



**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)  
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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>

**First Sunday of Lent Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Fr Thomas has a major operation on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Please remember him in your prayers**  
**Consequently there will be no week day Masses at St Vincent de Paul in the next few weeks**  
**Next weekend there will be a Special Second Collection for CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day**  
**Envelopes will be available after both Masses for Gift Aid contributions.**

**Deuteronomy 26: 4-10**

**Romans 10: 8-13**

**Gospel Luke 4: 1-13**

Last Wednesday we received ashes, were told to repent for our sins and believe in the Gospel, remembering we are dust and to dust we will return. We have started the period of Lent reflecting the 40 days of pray and fasting of Jesus in the desert. Number 40 is mentioned 150 times in the Bible and is the Biblical code for "a long period". The period of Lent from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday is actually 47 days and Sundays have to be removed to reach 40. Lent must be a period of spiritual renewal with prayer, fasting and acts of charity. Our deepest needs are not met by physical food and drink. We need spiritual nourishment listening to the teaching of Jesus to awaken in our own conscience a hunger for justice and solidarity. Among many things we can help save other people from hunger and misery. Fasting is saying NO to human desires and temptations just as Jesus did in Luke's Gospel, a dramatic confrontation with the Prince of Darkness. Unlike the witty Anglo-Irish literary figure Oscar Wilde who once wrote "*I can resist everything but temptation*". Some people today live with a self-indulgent moral code "*If it feels good, do it. Anything is all right so long as it does not hurt anybody*". Lent is the time to set our values and aims with Christ. In the first reading Moses refers to the Jews wandering in the desert to find a home. It reminds us of millions of people today who are on the move from one place to another in search of a better life, just as the forebears of the children of Israel. In the second reading St Paul tells the Romans that God's salvation is available to everyone who follows the teachings of Jesus. During Lent we must trust in God believing He will guide us and support us. We are called to deepen our trust in God through prayer, fasting and acts of charity. By relying on Him we can face any challenge and grow in our Christian faith. Malcolm

**Mass times**

**Feast Days**

<b>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> St John of God</b> Born 1495 in Portugal. Left home. Travelled with a priest to Spain. Was a shepherd. Joined Spanish army to fight the French. Then fought the Islamic Ottoman Turks in Europe for 18years. Distinguished military career. Went to Africa to release Christians from the Islamic Moors. Returned to Spain. Met John of Ávila who encouraged him to work with the poor. Had visions of infant Jesus and Virgin Mary. Opened a hospital, night shelter for homeless and a refuge for prostitutes in Granada, southern Spain.. Founded an Order of Brother Hospitallers of St John of God. Died 8 <sup>th</sup> March 1550. Funeral was a huge event followed by everyone in Granada.
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>6.30 pm Mass</b>	<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> St John Ogilvie</b> Born 1579 in Scotland, eldest son of Sir Walter Ogilvie, a respected Calvinist baron. Sent to Continent for education. Became a Catholic aged 17. Joined Jesuits and ordained a priest 1610 aged 31. Sent to Scotland 1613 to minister to the remaining Catholics. Arrested, tortured and accused of treason. His humour, wit, and courage impressed his persecutors and softened his treatment. Found guilty. Executed as a martyr in Glasgow 10 <sup>th</sup> March 1615.
<b>NO MASS Fr Thomas has his operation</b>	<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> St Maximilian of Tebessa</b> Born about 274 in Algeria. His father was a former soldier in Roman army. Recruiting for the Roman army when he was 21 years old and a Christian. Tall and strong and ideal for the army. Refused to swear allegiance to the Emperor and fight for Rome or take part in ceremonies to pagan gods. Conscience objector. Martyred as soldier of Christ
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> St Luigi Orione</b> Born in 1872 in Italy to poor parents. Favourite student of Don Bosco. Inspired by his education methods. In Turin seminary while training for priesthood, opened a school for poor boys. Ordained in 1895. Priests, lay brothers and laity helped in his projects of schools, vocational education, orphanages and nursing homes. Don Orione founded many Religious Orders. Orphans cared for after earthquakes. One of the first to use radio to evangelise. Had a printing press for religious books and pamphlets. Worked in Europe and South America. Devoted to Our Lady and built shrines to her. Died 12 <sup>th</sup> March 1940 surrounded by Orionine Order priests.
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Blessed Agnellus of Pisa</b> Born 1195 in Pisa, Italy to noble family. Franciscan recruited by Francis of Assisi Founded friary at University of Paris. Present at <i>Chapter of Mats</i> with Francis and 5,000 priests and friars. Sent with 7 others by Francis to England to establish the first Franciscan monasteries. First friaries in Canterbury, London and Oxford based on holy poverty. Founded theology school at Oxford University that had famous scholars. Friend of King Henry III. Influential in affairs of State as humble, prudent advisor and peace negotiator. Averted English civil war with rebel leader Richard Marshal in Wales.. 43 friaries in England at his death in 1236
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> .St Leobinus of Chartres</b> Born in France at the end of the 5 <sup>th</sup> century to peasant farmers. As a child he worked in the fields but was full of intellectual curiosity. Keen to learn he went to

	the local monastery. Carried out menial tasks all day and studied at night. Gained considerable religious knowledge. Spent time as a hermit with St Avitus. Joined monastery at Lyons Abbey. Five years later monastery was raided. Leobinus was tortured to disclose where the monastery treasurers were kept. Refused tell them and left for dead. Recovered and rejoined St Avitus at La Perche. Appointed Abbot of Brou and ordained a priest although he preferred the life of a monk. Then made the Bishop of Chartres a position of power. Wisely carried out many reforms and was involved in Fifth Council of Orleans and the Second Council of Paris. He died after a long illness on 14 <sup>th</sup> March 558					
<b>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> St Louise de Marillac</b> Born in France in 1591 out of wedlock. Lived among the French aristocracy and educated in royal monastery. Wanted to be a nun. Rejected due to poor health. Uncle arranged a marriage. Had a son. Husband lost his job in the royal court after civil unrest. He suffered chronic illness and was cared for by Louise. She became depressed. Vincent de Paul gave her a new challenge in Paris to help the poor. She founded <i>Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul</i> that worked in the community and hospitals. Later called <i>Sisters of Charity</i> . Died on 15 <sup>th</sup> March 1660					
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Second Sunday of Lent</b> <b>Pat, John and Peter Moon RIP</b>					
<b>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</b>						
<b>Your prayers are needed for the following people</b>						
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Mary Light	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	Ann Drumgoole	

### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Fr Thomas has a major operation on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Southampton General Hospital**

He will be in hospital for a few days after the operation as his mobility and speech will be severely affected for a period. Consequently there will be no week day Masses for a few weeks. Please remember Fr Thomas in your prayers that he has a successful operation and recovers as quickly as possible.

**CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day on Friday on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Special Collection at next weekend Masses**

As the parish can now only collect gift aid on contributions to the parish and diocese, charities such as CAFOD can only collect gift aid themselves if individuals paying tax give them their details. Consequently CAFOD envelopes will be given out after Masses this weekend so that people can donate with their details so CAFOD can claim gift aid.

**Next SVP Social on Wednesday 19<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.

**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.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Catechist's Formation Day on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**10 am to 4 pm at Immaculate Conception Church, 346 Portswood Road, Southampton SO17 3SB**

A day to explore the fundamentals of RCIA's catechesis led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, with time for prayer, reflection and discussion. Suitable for all levels of experience from beginners seeking an introduction to adult catechesis to experienced catechesis looking for a refresher in the principles of RCIA.

Programme: 10am: Mass, 10.30: What is catechesis? 11.40: What is RCIA? 12.40: Prayer and Lunch (bring your own) 1.30: RCIA catechesis in my parish, 2.40: Q&A, 3.30: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 4pm: Departure

To find out more or to book contact: [office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org](mailto:office@southamptoncitycentrecatholics.org) Canon Michael Dennehy.



**“What Does Poverty Look Like Here in Southampton” document.**

The first draft of the document has been produced by Portsmouth Diocese's Caritas to aid in work on the “Church Beyond Walls”. Jenny LeLean is coordinating a group we hope will be made of people from across all our parishes who have local knowledge about the needs of our communities in Southampton and can complete this form <https://forms.office.com/e/ajF6AGysR8> or scan the QR code for the form.

Answers will be used to support planning for future missionary outreach.

**Parish collection for last weekend 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

						Special Collection			
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£147	£36.75	£161.42	£242.54	£51.98	£639.69	----	----	----	<b>£639.69</b>