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Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 13th July 2025

WEEKDAY MASSES ARE BACK NEXT WEEK

Fr Thomas thanks everyone for the prayers and help. See personal message in Notices.

Page 108	Deuteronomy 30: 10-14	Colossians 1: 15-20	Gospel Luke 10: 25-37
<p>The first reading is from Deuteronomy which means “second law”. It contains sermons by Moses to the Israelites given on the plains of Moab as the Israelites were about to enter Canaan. He was reiterating the covenant between God and Israel, emphasising the importance of God’s law. He told them that God’s commandments are not beyond their reach or hard to understand, they are close and in their hearts, ready to be followed with all their heart and soul. The laws were meant to shape people who loved God and cared for one another. Over time, as Jewish society changed from a collection of small farms to a more urban culture some laws became harder to understand or apply. They began to focus more on rules about purity than on caring for others. This importance of love for those we meet and are in need is reflected in Luke’s Gospel.</p> <p>The second reading from St Paul’s letter to the Colossians who lived in what is now south west Turkey, is to a community facing many challenges to their faith. He highlights that Jesus is the foundation of creation and our faith. Everything exists through Him and is united in Him and the reading shows Jesus as the one who holds all things together. It is a hymn about Christ’s role in creation and redemption. He is the visible image of God. He is the first born of all creation and through His death He brings peace and unity to all things in heaven and earth. Our faith unites us with Him and with one another.</p> <p>Luke’s Gospel tells the story of a man who travels on his own from Jerusalem to Jericho. The city of Jerusalem is located 750 metres above sea level and Jericho is 250 metres below sea level. Consequently the traveller had to descend 1,000 metres crossing 25 kilometres of steep barren land on a winding narrow path notorious for robbers. In the parable Jesus is saying even if people have been foolish and have contributed in some way to the situation, we must not moralise but show compassion and respond to their needs. Using a Samaritan makes it even more powerful for a Jewish audience. Malcolm.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 12th St Veronica Not clear if Veronica had contact with Jesus before she wiped His face with her veil. Her action is the 6 th Station of the Cross. It is claimed she took her cloth with the miraculous image of Christ and cured the battle wounds of Roman Emperor Tiberius in Rome. Over the centuries there has been great devotion to <i>Veronica’s veil</i> and the <i>Holy Face of Jesus</i> .		
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 13th July	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 14th St Camillus de Lellis Born in 1550 in Italy. His elderly mother wanted him to be a holy child. Grew up with his father’s temper, very tall and joined his father in Venetian army. Able soldier, gambler with alcohol addiction and an aggressive nature. Then wounded. His regiment disbanded. Penniless from gambling worked as a labourer in monastery. Entered the Capuchin novitiate. Had to enter hospital due to leg wound. Paid for hospital stay by work with sick and dying. Met St Philip Neri which changed his way of life to austerity and penance. Encouraged reforms in the hospital of proper insulation, kinder treatment of patients, good nutrition, fresh air, sunshine, cleanliness and isolation of infectious patients. Great improvement in health and survival. Bursar, then superintendent of hospital. Realised he needed trained and dedicated people to help him, possibly a religious Order. St Philip advised him to join Jesuits first. Entered Jesuits in Rome. Ordained a priest in 1584 aged 34. Founded <i>Servants of the Sick</i> containing religious and lay members. Included priests and brothers dedicated to serving the sick. Wore a “red cross” on their cassocks. Worked in hospitals and on battlefields. Known as <i>Camillians</i> .		
10 am Mass	Tuesday 15th St Swithun Anglo-Saxon born about 800 in Winchester. Joined Benedictine monastery in Winchester. Ordained a priest. Chaplain and counsellor to King Egbert of Wessex based in Winchester. Advisor to his son King Ethelwolf after being his tutor when he was a monk. Bishop of Winchester in 852. Humble, pious and helped the poor. Invited them to banquets instead of nobles. Built many churches and the first stone bridge over the River Itchen at Winchester later called “St Swithun’s Bridge”. It is claimed a miracle occurred when a poor peasant woman was crossing the bridge with a collection of eggs but was jostled by the crowd and dropped the eggs. St Swithun made her broken eggs whole again. He paid visits to all parts of his diocese by foot. Died 2 nd July 863. Buried at the entrance to the Cathedral at his request. 100 years later his body was moved into a new Cathedral, named after him on 15 th July 971 and it rained for 40 days. Legend then developed that if it rained on his feast day it would rain for 40 days. Move into huge magnificent new Norman Cathedral in the eleventh century. Large shrine behind high altar for pilgrims. Shrine was looted and destroyed at the Reformation. In 1962 a modern shrine was constructed on the site of the original.		

<p>6.30 pm Mass</p> <p>SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm</p>	<p>Wednesday 16th Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mount Carmel overlooks the Mediterranean Sea near the modern port of Haifa in Israel. Christian hermits built a monastery there with the Virgin Mary chapel which gained the name <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>. Monks took the name <i>Carmelites</i> and wore a brown habit. 16th July feast day comes from the date Our Lady appeared to St Simon Stock, Father General of the Carmelites in 1251. He was an Englishman and the apparition occurred in the English town of Aylesford in Kent. She appeared to him as “Our Lady of Mount Carmel” and gave him the <i>Brown Scapular</i>, a type of work apron with large pieces of cloth front and back joined over the shoulders which became part of the Carmelite habit. The “<i>Sabbatine Privilege</i>” was a promise from the Blessed Virgin that nobody who died wearing the Brown Scapular would suffer eternal fire in Hell. Modern Carmelites no longer hold this belief and are unsure about the validity of the apparition.</p>
<p>10 am Mass</p>	<p>Thursday 17th Blessed Pavol Peter Gojdic Born 1888 in Prešov in the mountains of East Slovakia the son of a Greek Catholic priest. Studied theology and ordained a priest in 1911 in Budapest. Assistant priest in his father’s parish before becoming a teacher of religion in a secondary boarding school. Appointed assistant parish priest where he did pastoral work. Also worked in the Bishop’s Chancery. Achieved rank of Chancellor but decided diocesan administration did not attract him. In 1922 entered Nicholas Monastery and made vows in the Order of St Basil the Great and took the name Pavol. Concentrated on pastoral work. “With God’s help, I want to be a father to orphans, a support for the poor, consoler to the afflicted”. Made Bishop of Prešov. Built orphanages, founded schools and established new parishes. Bishop of Czechoslovakia in 1946. Communists seized power in 1948 and suppressed the Greek Catholic Church wanting to break any link with Rome. Fr Pavol strongly opposed the Communist regime and preached against it. Refused to join Orthodox Church and was tried for treason and found guilty. Imprisoned in 1950 and died in prison 17th July 1960.</p>
<p>NO MASS</p>	<p>Friday 18th July St Pope Leo IV Born in 790 in Rome. Became a Benedictine monk. Then selected by Pope Gregory IV to serve in Papal Curia. He showed excellent judgement and made Cardinal Priest. When Pope Sergius died he was unanimously elected the new Pope Leo IV without consent of Emperor who was upset at his religious and secular reforms. Outstanding Pope in the manner of his time. Defended Rome against the Saracens by building defences. Repaired churches including St Peter’s and St Paul Outside the Walls. He restored St Martin’s monastery where he was educated. Anointed a young Alfred who was on pilgrimage to Rome who became King Alfred the Great. Organised naval campaigns. Presided over Synod in Rome concerning ecclesiastical reform. He was always fair, patient and humble with skilful political and diplomatic abilities. Pope Leo was greatly loved by the people for all his work.</p>
<p>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Hazel McMahon RIP 10th anniversary</p>	<p>Saturday 19th St Macrina the Younger Born in 327 in Caesarea, Cappadocia, now Turkey, into a remarkable family full of saints, eldest of 10 children. Grandmother was St Macrina the Elder, both parents were saints, 3 brothers were saints and a brother was a famous legal scholar. Educated well mainly by mother and grandmother but concentrated on religious works rather than classical literature. Helped in education of her younger siblings for a holy and austere life. Father arranged a marriage for Macrina but the holy nobleman died before the wedding. She declared herself a widow and took a vow of celibacy. Founded a Convent and became one of the most important and famous nuns in the Eastern Church. Her brother St Gregory wrote <i>Life of Macrina</i> which described her sanctity. She died in 379 and her brother St Peter added a monastery to the Convent. To commemorate Macrina, St Gregory wrote a <i>Dialogue on the Soul and Resurrection</i>.</p>
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>	<p>Sunday 20th July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Trevor Delves</p>
<p>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</p>	
<p>Your prayers are needed for the following people</p>	
<p>Sue Chandler Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves Fr Shaun Budden Ann Drumgoole</p>	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Personal message of thanks from Fr Thomas

Many thanks to all ! I have been going through a challenging time following my recent surgery. During that period your constant prayers, care and support helped me a lot. Your kindness gave me strength, comfort and hope during a very difficult period. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. I am deeply grateful. Fr Thomas.

Next SVP Social is next Wednesday 16th July – 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 5th and 6th July

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
£90	£22.50	£199.02	£242.54	£51.98	£606.04				£606.04