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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S

The Catholic Church in Gosport



ST MARY'S WEBSITE



ST MARY'S FACEBOOK

03 August 2025 - EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

02	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Clarinda Mansfield INT	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
03	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<i>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	People of the Parish William Crispo Mansfield INT	
04	Mon	No Service			
05	Tue	No Service			
06	Wed	No Service			
07	Thu	No Service			
08	Fri	12:00nn	St Dominic	Private Intention	
09	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	People of the Parish	
10	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	A.V Joseph RIP Cristin Kosche RIP	

REFLECTION

A reflection written by Fr Paul Lyons, priest in the diocese of Portsmouth.

The first chapter of Ecclesiastes considers the spectrum of human nature, with all of its limitations and vulnerabilities, and offers warnings relating to all human activity undertaken while living in the world.

While this text may appear pessimistic and degrading of human effort, its power and influence is as important today as when it was first written. Therefore, its message suggests that while all things are impermanent, the value of human giftedness can only flourish when all things are considered as a gift from God.

The human effort therefore, has the background context of God's creation and the fruitfulness of human labour in that context.

This passage asks the question about our priorities and emphasises that labour, and the value of work cannot be productive when 'grasping' and 'acquisition' are uppermost in human striving.

All that is worked for must consider, not selfish ends, but the wellbeing of all - a moving away from self, with focus on the universal good, such as the distribution of food to the poor and environmental integrity.

In the letter to the Colossians, Paul's theme considers "the true knowledge" that is essential to human effort and its applications; the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus supplies the key to all human functioning and aspirations, "because the life you are now living is based upon a consciousness of Christ in all things". When this becomes our top priority and concern, our endeavour and work will bear fruit. And so "when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Jesus takes up these themes in Mark's gospel and attentiveness, right vision, and understanding enhances the observations and comments in the first two readings - "watch and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs". Jesus illustrates this message with a parable, life is unpredictable, and being so, the priorities of creation and human endeavour must reflect the intentions of God the creator - the capacity to 'let go' of all things in order to find eternal life.

Source: theliturgyproject.com

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 UPDATES

- **Children's Liturgy** - the group is having a break this August. The next session for the children will be on the 14th of September.

Thank you to all the parents and catechists!

Advance Notice

The parish office will be closed on these dates which may affect the opening of the church on Mondays

04 Aug Mon - St Mary's Church will be closed.

05-07 Aug Tue-Wed - **No Noon Mass.** Fr Matthew will be on a break.

25 Aug Mon - Bank Holiday. St Mary's Church will be closed.

SUCCESSFUL TABLE TOP SALE

Well done, Fundraising Team! You raised £480.94! This will support the ongoing needs of our parish. Thank you to all who supported the table top sale event! Until next time!

TO OUR CATECHISTS, THANK YOU!!

We are deeply grateful to all our volunteer Catechists and Assistant Catechists who provided support in the Children's Liturgy and the First Holy Communion programme. Thank you for generously giving your time and valuable resources to this wonderful ministry!



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PROJECT

We would like to invite our keen knitters to take part in a special project for Remembrance Sunday. Whether you are an experienced knitter or just starting out, your contribution is welcome. Every poppy will count and will add meaning to this tribute to those who served and sacrificed. **You may start dropping off your finished poppies in the parish office. Thank you!**



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

15th of August is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. *This is a significant celebration in the Catholic Church, highlighting Mary's role in salvation. It is a day of joy and reflection on the mysteries of faith and the hope of resurrection.* Please take note of the following Services here at St Mary's:



14 Aug Thursday 6:00pm (Vigil Mass)

15 Aug Friday 12:00nn

15 Aug Friday 7:00pm (Pastoral Area Mass)

Painting of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary by Pieter Fransz de Grebber.

MASS INTENTIONS

To have a Mass offered for your intentions, kindly use the envelopes at the back of the church. You may book in advance. There are still available dates in August.

COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

The Rosary group meets every night at 8pm on WhatsApp. If you would like to join and participate in praying the Rosary as part of the group please contact Anthonia 07773185812 or Clare 07774664409. Thank you.

GET INVOLVED - SAY YES TO MINISTRY!

Have you ever felt a tug on your heart to do more, to give back, to get involved? The opportunities to serve in St Mary's is endless. Whether you have an hour or two a week or just a willingness to assist, there is a place for you: from helping in the liturgy, music, catechesis, hospitality, outreach, or behind-the-scenes support, your time and talents can make a real difference. **Interested? Please speak to Fr Matthew, Dcn John, or contact the parish office.**



MULTICULTURAL MASS IN SEPTEMBER!

Following last year's successful International Mass, we are holding it again on the 14th of September. If you wish, you are welcome to wear traditional attire or something that represents your roots or culture: a beautiful reminder of the rich diversity of our parish that is united in Christ. Pls speak to Clarinda in the parish office if you need more information. Thank you.



CATHOLIC FESTIVAL "WITNESS TO HOPE"

CELEBRATE FESTIVAL 'Witness to Hope' A Catholic festival for all the family **6th - 20th August At Worth Abbey, West Sussex.** Join CELEBRATE for a relaxed, faith filled festival. All are very welcome. Visit; www.celebratetrust.org/festival

CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTHDAY OF ST FAUSTINA

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at **Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm.** The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for information.

THANKSGIVING & HEALING MASS

St Vincent de Paul in Fareham extends their invitation for a joint Thanksgiving and Healing Mass. It will be on the **6th August 2025 at 1:30pm at St Philip Howard - Fareham.** There will be tea & coffee provided by SVP afterwards. Pls note that there is a new car parking system employed at SPH and you will need to ensure you register your vehicle on your arrival to avoid a parking fine.

A TALK - FEAST OF OUR LADY OF KNOCK

Come and find out about the wonders of Our Lady of Knock in Ireland first hand from Fr Tom Grufferty. Afternoon tea -tea/ coffee, scones and jam and biscuits will be provided. This is happening on **Thursday August 21st 3pm at St Philip Howard hall, Bishopsfield Road, Fareham PO14 1QS.** Everyone is welcome.

RIDE + STRIDE

On 13 September - Saturday, over 400 churches and chapels in Hampshire & the Isle of Wight, including St Mary's Church will be open. This will be a family fun day out and a chance to discover the beautiful churches and chapels on our doorstep by taking part in a sponsored cycle or walk. Go as a family, singly or get a group together. **As a sponsored activity and a fun day for the kids, your participation will be supporting Hampshire & The Islands Historic Churches Trust (HIHCT) in giving out grants to the churches for the maintenance of their fabric and you can nominate St Mary's which will then receive half of the sponsorship money raised back from HIHCT.** For sponsorship forms and more information about Ride & Stride and how you can help, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

ST LORENZO RUIZ - PROCESSION & HOLY MASS

In honour of St Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino-Chinese saint, there will be a procession and Holy Mass on Saturday **the 27th of September from 1:30pm.** This will be held at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. Please join us. Food and fellowship available afterwards. Everyone is invited to attend.

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 in_fo@retrouvaille.org.uk or contact 07887 296 983

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.