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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S
 The Catholic Church in Gosport



21 September 2025 - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

20	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	People of the Parish	<p>CONFESSION TIMES Thu 6:15pm-6:45pm <i>(if Mass is celebrated)</i> Sat - 12:00nn—1:00pm</p> <p>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Thu—after the 7pm Mass <i>Holy half hour with Night Prayer</i> Fri 10:00am—12:00nn <i>Rosary for the Unborn at 10am</i></p> <p>OUTREACH Thu from 1:00PM</p>
21	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ms Mary Anne Cornelius RIP Zied Solomon RIP	
22	Mon	No Service			
23	Tue	12:00nn	St Pio of Pietrelcina	David Stephen Dickens INT	
24	Wed	12:00nn	Our Lady of Walsingham	Mrs Dugmore RIP	
25	Thu	07:00pm		Jean Catherine Dickens INT	
26	Fri	12:00nn		Pauline Muscutt Dickens RIP	
27	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Lt Cdr Frank Parr RIP	
28	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Dennis Taduran INT Aloysius Odinukwe RIP	

You may remember I began an introductory course on counselling nearly 6 months ago. This course is now concluding and therefore from 1st October there will be a return of Holy Mass on Wednesday evening at its previous 7:00pm timeslot with confessions at 6:15pm. The Wednesday celebration of Holy Mass at noon will cease. The scheduled changes will be reflected in all future newsletters. I must say I greatly enjoyed the introductory counselling course and am furthermore delighted to share the news that Bishop Philip has approved my pursuing further study in this field.

This coming October I begin a graduate course at a psychotherapy training institute in London. The specific course I am taking focussed on providing a solid framework for understanding human behaviour, communication and development especially in terms of their impact on relationships. I believe the potential benefits for priestly ministry are many and varied. Therefore, I am eager to begin.

The impact on my ministry in Gosport should be minimal, and I hope to cause you as little inconvenience as possible. I will remain in full time ministry as priest in Gosport, working to carefully balance parish responsibilities along with studies though it may take a little time to adjust. There will be 10 teaching weekends held in London over the academic year which I am required to attend, therefore arrangements are being made to ensure a priest is available to celebrate Holy Mass during my absence over those 10 weekends – roughly one weekend per month.

Thank you always for your prayers and for being so good to me.



- Fr Matthew King

PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS . Decide & Don't Worry. Fellowship, Discussions, Mass, Lunch and Adoration.

There will be a "Seeker Saturday" on the 18th of October at 11am - 3pm. This will be held at Sacred Heart Hall and Church. For those with "that itch", welcome! Contact www.portsmouthvocations.org / Email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk / Canon John at 01329 318 869. *Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of souls who called the apostles to be fishers of men, raise up new apostles in your holy Church. Teach them to serve you is to reign; to possess you is to possess all things. Kindle in the young hearts of our sons and daughters the fire of real zeal for souls. Make them eager to spread your Kingdom on earth. Grant them courage to follow you. Amen.*

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.



Advance Notice of NO MASS

Sep 30 - Tue . Fr Matthew will be on clergy formation day.

Oct 06 - 08 Mon - Wed . Repair works to the church trusses is scheduled at this time.

Oct 21 - 22 Tue - Wed . Fr Matthew on clergy formation day

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION - HOME MISSIONS

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (formally known as Home Mission Sunday) is a day dedicated to proclaiming the joyful message of the Gospel—a message that brings hope and transformation to all who receive it with an open heart. This year, the Church commemorates a significant milestone: the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. To donate online, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yxkaa3cf>

IMPORTANT UPDATE: NEW SCHEDULE FOR TRUSS REPAIRS

Please note that the scheduled date for the truss repairs has been changed. The new repair dates are from **6 October to 8 October - Mon to Wed**. Please be reminded that there will be no Masses during this period in order to give time for the builders to do their work. *Your generosity in helping to preserve and care for the fabric of St Mary's is deeply appreciated.*

INTERNATIONAL MASS - A WORD OF THANKS

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make our International Mass such a joyful celebration. Thank you to all who participated in the liturgy, shared delicious food, contributed to the programme in the hall, lifted our spirits with music, and all who worked behind the scenes from preparations to the clearing the hall. Your generosity and joyful service are a true blessing to our parish. *The raffle fundraising managed to raise £99 and this will go towards the day-to-day running expenses of the parish.* Thank you! - Fr Matthew



Photos from the event will be available on our Facebook page

RIDE AND STRIDE

On 13 September, Annette and Adriana participated in the eumenical Ride + Stride event where they visited several churches within the area by cycling around Gosport and neighbouring towns. Despite the rain, they managed to visit 8 churches and have raised funds for both the Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust (HIHCT) and our parish, St Mary's. We hope that more parishioners will follow in their footsteps...or spoke-steps! This is our first year of participating as a parish and we are looking forward to opening our church again next year. *Photos of their day will be available on our Facebook page.*

FR JOHN DORAN

Fr John Doran, a retired priest, and former parish priest of Gosport, is at Gosport War Memorial Hospital in Ark Royal ward and would be delighted if anyone would wish to visit him in hospital. Please contact the parish office for more information or speak to Fr Matthew.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PROJECT

You may start dropping off your finished poppies in the parish office! Thank you to those who already handed theirs in. It is not too late to start knitting and support this initiative!

FUNERAL NOTICE

On the 24th of September - Wed, a Requiem Mass will be held for John Crowley ✠ at St Mary's Church at 12nn followed by a committal at Anns Hill Cemetery at 1:15pm. May his soul rest in peace. Please remember John and his family in your prayers.



Tea and Coffee in St Mary's Hall every Sunday after the 11:15am Mass. Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat.

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

Did you know that you can receive a copy of the parish newsletter straight into your email inbox? Preferring it this way reduces paper use and printing costs, and helps the environment. Please email the parish office office@stmarysgosport.org.uk if you wish to get the copy of the newsletter straight to your inbox.

ST LORENZO RUIZ - PROCESSION & HOLY MASS

In honour of St Lorenzo Ruiz, there will be a Holy Mass at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on Saturday **the 27th of September from 1:30pm**. Please join us. Food Everyone is invited to attend.

MASS COUNTS

This weekend is the first of four autumn Sunday Mass Attendance Counts. Mass Counts is a way for the Church to measure how many people are actively practicing their faith by going to Sunday Mass, and use this information to make decisions for ministry.

CHANGE TO WEDNESDAY MASS TIME

Please be informed that from 01 October - Wednesday, Mass time will revert back to 7:00pm. There will no longer be a 12nn Mass on Wednesdays. Confessions on Wednesdays will be from 6:15pm to 6:45 pm. This will replace the confession on Thursday evening.

St Mary's Book Drive

A FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE



Do you have any books, in good to very good condition, just collecting dust at home? Please consider donating them to St Mary's. *WE COULD ONLY ACCEPT BOOKS WITH ISBN OR BARCODES.*

Please bring all your donated books to the parish office during office hours. This is a fundraising initiative to help St Mary's with our Church Mission. For more information, please call 02392 580119 or 0759 064 3572



Thank you very much!

SACRAMENTS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) . Registration for First Holy Communion is now open For children in Year 4 or over. Please contact the parish office to get a copy of the registration form.

CONFIRMATION . Are you or do you know a child in Year 8 or above? CHOSEN our Pastoral Area Confirmation Group will be holding an information evening on Friday 26th September from 7-8:30pm at St Philip Howard Church, Bishopsfield Road to which young people in Years 8 and above together with their parent/carer are invited to come along and find out more about the group. If you would like to know more please message Sue on 07739 099 000, or contact the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN (RCIC) . Registration is on-going for children aged 7 and 14 who are not yet baptised or have been baptised in another Christian tradition but wish to become Catholic (**and not merely for Catholic School entry**). Please speak to Fr Matthew or contact the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA) . This Programme is offered to anyone who is not Catholic or who have been baptised in another Christian tradition but wish to become Catholic. RCIA is also offered to Catholics who were baptised as Catholics but never confirmed. The group starts on Wednesday 24 September 2025 and is set to meet in Sacred Heart Church Hall in Fareham at 7:15pm. In the words of Christ, 'Come and see!' To find out more, please contact Deacon Larry & Yvette at: 01329 318 869 / lmurawski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.