colours', reflecting the increasing diversity that exists in the churches in Britain and Ireland. One only has to reflect on verses that speak of a 'house of prayer for all nations' (Isaiah 56:7), the events of Pentecost (Acts 2) or the 'multitude ... from every nation' (Revelation 7:9-17), to see that ethnic diversity is part of God's divine plan. **You may also donate via our DONA machine located in the church foyer.**

## REPOSITORY

We are accepting pre-orders for the New Daily Missals, New Weekday Missals, and gift Missals. Please see our notice board for more information on costs or contact the parish office. If you wish to order Jubilee Rosaries, medals and keyrings, please speak to Elsie or contact the parish office.

## Jubilee 2025—Pilgrims of Hope

Portsmouth Diocese Jubilee Initiative - **St Joseph's Way**. The Jubilee of 2025 with the theme, "Pilgrims of Hope" opened on Dec. 24 with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Holy Doors were also opened at Rome's three other major basilicas: San Giovanni in Laterano, Santa Maria Maggiore and San Paolo Fuori Mura. To celebrate this year, all faithful are encouraged to celebrate through prayer, pilgrimage, acts of charity, and asking for a plenary indulgence.

In our diocese, the following shrine churches have been chosen by Bishop Philip as particular places of pilgrimage, and for the granting of the indulgence in the Year of Jubilee 2025: St Thomas (Jersey), Bournemouth Oratory, St John's Cathedral (Portsmouth), St Edmund's (Southampton), St James and St William of York (Reading), and St Joseph's (Guernsey).

To celebrate the Jubilee Year, one of the initiatives of the Portsmouth Diocese is to invite you to experience a beautiful pilgrimage. This dedicated pilgrim way called **St Joseph's Way** hopes to renew our relationship with God and become true missionaries and disciples of Christ. The route begins at St John's Cathedral, makes its way through St Coleman's, Cosham, through the Meon Valley towards Roley and then up to St Mary's, Alton, and across to St Joseph's, Aldershot, the Cathedral of St Michael and St George, and finally finishes at the shrine of St Joseph, Farnborough Abbey.

**For more information about the 2025 Jubilee, please take a copy of The Catholic Post available at the back of the church or by visiting [www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html](http://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html). In the next couple of weeks, we will provide more information about St Joseph's Way.**

## REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS

To have a Mass offered for your intentions, kindly use the envelopes at the back of the church. Please book in advance. The earliest available date is in April.

Tea and Coffee in St Mary's Hall every Sunday after the 11:15am Mass. Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat. *All tea & coffee donations go towards parish expenses.*

## PARISH SAFEGUARDING MINISTER POSITION STILL OPEN

We are committed to ensuring our parish and church community is a safe space for everyone. Safeguarding is an integral part of the life and ministry of the church. As a PSM, you will play a key role. please contact the parish office or speak to Fr Matthew or Dcn John if this is something you believe you can help the parish with.

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IS DEDICATED TO  
*The Holy Family*



## PASTORAL EVENTS

- **Quiz Night at St Philip Howard.** This is happening on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb, 7pm for 7.30pm start** in the Church hall. This is open to ages 12 and over. Make up a team of 6 or join in with others. Bring your own food and drink. This invitation is open to all within the pastoral area.
- **Discerning God's Will.** These sessions will be held at Scared Heart Catholic Church in Fareham, PO16 0NQ from 11am-3pm. The dates are: **22nd March, 3rd May and 28th June.** Fellowship, Formation and food. *Booking is required.* please email: [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## VOCATIONS

*"Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours."*  
A vocation to religious life calls for a life of simplicity and dedication to God's kingdom. Could God be calling you to this blessed path? Talk to Fr Matthew or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

## LIGHT OF TRUTH—LENTEN RETREAT

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph in Lymington organise retreats and Catholic formation courses. Next month, they are holding a Lenten Retreat entitled "The Sacrament of Hope" - reflecting on the Sacrament of reconciliation as the Sacrament of hope, to mark the 2025 Jubilee. The retreat will be held every Thursday starting 6 March at 7:30pm and will continue for 6 weeks. To register, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/msxmpdfr>

15-18 February is Jubilee of Artists / 21-23 February is Jubilee of Deacons



## PILGRIMAGES

- **Pilgrimage to Knock**. Escorted Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, **10<sup>th</sup> March 2025**. £799.00pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).
- **St Margaret Mary Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorje**. **14-21 May 2025** with Joe Walsh Tours and their team of Tour Guides. Cost £849 sharing a room, Staying at Hotel Royal, half board, flight and transfers included, insurance can be included. Coach from St Margaret Mary to and from Gatwick (cost approx £40) booking to be confirmed.
- **Diocesan Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage**. This will be led by Cn PJ Smith. **28th July - 4th Aug.** £1,350 incl. flights, accommodation, breakfast and dinner, travel in Rome, entrance and participation fees, a pilgrim pack and much more. For more info; [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)