



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 27th July 2025

Page 114	Genesis 18: 20-32	Colossians 2: 12-14	Gospel Luke 11: 1-11
<p>The readings this weekend invite us to reflect on the gift of prayer and our relationship with God. Through the readings we learn how to speak with God, trust in Him in all circumstances and remain persistent in prayer. These reflections help us deepen our faith and open our hearts to God's care and mercy. From Abraham's bold negotiation with God in Genesis to Paul's profound theology of baptism in Colossians and finally to Luke's account of Jesus teaching his disciples to pray, we witness the evolution of prayer across the history of salvation. These readings challenge us to examine our own prayer life while offering practical wisdom for deepening our conversations with God.</p> <p>The first reading from Genesis is a remarkable passage in which Abraham engaged in a bold negotiation with God when he intercedes for the people over the fate of Sodom, trusting in God's justice and compassion. Abraham's boldness in speaking to God shows that we too can approach Him with our worries and hopes. God listens when we pray for others and seeks to help us in ways we may not always see. This reminds us to care deeply for others and trust in God's kindness.</p> <p>In the reading from the Colossians St Paul is writing to a community and his theology of baptism adds another dimension by grounding prayer in our identity as those united with Christ. We pray not merely as creatures to the Creator but as adopted children to the Father. This baptismal identity transforms prayer from petition to participation in divine life.</p> <p>In Luke's Gospel, as with Abraham, as Jesus teaches his disciples to pray He reinforces the same message not to just pray with words but with persistence. Praying the Lord's Prayer thoughtfully can help us grow closer to God. Reflecting on each part of the prayer encourages us to align our lives with its meaning, trusting in God's care and mercy. Malcolm.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 26 th St Joachim and St Anne Parents of the Virgin Mary, both from the royal house of David. Their lives were occupied in prayer and good works. Anne was an aged woman by Jewish standards on the birth of their only child. With the birth of Mary, Anne began a new life, watching her every movement with reverent tenderness. Mary was presented in the Temple aged 3		
	9.30 am Mass	Sunday 27 th July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Trevor Delves
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 28 th St Samson of Dol Born 485 in South Wales to elderly noble parents. Educated by St Illtyd, abbot of monastery in South Wales. Proved to be academic, virtuous and austere as a monk. Ordained deacon and priest. Moved to another monastery on Caldey Island off south coast of Wales. Gave the last rites to his father who recovered. Both his parents wanted a monastic life. Mother went to a Convent and father and his uncle went with Samson to Caldey Island. Abbot Pyr then fell down a well drunk and died. Samson became abbot and reformed monastic life of monks. Accompanied visiting Irish monks to Ireland. Back in Wales sent his uncle to be superior of monastery in Ireland that had asked for help. Samson retired as abbot and with his father and 2 other monks became hermits. Then made to be abbot of monastery and a bishop. Travelled ensuring orthodox monastic practices in Cornwall, Scilly Islands, Guernsey and finally Normandy as well as founding new monasteries, one at Dol where he stayed. Appointed Bishop of Dol. Attended <i>Council of Paris</i> . Abbot Samson died peacefully among his monks at Dol monastery on 28 th July 565 aged 80.		
	10 am Mass	Tuesday 29 th St Martha of Bethany The dominant and active sister compared to Mary of Bethany who was the quiet contemplative sister. Sister of Lazarus. Bethany was a small village 2 miles from Jerusalem so Jesus often visited and stayed with the family. She took the initiative at the death of her brother Lazarus. Life summed up by statement "Martha served".	
6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 30 th St Peter Chrysologus Born in 380 in Bologna, Italy. Educated by Bishop Cornelius of Imola. Initially lived as a monk. Then made archdeacon. When Archbishop of Ravenna died, people chose a person to replace him. Peter went with Cornelius to Rome to obtain approval. However, Pope Sixtus appointed Peter as Bishop of Ravenna. Known as "Doctor of Homilies" for his short concise but theological rich reflections. He advocated daily reception of Eucharist. Opposed monophysitism heresy. As Archbishop of Ravenna he built churches and improved the Cathedral. Archbishop Peter Chrysologus died on 31 st July 450 aged 70.		
	10 am Mass	Thursday 31 st St Ignatius of Loyola Born in 1491 at Loyola Castle in Basque area of Spain. Last of 13 children. Mother died soon after his birth and was brought up by blacksmith's wife. Became a page. Joined army aged 17. Was a fancy dresser, expert dancer, womaniser, playboy, sensitive to insult and good swordsman involved in many duels. Used his privileged status to escape prosecution for violent crimes. He was involved in many battles from 1509 aged 18. In 1521 his leg was shattered by a cannonball. Taken prisoner by French. His leg was not set properly. Returned to his father's castle in Loyola to recover. Underwent operations on his leg. While recovering he read religious	

works. Decided to be *Knight of Christ*. Went on pilgrimage to Holy Land to convert Muslims. Sent home for causing trouble. At University studied philosophy and theology. Wrote *Spiritual Exercises*. Started to call himself Ignatius. Questioned by the Spanish Inquisition. Left Spain for Paris. He gathered a group of six companions. Decided to go to the Holy Land from Venice but delayed. Ordained a priest in 1537 in Venice. Six companions were all now priests and started preaching and tending sick and poor in nearby Vicenza. Group grew to nine and went to Rome to put themselves at the disposal of Pope Paul III. All co-founders of "The Society of Jesus" – the Jesuits. Dedicated to teaching, preaching and ministering to the poor and sick. New Order to be flexible to the needs of the age. Also to the conversion of Muslims and evangelisation in distant countries. However, they became involved in combating Protestant movements. Most of the English mission after the Reformation were Jesuits. Many of the English and Welsh martyrs were Jesuits. There were 1,000 Jesuits when Ignatius died. 25,000 by the end of 20th century. Pope Francis was a Jesuit.

NO MASS

Friday 1st August St Æthelwold of Winchester Born in Winchester between 904 and 909. Courtier and companion to King Athelstan. Ordained a priest by the Bishop of Winchester at the same time as the bishop's nephew, Dunstan. So started a great friendship. He studied in Winchester. Became a monk at Glastonbury Abbey where Dunstan was abbot. Abbot of Abingdon monastery where he established Benedictine Rule and discipline reforms copied from French monasteries. In 955 the new 16 year old King Eadwig who had very bad morals, exiled Dunstan, by then Bishop of London, to France. Abbot Æthelwold became one of his advisors to try to control the king's accesses. King Eadwig died after 4 years and his brother King Edgar, who had been taught as a boy by Abbot Æthelwold, succeeded him. Dunstan returned from exile and was made Archbishop of Canterbury. Abbot Æthelwold helped the king with many of the charters of the time. In 963 Archbishop Dunstan consecrated him Bishop of Winchester. Again carried out reforms replacing clerics by monks from Abingdon. Founded a nunnery in Winchester and many monasteries elsewhere. Had strong support from King Edgar and his Queen Ælfthryth for his establishing of the Rule of St Benedict. King Edgar died; succeeded by King Edward his son by a former marriage. Queen Ælfthryth wanted her son Ethelred to be king. 3 years later King Edward the Martyr was murdered in Corfe Castle in Dorset, most likely the victim of his step-mother Queen Ælfthryth. Bishop Æthelwold personal skill helped build a large church organ at Winchester. Skilled as a goldsmith and metalworker, producing many precious items. Also a skilled bell founder. He rebuilt the Old Minster, and named it after St Swithun. In 971 he moved St Swithun's relics into the new cathedral and it rained for 40 days

6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass

Saturday 2nd St Eusebius of Vercelli Born in 283 in Sardinia. His father died as a martyr. Mother took him and his sister to Rome. He was trained as a lector and moved to Vercelli in northern Italy. Became so popular the people chose him as Bishop of Vercelli. Enforced semi monastic rule for his clergy and lived in community with them. He strongly defended Christian orthodoxy against the heresy of Arianism and was inspired by St Athanasius, Patriarch of Alexandria who wrote the *Athanasius Creed*, using some of the work of Bishop Eusebius. A Synod was called in Milan in 355 by Roman Emperor Constantius to address dispute between orthodox and Arian beliefs. This caused irreconcilable arguments so the Emperor, who was a supporter of Arianism, banished three of the orthodox bishops including Eusebius. Sent to Syria in care of Arian bishop who ill-treated him trying to make him change his orthodox beliefs. Emperor died in 361 and new Emperor set free the 3 bishops. Before returning to their diocese tried to establish peace and orthodoxy in Eastern Church. Had Council of Alexandria with Patriarch Athanasius. Decided to deal mildly with repentant clergy but harshly with those who not change from Arian beliefs. Bishop Eusebius then returned to his diocese of Vercelli in Italy. He then opposed Arianism in Western Church with Bishop Hilary of Poitiers

9.30 am Mass Sunday 3rd August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION

Your prayers are needed for the following people

Sue Chandler Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves Fr Shaun Budden Ann Drumgoole

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 6th August – 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 28th September this year at 9.30am 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. Please email any memory to lizchalland@btinternet.com. Just a couple of sentences for each memory please. More details of the event and Mass to follow.

Parish collection for last weekend 19th and 20th July

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	First Holy Communion	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£88	£22	£179.26	£242.54	£51.98	£583.78	£334			£917.78