



**St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**  
**Aldermoor Close, Coxford Road, Lordswood, Southampton**  
**Hampshire. SO16 5ST Office: 07887452313**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Thomas Parakandathil [tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
**Parish Administrator:** Lina Maria Speigal email: [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
**Newsletter editor:** Malcolm Forster email: [malcolmandrita@btinternet.com](mailto:malcolmandrita@btinternet.com)  
**Safeguarding Officer** Liz Challand [safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Administrator Lina Maria is available preferably by email on in emergency by the office telephone on Thursdays  
**Website:** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-vincent-de-paul/> (To open: Select link then Ctrl + left Click)  
**Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**

**No weekday Masses next week as Fr Thomas is away on a Spiritual Retreat at Ramsgate**

**1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23**

**1 Corinthians 15: 43-49**

**Gospel Luke 6: 27-38**

The first reading from Samuel is very dramatic. Vengeance is a fairly human emotion. When someone harms us we often want to get our own back. David had the death warrant of his enemy Saul in his hands yet he refused to pronounce it. He showed mercy rather than revenge and left it to God to pronounce it in His own way at the appropriate time. David's forgiveness of his one time friend turned adversary King Saul teaches us to love our enemies as it mentioned in Luke's Gospel. This example shown by David should be a lesson for us all to avoid the chance of harming someone who might not be our friend in fact may be a threat to us. King Saul was out to kill David if he had a chance but when David had a chance to kill Saul he showed mercy and told Abishai to spare him. We cannot compare the joy and strength in David's heart as he called out to Saul from the top of the mountain and the regret and weakness of Saul as he heard the voice of David. The power to forgive is a life-giving spirit that comes to us from heaven. The Reconciliation Programme led by Nelson Mandela in South Africa was an example of this. In the second reading from St Paul's letter to his friends the Corinthians in Greece, he makes a distinction between the first man Adam that became a living being and the last Adam, Jesus Christ, who was a life giving spirit. According to St Paul we can be modelled after the life giving spirit if we imitate the love of Jesus. Rather than remain mere living souls, we have what it takes to graduate to life giving spirits which is the love of Jesus just as David demonstrated in the first reading. Though Christ's new teaching, especially in Luke's Gospel, may seem difficult, it requires patience and a willingness to put others first and His spirit and grace will enable us to live these essential virtues and elements of our Christian life. When we strive to live like Christ we become an example for others, showing them a path to peace and love and reflect His goodness to the people around us. Luke's Gospel gives his version of the Beatitudes from the *Sermon on the Plain*. Jesus tells His disciples to love their enemies, do good to those who hate them and bless those who curse them. He emphasises forgiveness, non-retaliation, treating others as we wish to be treated and loving unconditionally like God. Jesus encourages us to give without expecting anything in return. This generosity reflects God's love for us and this radical message requires us not to just avoid hurting others but actively work for peace and justice in the world and so follow the example of Jesus and open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation. M

**Mass times**

**Feast Days**

<p><b>6 pm Confessions</b> <b>6.30pm Vigil Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> St Margaret of Cortona</b> Born about 1247 in Italy to a poor farming family. Her mother died when she was 7 years old and her father married again. Step mother treated Margaret badly and at age 17 she ran away. She eloped with a young nobleman she had met and she lived faithfully, unmarried as his mistress for 9 years in his castle and they had a son. The nobleman was murdered while collecting rent from his estate. His favourite dog led her to where he was buried by his assassins. Margaret returned to her father with her son to plead forgiveness but he refused to see her and his new wife would not let her stay. Margaret then sought refuge with the Franciscan friars in Cortona with her son. However, two women took them into their home while she contacted the Friars for advice of how to change her life. An austere life of fasting and penance was undertaken by Margaret to atone for living in sin. Her son eventually became a friar. When she reduced her extreme penances, she was allowed to join the <i>Third Order of St Francis</i> and managed to obtain a cottage where she cared for the sick and poor. She was then given a large house and other women joined in the work. She was then given support to start a hospital in Cortona for the sick, homeless and impoverished. She founded the <i>Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy</i> to support the work in the hospital. After all her penances she died on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1297 aged 50. Canonised in 1728 by Pope Benedict XIII when it was discovered that after over 400 years her body was incorrupt.</p>
<p><b>9.30 am Mass</b></p>	<p><b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  <b>Thanksgiving Mass for the baptism of David</b></p>
<p><b>NO MASS</b></p>	<p><b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> . St King Ethelbert of Kent</b> Born 550 as a pagan. Married to Christian daughter of the King of the Franks in France, Bertha. As King of Kent was the first Anglo-Saxon king to be converted to Christianity by St Augustine and his missionary monks who he then supported. Made sure Christianity was not forced on his subjects as was requested by Pope Gregory. Allowed churches to be restored and built. Founded St Pauls in London. He created fair and just laws in his kingdom. Died 24<sup>th</sup> February 616 aged 66. Buried next to his wife Bertha in monastery of St Peter and St Paul in Canterbury. First king in the south converted to Christianity.</p>
<p><b>NO MASS</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> St Walburga</b> Born in 708 in Devon to St Richard the Pilgrim, the King of the West Saxons and her mother St Wuna of Wessex, sister of St Boniface. Walburga had brothers St Willibald and St Winibald. She was educated at Wimborne monastery in Dorset, and joined as a nun. Copied and decorated manuscripts and learnt fine needlework and embroidery. Missionary in Germany with her uncle St Boniface and her brothers. Skilled in medicine. Abbess of German double monastery at Heidenheim east of Stuttgart. She died 25<sup>th</sup> February 779 aged 71 in presence of her brother Bishop Willibald. Laid to rest next to her brother Abbot Winibald at the monastery in Heidenheim</p>

<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> .St Paula Montal Fornés</b> Born in 1799 at the seaside town of Areyns de Mar near Barcelona in Spain, the eldest of five girls. Brought up by her parents as a devout Christian with a special devotion to Our Lady. Her father died when she was 10. Worked as a lace maker and seamstress to support the family. Also helped to care for her sisters and other children in the parish when she was older. Realised the lack of opportunity for girls to receive an education so opened schools to give secular, spiritual and vocational education called " <i>Pious Schools</i> ". Many of the teachers were living in community so she founded teaching Order of nuns to teach in them called " <i>Sisters of the Pious Schools</i> ". Large number joined Order and many schools opened all across Spain. Paula personally led the formation of the first 130 nuns. Last school she opened was in Olesa de Montserrat a few miles inland from Barcelona where she died aged 90 on 25 <sup>th</sup> February 1889.
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> St Anne Line</b> Born in Essex about 1563. Father was a rich Calvinist and Protestant reformer. Anne and her brother became Catholics and were then disowned. Married Roger Line from the New Forest, also a convert. Husband arrested and banished from England. After 10 years died in Flanders in 1594. Anne was asked by Jesuit Fr John Gerard to look after a "safe house" in London. Forced to continually move premises. Eventually arrested, found guilty of hiding priests and organising Masses. Executed 27 <sup>th</sup> February 1601 at Tyburn. One of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales.
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> St Oswald of Worcester</b> Born in about 925 in England of Danish parents. Educated by his uncle Odo, later Archbishop of Canterbury, and a Frankish tutor. Oswald became Dean of the secular canons of Winchester. Then a Benedictine monk at Fleury-sur-Loire, France. Returned to England where Archbishop Odo was dying. Helped Danish relative Archbishop Oskytel of York. Appointed Bishop of Worcester. Established a great musical tradition at Worcester. Founded many monasteries. Invited Continental scholars to teach in them. Church reformer. Made Archbishop of York but also stayed as Bishop of Worcester by permission of the pope. Died on Maundy Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February, Leap Year Day, 992 during feet washing in Worcester. Buried in Worcester Cathedral.
<b>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March St David of Wales</b> Born in about 500 during a storm, her mother a nun who had been raped by a Prince. Was educated at a monastery by Abbot St Paulinus A great preacher and teacher. Founded twelve monasteries including Glastonbury Abbey, Caldey Island and Mynyw in Pembrokeshire where he stayed. Led an austere life style. Only drank water and ate only bread, herbs and vegetables. Strict regime of religious activities and hard work in the fields, crafts and beekeeping. Bishop of Menevia in South Wales. Advisor to his uncle King Arthur. Missionary work in Wales and south of England as far as Winchester. Bishop David died on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 1601 aged about 101. Tomb at St David's Cathedral in Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire became a shrine and a place of pilgrimage.
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b> <b>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>

**PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION**

**Your prayers are needed for the following people**

Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	Fr Antony Gatt	
--------------	------------	-------------	---------------	-----------------	----------------	--

### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**No weekday Masses next week as Fr Thomas is away from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**  
Fr Thomas is attending a Spiritual Retreat at Ramsgate next week so is unable to celebrate weekday Masses.

**Please return old blessed Palm Leaves before Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February so they can be used on Ash Wednesday**

**Requiem Mass for Mrs Christina Ruth Gleeson on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 12 noon at St Vincent de Paul**

The funeral of Ruth Gleeson, widow of Deacon Paddy Gleeson, mother of Dee Heatley and mother in law of Joe Heatley, will take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. After the Requiem Mass. Fr Thomas will accompany the coffin to the Crematorium on his own as per family request. Everyone is cordially invited afterwards to attend King's Church across the road from St Vincent de Paul for refreshments.

**50 year celebration on the feast of St Vincent de Paul on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September this year at 9.30 am Mass.**

We wish to share 50 years of memories of the parish beginning with a celebration Mass followed by a breakfast buffet. All parishioners past and present are invited to attend. For the event we hope to put together a booklet of quotes and memories. Where you involved with the setting up of the parish? Do you have photographs? Did you get married in the parish or celebrate a baptism? Please email any memory to [lizchalland@btinternet.com](mailto:lizchalland@btinternet.com). Just a couple of sentences for each memory please. More details of the event and Mass to follow in Spring.

**Appeal for Raffle Prizes from Liz Challand**

Do you have any unwanted Christmas presents that you do not need and may be used as Raffle Prizes to raise funds for our parish of St Vincent de Paul? Any items please drop them into the Sacristy or church office.

**Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – 1pm to 3 pm**

This is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along with your friends.

No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of two hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat.

**Parish collection for last weekend 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February**

							Special Collection		
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Candle Money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£47	£11.75	£169.40	£242.54	£51.98	£522.67	£205.97	----	----	<b>£728.64</b>