



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>

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 3rd August 2025

Page 117	Ecclesiastes 1: 2 & 2: 21-23	Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11	Gospel Luke 12: 13-21
<p>We are now well into the liturgical period of "Ordinary Time". Ordinary does not mean "unimportant" but rather "basic" and focuses on the teaching of Jesus, the understanding of God's love, how to deepen our faith, and the life of Jesus. We are in Cycle C which concentrates on three key themes; the nature of discipleship, the importance of prayer and the call to serve others by offering support, sharing and building community. These themes define a set of values and give spiritual guidance. In the first reading we are told "<i>All is vanity</i>". Vanity has come to mean "excessive belief in your own abilities or attractiveness to others". But in this text it means "empty or valueless". So when the preacher Qoheleth says "vanities of vanities" it means that we must avoid actions that are worthless such as accumulating possessions, continually hoarding them but never considering sharing the vast quantity with others who are much less fortunate. This message is also given in the parable that Jesus relates in the Gospel reading from Luke. The preacher in the first reading also describes a person who has toiled hard with wisdom, knowledge and skill but must leave it all to be inherited by someone to enjoy it who has done nothing to deserve gaining the wealth. This he claims is not just vanity but even evil especially if he does not appreciate it is a gift from God. In the second reading from St Paul writing the Colossians he tells us focus on the spiritual, not the earthly. Living for eternal life does not mean ignoring the present but rather bringing God's values into everything we do. We live with faith by being patient, by showing love and by putting others before ourselves so our actions inspire and bless our neighbours. The readings call us to reflect on where we place our trust and what we value most. Greed makes us focus only on ourselves which keeps us from truly loving others. When we become consumed by a desire for more, we may lose sight of what God wants for us. Greed pulls us away from the happiness that comes from caring and sharing. Jesus tells us to let go of greed, to live simply, to find peace so that we can open our hearts to others and God. These readings remind us that God's love and purpose offers real fulfilment, far beyond what the world can provide. By seeking God's kingdom first, we open our lives to lasting peace, joy and a deep connection with Him who will always show mercy and compassion for us. Malcolm.</p>			

Mass times

Feast Days

6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass for 50th birthday of Shintu	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 <i>Athanasius Creed</i> , 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
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 4th St John Vianney, Curé d'Ars Born 1786 in France, three years before the start of the French Revolution, to a peasant family. Family had to travel to distant farms to attend Mass in secret during anticlerical phase of the Revolution. In 1802 Napoleon re-established Catholic Church. John started his advanced education lost during troubles, aiming to be a priest. Interrupted when drafted into Napoleon's army. However became ill and then deserted. An amnesty for deserters in 1810 allowed him to continue his studies for the priesthood. Ordained in 1815. Model parish priest at Ars, near Cognac. Became famous as the Curé d'Ars and people came to consult him from all over France and other countries, including bishops. His advice was simple, full of imagery from daily life, displaying faith and love of God. He was an inspirational preacher. Died on 4 th August 1859 aged 73.
10 am Mass Thanksgiving Mass for 19th birthday of Noel	Tuesday 5th St Addai and his disciple St Mari Legend has it that King Abgar V, ruler of Edessa (modern day Sanliurfa, Turkey) was suffering a chronic illness and heard about the miracles of Jesus. He wrote inviting Jesus to leave Judea and travel to Edessa. Jesus is said to have replied He was about to return to His Father but would arrange a visit by one of his followers. After the Ascension, St Thomas sent Addai, one of the 72 disciples to Edessa who cured King Abgar who then converted to Christianity. A Christian community soon developed, one of the first outside Judea. Addai was then made Bishop of Edessa and helped to deepen the faith and understanding of the message of Jesus. St Mari was a disciple of St Addai and continued to expand the Christian influence in the area. He went to Nisibis now in Turkey and then down the River Tigris and River

Euphrates. In present day Iraq following the steps of St Thomas. Wherever he went St Mari converted many people, destroyed pagan temples, built churches and founded monasteries.

SVP Social 1pm to 3pm	Wednesday 6th Transfiguration of the Lord Peter, James and John are chosen to witness what is seen by some as the <i>greatest miracle</i> as it happens to Jesus and showed a vision of heaven to the three amazed apostles. The prophet Elijah representing the prophets and Moses representing the Law appear and Jesus begins to talk to them. Jesus told them not to tell anyone what they saw.
6.30 pm Mass	
10 am Mass	Thursday 7th St Victricius Fifth century Roman soldier who was converted to Christianity. He then denounced his military service and laid down his weapons on the parade ground. Arrested, charged with desertion and almost died from a painful Roman flogging. Became a travelling preacher who eventually ended up in Rouen in Gaul. France. Made Bishop of Rouen and developed the Christian Church in northern France with his guidance and peacemaking. Invited to England to mediate between factions in conflict and help restore peace to the country.
NO MASS	Friday 8th St Mary MacKillop First Australian saint. Born in 1842 in Melbourne, Australia to parents who were both born in Scotland, her mother was a MacDonald. Her father had initially trained to be a priest but left and migrated to Australia. Married Flora in 1840. Mary was the eldest of eight children. Family faced many hardships. Mary worked as a clerk, governess and then teacher. With the encouragement of a priest opened a Catholic school with two of her sisters. Mary dedicated herself to God. Started wearing black. Collected a group of women. Co-founded the <i>Sisters of St Joseph</i> , the <i>Josephites</i> . Wore a brown habit. Nicknamed the <i>Brown Joeys</i> . Provided education for especially the poor in rural areas and had many schools, an orphanage, reformatory and home for the aged and incurably ill. Schools for farmers, railway workers and miners in the isolated outback. Sister Mary had conflicts with local Church authorities over control of their schools. Order left diocese of Brisbane after a clash with Bishop James Quinn. Huge protests from laity who thought their bishop was useless. Sisters reported a priest for sexual abuse of children in Adelaide. When he was sent back to Ireland a Franciscan priest Fr Charles Horan sought revenge against the Order. When he was made Vicar General he tried to get his Bishop Sheil to change the Order's constitution with regards control of their institutions. Mary refused and was excommunicated for insubordination by Fr Horan as was Mr Fox, the editor of a Catholic paper, who supported the Sisters. Most of their schools were closed except some nuns who stayed under control of the diocese, popular known as <i>Black Joeys</i> . The laity again protested especially against Fr Horan and Bishop Sheil absolved her and Mr Fox. Order expanded again and received support from the Church authorities all across Australia.
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 9th St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Born Edith Stein in 1891 in German, what is now Poland, into an Orthodox Jewish family. Became an agnostic in her teens. She studied German and history at Breslau University. At Göttingen University read philosophy. Influenced by Christian friends and work of St Teresa of Avila. Nurse in WW1 in 1916. Baptised a Catholic in 1922. Too humourless and stiff and failed as a teacher. Worked translating famous theological works into German. She wrote philosophical and theological works and lectured at Muster University in 1932. In 1933 Nazis started the ill-treatment and deportation of Jews. Edith Stein joined a Carmelite Convent in Cologne in October 1933 and took the name Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She then wrote <i>The Life of a Jewish Family</i> . Sister Teresa was smuggled into the Netherlands to Echt Convent at the end of 1938. She wrote a study on St John of the Cross, for the 400 th anniversary of his birth 1542 – 1942. Sister Teresa was arrested by the Gestapo on 2 nd August 1942 with her sister Rosa who was also then in the Convent. Both gassed with others in Auschwitz on 9 th August.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 10th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Michael and Nora Hunter RIP
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 this 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

Volunteers (of all ages) needed for “Big Clean” on Saturday 23rd August from 9.30pm to 1pm

We really want the parish looking lovely for our 50th anniversary celebrations in September so please come along if you are able. Volunteers please contact Liz Challand.

Church painting and refurbishment project from September. People needed to assist in this work.

If you are good with a paint brush please offer your services. Volunteers please contact Liz Challand.

Parish collection for last weekend 26th and 27th July

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Peter's Pence		TOTAL of all money
							Gift Aid	Loose	
£72	£18	£123.25	£242.54	£51.98	£507.77			50p	£508.27