



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>

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 31st August 2025

Page 130

Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29

Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24

Gospel Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Readings this weekend are about humility, generosity, respect for all and how pride and ambition have no lasting value. In the first reading from Sirach focuses on the profound virtue of humility and advises us to be modest and not to seek praise. This is not about grovelling or thinking less of ourselves, but about recognising the truth of our being. We are all sinners who need God's mercy. When we recognise our own limitations and need for God, we find it much easier to be merciful to others. The second reading from St Paul's letter to the Hebrews highlights the reward of being faithful to God and the teaching of Jesus. It reminds us that all people are valuable in God's eyes and the importance of respecting everyone and treating them with love and kindness. Respecting others means seeing them as God sees them. Everyone has dignity and worth. Luke's Gospel tells the parable about a banquet. We are advised to avoid seeking the highest place and instead embrace humility and take the lowest place. Being humble, gentle and wise brings more respect than being proud and boastful. We must also reach out to those who are pushed aside in our families and communities as well as the poor and vulnerable.

Mass times

Feast Days

6 pm Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass
Rita Forster RIP
6th anniversary

Saturday 30th St Margaret Ward Born around 1550 in Congleton, Cheshire. In 1585 was in service as housekeeper or companion for noblewoman Mrs Whittel and family. In 1588 Spanish Armada failed and anti-Catholic feeling was at its height. An eccentric and controversial priest Fr William Watson was in the Bridewell Prison in London suffering severe conditions and brutal treatment. Margaret decided to help him with clean clothes and food as he was almost starving to death. Managed to smuggle in a rope so he could escape in the early hours of the morning. Broke his arm and leg in the escape and left rope behind. Margaret and John Roche, the boatman that helped Fr Watson in his escape, were arrested. Tortured but refused to tell the hiding place of Fr Watson. Both refused to seek the pardon of Queen Elizabeth and go to Anglican services. Both Margaret and John condemned to death. Martyred at Tyburn 30th August 1588.

9.30 am Mass

Sunday 31st August

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pat, John and Valerie Moon, Peter and Caro Moon RIP

**6.30 pm Mass
Thanksgiving
Mass for
Santhosh Thomas**

Monday 1st September St Giles Greek born in 7th century to noble Christian family in Athens. Became famous for charity and miracles. Wanted austere life style and moved to Arles in France. Then a hermit in forest near Nimes. Lived on wild plants and the milk of a red deer. Wounded by hunting party of Frankish King Wamba. Offered compensation. Built monastery of Saint-Gilles-du-Gard in the valley near his cave. Giles gathered followers. Became Abbot and used Rule of St Benedict. Town grew around Abbey, on the pilgrimage route to St James shrine in Spain of Santiago de Compostela. Most popular medieval saint. Died about 710.

10 am Mass

Tuesday 2nd French Revolution Martyrs Over 1,500 clergy and very many nuns and brothers were killed by mobs or executed by the guillotine as martyrs. The Revolution started in 1789 and all Church property was taken and the taxing by tithes was stopped. The Church had always provided primary and secondary education and controlled the hospitals. Now priests, monks, nuns and bishops were required to swear an oath of allegiance to the new government that was killing the all French nobility. Hardly any conformed so the mob often took over and 100's were martyred and often monasteries, convents and churches stripped of anything of value. The *Reign of Terror* ended in 1794 after the execution at the Place de la Concorde in Paris of the Revolution leader Maximilien Robespierre on 28th July. Another 21 leaders of the Revolution were also guillotined.

**11.30 am Funeral
of Sandra Ward**

Wednesday 3rd Pope St Gregory the Great Born about 540 to a very wealthy Roman family. Gregory's great-great-grandfather had been Pope Felix III. He was well educated and excelled in his studies. Was a government official and, like his father, rose to the rank of the Prefect of Rome, the highest office in Rome. An outstanding administrator with a very sensitive spirit and lived devoutly. When his father died he handed his estates in Italy and Sicily to the Church and founded 7 monasteries, most in Sicily but one at his family villa, dedicated to St Andrew, in which he became a monk. Lived peacefully and with severe austerity that damaged his health. Then ordained and made one of the deacons of Rome. Sent by pope to Constantinople for 6 years. Back in Rome in 585. Abbot of his former monastery of St Andrew following Rule of St Basil. Reluctantly he accepted appointment as Pope Gregory 3rd September 590. The chaos of the Gothic War, 563-53, saw the fall in the power of Rome, with no secular authority functional. Pope Gregory with his old skills became the mayor and city manager of Rome. Rome was surrounded by aggressive Germanic Lombard armies of pagan barbarians. The wife of the Lombard King was a Catholic so Gregory managed to agree a truce to ensure peace for Rome. Reformer. Father of Christian Worship and Gregorian Chant. Sent Augustine and Paulinus to convert Anglo-Saxons in Britain. Died 6th March 604 aged 64

6.30 pm Mass

10 am Mass

Thursday 4th St Rose of Viterbo Born to a poor family in Italy in about 1233. In a dream during an illness aged 8, she had a vision of the Virgin Mary who told her to stay at home but join the Third Order of St Francis. Rose started preaching in the streets proclaiming the Gospel and encouraging people to embrace the faith. Rose asked to join the Poor Clares in Viterbo but was refused as she was too poor to provide a dowry. With some companions she started living in community with the idea of starting a new religious Order but it was stopped by Church authorities. Rose then asked the people to do more penance and giving their support to Pope Gregory IX whose Papal States were being attacked by King Fredrick II, the Holy Roman Emperor. The city of Viterbo was captured and Rose and her family went into exile. When Fredrick died in 1250, prophesied 8 days earlier by Rose, she returned to her home in Viterbo. Rose died on the 6th March 1251 aged 18 and eventually buried in the church of the monastery she wanted to join in Viterbo. Feast day is the date she was buried.

NO MASS

Friday 5th St Mother Teresa of Calcutta Born in 1910 into a family in the Albanian community in Skopje, North Macedonia. Left home at 18. Joined Sisters of Loreto in Ireland to learn English and be a missionary in India. A year later, in 1929, she continued her novitiate in India. Took the name Sister Teresa. Teacher at Loreto Convent in Calcutta for 18 years. Made headmistress in 1944 and then felt she needed to help the poor in Calcutta. Left the convent in 1948 in white blue bordered sari to train for social work with the poor. Entered slums to help for the first time in December 1948. Started each day with Communion. Rosary in hand, went to serve "the unloved, the unwanted, the uncared for". She visited families, she washed the sores of children, cared for those she found sick in the street and nursed those dying of hunger and tuberculosis. In 1950 established *Missionaries of Charity Sisters* in Archdiocese of Calcutta and many joined her. By 1960's Mother Teresa was sending Sisters to other parts of India. Later she started new houses for her Sisters in other countries where there was extreme poverty including almost all of the Communist countries including Soviet Union and Cuba. To help the work she founded *Missionaries of Charity Brothers* in 1963, the *Contemplative Sisters* in 1976, in 1979 the *Contemplative Brothers*, and the *Missionaries of Charity Fathers* in 1984. For the Catholic laity that were helping in the work she founded *Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and the Sick*. For those of other faiths and none she founded *Suffering Co-Workers*. She was awarded the *Nobel Prize* in 1979. By 1997, Mother Teresa had been joined by nearly 4,000 Sisters, 300 Brothers who were established in 610 foundations in 123 countries. There were over one million *Co-Workers*. In March 1997 handed over to new Superior General. Made her last trip abroad and met Pope John Paul II for last time. Died in Calcutta on 5th September 1997 and buried in the Mother House of Missionaries of Charity after a State funeral. Tomb became place of pilgrimage

6 pm Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass
Irene Delves RIP
Theophilus
Thomas RIP

Saturday 6th St Bega, anchoress of Cumbria Irish princess born in the 7th century. Escaped from Ireland after being promised in marriage to a pagan Viking prince as she wanted to stay a virgin and devote her life to Christ. She had a bracelet with a cross as a token of her heavenly betrothal. She landed at St Bees on the west coast of Cumbria, south of the present day town of Whitehaven. She built herself a cell in the grove of the forest near the seashore. Lived in solitude as an anchoress dedicating her life to God for many years. When the area was raided by pirates St Oswald, King of Northumbria advised her to join a convent as a nun for her protection. She received the veil from St Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne. Established a convent at St Bees from land she obtained by the *snow miracle* from the local landowner. St Bees Priory became famous and helped the oppressed and poor. Many miracles were associated with Abbess Bega. She died 690 just after St Hilda of Whitby.

9.30 am Mass

Sunday 7th September **Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Thanksgiving Mass for the Bile family

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

Very many thanks to all who helped in the "Big Clean" on Friday and Saturday last week.

St Vincent de Paul Repository – Volunteer required.

The Repository, currently in the Church Porch, holds a number of items and cards available for parishioners to purchase at very reasonable prices. We need a volunteer to take on this role and hope that one of our parishioners will be interested., The Repository is usually open following weekend Masses and at the discretion of the new volunteer. If you are interested in this position, please speak to Fr Thomas or Renee Sharp for more information.

Next SVP Social on Wednesday 3rd September – 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 Pa

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 23rd and 24th August

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
£117	£29.25	£151.15	£242.54	£51.98	£591.92				£591.92