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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S

The Catholic Church in Gosport

22 June 2025 - CORPUS CHRISTI (Year C)



ST MARY'S WEBSITE



ST MARY'S FACEBOOK

21	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Anjinette Mabanta RIP	CONFESSION TIMES Thu 6:15pm-6:45pm <i>(if Mass is celebrated)</i> Sat - 12:00nn—1:00pm EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Thu—after the 7pm Mass <i>Holy half hour with Night Prayer</i> Fri 10:00am—12:00nn OUTREACH Thu from 12:00nn
22	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Corpus Christi <i>(The Body & Blood of Christ)</i>	People of the Parish Zied Solomon RIP	
23	Mon	No Service			
24	Tue	12:00nn	The Nativity of St John the Baptist	William Mansfield INT	
25	Wed	12:00nn		Donato & Marciana Alvarez RIP	
26	Thu	07:00pm		Muriel O'Donell RIP	
27	Fri	12:00nn	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Deceased of the Alvarez Family	
28	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Betty & Nelly Wainwright	
29	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Saints Peter & Paul	Marie & Gilly McDermott RIP People of the Parish	

REFLECTION

Reflection by Fr Gaston Forbah, parish priest of English Martyrs Reading.

Today's celebration reminds us of the priceless gift Jesus generously offered to his Church – his very own body and blood. The magnificence of this gift was beautifully captured by St Maximilian Kolbe who said: "If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion".

- Jesus offers his body and blood both as sacrifice and as food.
- As sacrifice, Jesus offers his very own life as ransom for our sins. He offers himself as a sacrifice of thanksgiving, pleasing to the Father (Cf. CCC 1360).
- By this generous act of self-offering, Jesus presents himself as the eternal high priest, foreshadowed by the Priest Melchisedek who makes an offering of bread and wine to Abram (Cf. 1st Reading).
- Each time Holy Mass is celebrated, Jesus' body and blood are offered up in thanksgiving to God for remission our sins. Jesus continues to sacrifice himself even today for our reconciliation with God and one another.
- The Church teaches thus: "The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits, for all that he has accomplished" (Cf. CCC 1360).
- Jesus also offers his body and blood as nourishment for our souls. Jesus is the bread of life, as he says in John's gospel account: "whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (Cf. Jn. 6:54-56).
- Jesus seeks to satisfy our most profound hunger – our spiritual hunger. His heart is moved with pity when we are weak and desolate (Cf. Gospel).
- At the last supper, he commanded his apostles to continue feeding his followers with his body and blood – "do this in remembrance of me" (Cf. 2nd Reading).
- Jesus is aware that the Christian journey is not an easy endeavour. He knows we need spiritual strength, comfort and healing. He provides these and more when we worthily receive him in the Holy Eucharist.
- Let us always approach the Holy Eucharist with due reverence, for in it, we meet Jesus himself. "In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained" (Cf. CCC 1374).

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

June

27 - Fri - Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

29 - Sun - First Holy Communion at the 11:15am Mass

27 JUNE - FEAST OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Please join us! 27th of June is also the Annual Worldpriest Global Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests. We are being asked to 'Pray the Rosary, unite with our country, and help encircle the world in prayer'. **There will be a Rosary at 10am during the Adoration and a special Sacred Heart prayer service after the 12nn Mass.**



Jubilee 2025—Pilgrims of Hope

20-22 June Jubilee of Governments

23-24 June Jubilee of Seminarians

25 June Jubilee of Bishops

25-27 June Jubilee of Priests



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE

To all parents of our FHC candidates, please take note of these dates:

28 Sat - FHC Rehearsals

29 Sun—First Holy Communion

July 05 Sat - Last Session

06 Sun - Going Forth Mass

Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK - PETER'S PENCE

Peter's Pence is the name for the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church, and for the relief of those most in need. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are destined to Church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. Use <https://tinyurl.com/bdfxvrfc> if you wish to donate online, or you may use our electronic plate at the back of the church.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS—REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PROJECT

We would like to invite our keen knitters to take part in a special project for Remembrance Sunday. We know it is still a few months away, but we are planning ahead! Whether you are an experienced knitter or just starting out, your contribution is very welcome. Every poppy will count and will add meaning to this tribute to those who served and sacrificed. Please contact Clarinda in the parish office for further details.

TABLE TOP SALE IN JULY!

Our Fundraising Team is organising a Table Top Sale in the parish hall and in front of St Mary's on the 26th of July, Saturday. They need various items for the sale. And volunteers to help run the stalls. Please speak to Annette after the 11:15am Mass or contact her at 07930833971 if you wish to help. Thank you!

PARISH MASS BOOKS - DID YOU KNOW?

Thank you, once again, to the kind parishioner who donated our new set of Mass Books! Did you know that if you turn the Parish Mass Book to page 229, you will see a selection of beautiful "Thoughts and Prayers"? Have a look as you will find the prayers useful.

ADULT BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

Are you interested in **becoming a Catholic** or do you know someone who is? Did you miss out on the **Sacrament of Confirmation** as a teenager and would like to be confirmed? Please speak to Fr. Matthew or Dcn John, or email the parish office.



There is Tea and Coffee in St Mary's Hall every Sunday after the 11:15am Mass. Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat and help raise funds to support various parish initiatives. If this is something you believe you can help the parish with, please speak to Mike and Anne for more information.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp is donated by Donna Sherley in memory of Agnes Bascom. May she rest in peace. ✠



PARKING AT ST MARY'S

When parking, please be aware of local restrictions along Minnitt Road and Mumby Road to avoid receiving a parking ticket. Please contact the parish office if you plan on using the church carpark on weekdays. Our limited parking space is included with hall hire, so please ensure that you take note of this. As an alternative, the Minnitt Road South Car Park is available with 1-hour free (ticket required) and £1.50 for an additional hour. Maximum stay is 2 hours. Disabled Badge Holders are exempt from payment - however please adhere to maximum 2-hour time limit.

LOST AND FOUND

A number of personal items have been left behind at some point in the church, including a bunch of keys found just outside the church. They are currently being held in the parish office. If you believe you may have misplaced something, please speak to Clarinda to inquire or claim your item. **Any unclaimed items will be disposed of accordingly if not collected by the end of June. Thank you.**

PRAYERS NEEDED

Let us pray for all the victims of the tragic airplane crash in Ahmedabad in India as well as their families and loved ones. Let us commend the souls of the deceased to the mercy of the Almighty. ✠



PARISHIONERS' CORNER - JENNY TAYLOR

Jenny Taylor is participating in the Run For Life—Portsmouth 10K 2025 to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. Please sponsor Jenny by filling in the form at the back of the church. After the 11:15am Mass, Jenny will be at the back of the church with the sign up form. Thank you.

The Tree of Hope

As we journey through the Jubilee Year 2025, we are called to be *Pilgrims of Hope*—walking in faith, trusting in God, and keeping Christ at the centre of our journey. This project is now underway.

How to Take Part: Visit the Lady Chapel (right hand side of the sanctuary, and you will find *Packs of Hope* to take home and bring back any time during the week or Sunday. Alternatively, you may simply write your prayers and messages on the leaf and dove cutouts available. There is no right or wrong way to do this, and there is no limit - just let your heart guide you. **Let us watch our Tree of Hope grow. Come, be a part of it.**



CANONISATION ANNOUNCEMENT: THE SAINTS OF YOUTH

the Holy Father announced that London-born **Blessed Carlo Acutis alongside Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati will be canonised together on 7 September.** The canonisations of the two young saints – one from the early twentieth century, the other the first millennial saint – have been greatly anticipated due to the great devotion among the faithful.

RETRouvaille CATHOLIC MINISTRY

Marriages in difficulty? Do you feel alone? Frustrated, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille might be able to help. No group therapy or group work. Email info@retrouvaille.org.uk or contact 07887 296 983