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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S

The Catholic Church in Gosport



ST MARY'S WEBSITE



ST MARY'S FACEBOOK

28 September 2025 - TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

27	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Lt Cdr Frank Parr RIP	CONFESSION TIMES Wed 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 <i>Rosary for the Unborn at 10am</i> OUTREACH Thu from 1:00PM
28	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Dennis Tadiran INT Aloysius Odinukwe RIP	
29	Mon	No Service			
30	Tue	12:00nn	St Jerome	Rey Paderna INT	
01	Wed	07:00pm	St Teresa of the Child Jesus		
02	Thu	07:00pm	The Holy Guardian Angels	George Turuta RIP	
03	Fri	12:00nn		Ms Mary Anne Cornelius RIP	
04	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Crispo Alvarez RIP	
05	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Tabone, Tuema and Dalli Family RIP People of the Parish	

REFLECTION

This week's reflection is written by Fr Gaston Forbah, Parish Priest of English Martyrs Reading in the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

In today's Gospel, we are reminded of the importance of bringing God's compassionate love and care to those who are less fortunate than we are. Just as in Jesus' time, many people today lack the basic necessities for a decent life. We don't have to look far to see those who are deprived in various ways. It is important to recognize that this deprivation is not only material; it extends to all aspects of our human existence.

- We should not only feel pity for the poor; we must also show genuine mercy and compassion towards them. This kind of mercy involves a personal concern that requires us to give not just from our abundance but also from the very little that we hold dear.
- Jesus Christ provides us with the perfect example of how to bring God's mercy to the poor. Though He was rich, for our sake, He became poor so that by His poverty, we might become rich (cf. Acclamation before the Gospel).
- The Prophet Amos, known as the prophet of social justice, warned the wealthy of his time who ignored the needs of the poor (cf. 1st Reading).
- The message of Amos is highly relevant to our present time.
- To live as conscientious individuals who do not distance their hearts from the cries of the poor, we must heed the encouragement of St. Paul to Timothy: "pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness" (cf. 2nd Reading).
- Let us remember that caring for the needs of the poor and less fortunate is a matter of justice. This principle aligns with the Social Teaching of the Church, particularly regarding human dignity and the option for the poor (cf. CCC 2419–2425).

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.



Advance Notice of NO MASS & CHURCH CLOSURE in OCT

06 - 08 Mon - Wed . Repair works to the church trusses is scheduled at this time. The church will be inaccessible.

07 Tue . Fr Matthew on clergy formation day

Oct 20 Mon . Church is closed.

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

27 Mon . Church is closed.

MASS COUNTS - SECOND WEEK

This weekend is the second 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.

DON'T FORGET THE CHANGE TO WEDNESDAY MASS TIME

Please be reminded that from Wednesday 01 October, 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.

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!



NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION - CAFOD

CAFOD's Family Fast Day collection is on Sunday 5 October. It's a day when we're asked to pray, eat simply and give generously. Our parish's support of CAFOD this Harvest is a way for us to offer new signs of hope this Jubilee year, by giving practical help to people affected by poverty, conflict and climate change in our volatile world. Collect a CAFOD envelope as you leave to Gift Aid your donation.

The latest Missio newsletter is available at the back of the church for the red box holders.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Registration for First Holy Communion is now open for children in Year 4 or over. Application forms are now available. Please contact the parish office to get a copy.

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.

PARISH RELIGIOUS ITEMS AVAILABLE

We are happy to let you know that anyone who wishes to order religious items (e.g. rosaries, medals, prayer books, crucifixes, missals, gift items, Christmas items and more) is welcome to do so through the parish office. Stop by the parish office during office hours to browse catalogues and place your orders.

October IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY. THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY IS ON OCTOBER 7.



O blessed Rosary of Mary, sweet chain that binds us to God, bond of love that makes us one with the Angels, tower of salvation amid the attacks of Hell, safe harbour in the universal shipwreck, we shall never forget thee. Thou shalt be our consolation in the hour of death's agony, thine shall be the last kiss of our ebbing life. The last whisper of our dying lips shall be thy sweet name, O Queen of the Holy Rosary, our dearest Mother, only refuge of sinners, sovereign comforter of the sorrowful. Be thou everywhere blessed, now and forever, on earth and in Heaven. Amen.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME! PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO FR MATTHEW AFTER MASS AND REGISTER BY FILLING OUT A REGISTRATION FORM FROM THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. **WHETHER YOU ARE SEEKING SPIRITUAL GROWTH, CONNECTION, OR SIMPLY A PLACE TO BELONG, WE HOPE YOU FIND OUR CHURCH A WELCOMING PLACE.**

JUBILEE WALK IN NOVEMBER

This November, one of our parishioners is planning a Jubilee Walk to celebrate the theme: Pilgrims of Hope. This walk will begin at St Mary's Church, and will be a gentle prayerful walk through our local area. Along the way, she will pray the rosary, pause for reflection, prayer and thanksgiving. There will be stops for refreshments and she warmly invites anyone to join her, whether for a whole walk or just part of it. It will be suitable for all ages, and the walk will finish with light refreshments and fellowship. If you would like to join her on this Jubilee Walk, please speak to Clarinda or contact the parish office. Thank you.

COME PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

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

SPONSOR A SANCTUARY LAMP

If you would like to sponsor a Sanctuary Lamp with a thoughtful intention, simply fill in a sponsor envelope that is available in the church foyer. The cost of sponsoring a Lamp is £5. Your intentions will also be remembered during the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday.

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 October.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA - RELICS VISIT TO THE CATHEDRAL

On the 4th and 5th of October—Saturday and Sunday, the relics of Sts Jacinta and Francisco, together with the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue (NPVS) of Our Lady of Fatima will be visiting the Cathedral of St John in Portsmouth. There will be a series of activities on these days.

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL - OPEN MORNING

St Edmund's Catholic School is holding an Open Morning for Year 6 pupil and parents on Saturday 4th October 2025 between 9am and 1pm. Attending the open morning will give you an insight into the life at St Edmund's. Booking will be required: Session 1 - 9:00am - 11:00am / Session 2 - 11:00am - 13:00pm. Further details are available at www.saintedmunds.org.uk

CATECHIST DAY

If you have not signed up yet, it is not too late to sign up for our Catechist Day with Bishop Egan October 11th at Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Peter the Apostle, Waterlooville, PO7 7SR. This is the day that has been part of our ongoing Catechist formation and will be running from 10am and ends with a lunch at 12:30pm. Register at <https://forms.office.com/e/Q02B8UpaY>

GOOD COUNSEL

Help Good Counsel's Pro-Life Pregnancy Centre Stay Open. The Good Counsel Network's funds are dangerously low. We offer expectant mums help with housing, financial assistance, legal, and medical support, baby goods and clothes, advice, ongoing support long after the baby is born. If we run out of funds, we cannot continue to help dozens of Mothers keep a roof over their head. Use the QR code to donate or go to www.goodcounselnetwork.com donate page for more details.



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