



# St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

**Aldermoor Close, Coxford Road, Lordswood, Southampton,  
Hampshire SO16 5ST**

**Office: 07887452313**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Thomas Parakandathil [tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator:** Lina Maria Speigal email: [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Newsletter editor:** Malcolm Forster

email: [malcolmandrita@btinternet.com](mailto:malcolmandrita@btinternet.com)

**Safeguarding Officer** Liz Challand [safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Administrator Lina Maria is available preferably by email on in emergency by the office telephone on Thursdays  
**Website:** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-vincent-de-paul/> (To open: Select link then Ctrl + left Click)

## Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**No Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and 6.30 pm on Thursday instead of usual 10 am**

**Page 191**

**Numbers 21: 4-9**

**Philippians 2: 6-11**

**Gospel John 3: 13-17**

The Holy Cross of Jesus was found in the Holy Land by St Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine I, also known as Constantine the Great. He was the first Christian Roman Emperor and ruled the Western Empire. The eastern part of the Roman Empire, which included the Holy Land, was ruled by Emperor Licinius. In 313 the "Edict of Milan" was agreed between the two Emperors, which granted religious freedom across the whole Roman Empire. Before this Christians had suffered a number of persecutions by pagan Roman Emperors over the prior two and a half centuries. In the next 10 years there was continual tension and conflict between the two Emperors which ended in the Battle of Adrianople on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 324 in which Licinius was defeated and Constantine ruled the whole Roman Empire including the Holy Land. In 326 St Helena, Constantine's mother, now a devout Christian, embarked on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to identify significant sites from the life of Christ. She found Mount Calvary, Jesus' tomb and three buried crosses which the local bishop confirmed were those used to crucify Jesus and the two thieves. The true Holy Cross was identified by a sick woman who was immediately cured when she touched one of them. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was erected on the site and dedicated. The next day, 14<sup>th</sup> September 335, the Holy Cross was brought outside the church for the faithful to venerate, now the feast day of Exaltation. M

### Mass times

### Feast Days

**6 pm Confessions  
6.30pm Vigil Mass  
Trevor Delves for  
a successful  
treatment**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> St Notburga of Eben** Devout peasant born 1265 in Austrian Tyrol. Cook for Count Henry of Rattenburg. Gave food to the poor. Countess Ottilia ordered her to feed all leftovers to the pigs. When Notburga did not obey the Countess had her dismissed. Then worked for a farmer reaping corn. He agreed she would be free to attend church each week. One Saturday evening the vesper bell and she began to leave. The farmer told her she must continue cutting the grain as the weather was about to change. Notburga said: "Let the sickle decide between us". She threw the sickle in the air and it stayed suspended in the air. The farmer astonished let her go. Meanwhile Count Henry had remarried but suffered many difficulties which he ascribed to his dismissal of Notburga. He rehired her as his housekeeper and the estate began to prosper again. Notburger resumed feeding the poor and continued happily till her death on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1313

**9.30 am Mass**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**NO MASS**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> St Catherine of Genoa** Born in 1447 in Italy to a noble family which had included 2 popes and a cardinal. Wanted to follow her sister as an Augustinian nun but was too young. Married a nobleman to try to bring together the supporters of the pope and the Roman Emperor. Unhappy couple' No children. Catherine became depressed. Had mystic experiences and sought help from her sister in the Convent. Husband lost all their money and had to sell their home but had a change of heart. Moved to a large hospital in Genoa and both cared for sick and did works of charity, especially during the plagues of 1497 and 1501. Died 15<sup>th</sup> September 1510 aged 63 due to severe fasting.

**NO MASS**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> St Cornelius and St Cyprian** Pope Cornelius was a Roman, elected in 251, who forgave sinners and welcomed them back to the Church. Opposed by anti-pope Novatian who wanted severe punishments for sinners. Cyprian was born to wealthy pagans in Carthage. Qualified lawyer. Became a Christian, ordained a priest and made Bishop of Carthage. Soon a famous theologian, *Father of African Church*. At Synod in Rome he supported Pope Cornelius against Novatian with his legal skills. Pope Cornelius was martyred when Roman Emperor blamed him for plague in Rome. Later Bishop Cyprian was martyred in Carthage.

**SVP Social  
1 pm to 3 pm**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> St Robert Bellarmine** Born 1542 in Italy. Broad education by Jesuits. Joined the Jesuits. Then University of Padua to read theology. Finished his studies in Leuven University in Belgium. Ordained a priest 1570. Ministered in Belgium for 7 years. Inspirational preacher. First Jesuit to be a theological professor in a university. Learned Hebrew to respond to Protestants who emphasised biblical texts as the basis of their claims. Preached to congregations of over 2,000 on Sundays. Recalled to Rome by Pope Gregory XIII to lecture at Jesuit College founded by St Ignatius of Loyola, now Pontifical Gregorian University. His lectures formed basis of his great theological work banned in England by Church of England but smuggled in by Jesuits on *English Mission*. He trained Jesuits at the English College in Rome and encouraged them to go to England. Provincial of Jesuits in Naples in 1594.. Personal theologian to Pope Clement VIII. In 1602 was made Cardinal Archbishop of Capua in province of Naples. Carried out pastoral care and reforms for the diocesan clergy. Almost elected pope. New Pope Paul V appointed him Prefect of Vatican Library and member of Roman Curia. Robert was a friend of Galileo and begged him not to assert his theory that the earth revolved around the sun as it contradicted the teaching of the Church at the time. Galileo then had to accept that the earth was the centre of the universe. Robert then left the Curia to avoid other controversies. He died on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1621 aged 78 at Jesuit College of St Andrew in Rome.

**NO MASS**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> St Joseph of Copertino** Born 1602 in southern Italy. Joseph was dim-witted as a child and was scorned socially. He experienced visions which drew him to the religious life. Franciscans refused him due to lack of education. Accepted as a lay brother with the Capuchin Friars working in the kitchen. Eventually accepted by the Franciscans. Worked in the stables with real rapport with the horses and was very happy. Fellow friars were impressed with his spirituality. He was ordained in March 1628 aged 25. For next 35 years he served various communities. His continual ecstasies were sometimes accompanied by "levitation" from the ground. Nicknamed the *Flying Friar* and people flocked to him to witness this strange form of seizure, seek his advice and for Confession. Inquisition investigated him for witchcraft in 1638. His superiors in the Order were embarrassed and sent him to Assisi in 1639 where he spent 13 unhappy years, forbidden to say Mass or appear in public. People still flocked to him for private advice and Confession and eventually the Franciscan General called him to Rome where he resumed his normal duties as a priest and was happy again.

**6.30 pm Mass**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> St Theodore of Canterbury** Born in 602 in Tarsus in present day Turkey to a Greek family. Went to Rome and lived with Eastern monks. Chosen by Pope Vitalian to become the Archbishop of Canterbury in England after the Synod of Whitby in 664 which had decided on the Latin rite to be used across England. Went with Abbot Adrian to England in 669 finding the Church in some disarray. Vacant sees and still conflicts between Latin and Celtic rites. Appointed bishops and defined diocesan boundaries. Abbot Adrian founded a school in Canterbury training in both Latin and Celtic rites and did much to unite the two groups. Taught in both Greek and Latin resulting in the "golden age" of Anglo-Saxon scholarship. Archbishop Theodore called the Synod of Hertford in 673 for reform of marriage, monastic life and other things. Founded seminaries and many monasteries. Archbishop Theodore's enlightened zeal, his commanding personality, remarkable powers of administration, intellectual ability resulted in a unified Church and close alliance with secular rulers. Died 690.

**NO MASS**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Korean Martyrs** In 1794 a Chinese priest arrived in Korea and the faith started to spread. In 1801 persecution started and 300 Catholics were martyred. Remaining Catholics fled into the mountains including Paul Chong Hasang who then became an assistant to a diplomat who visited China from 1816 for many years. Paul, then a catechist, pleaded with the Bishop of Beijing to send priests to Korea. No clergy arrived so Paul trained more catechists and community leaders. In 1836 a bishop and 2 priests arrived. Paul started training for the priesthood. Another persecution in 1839 and Paul, bishop, two priests and thousands of lay people were martyred. In 1837 3 Korean young men had been sent to train for the priesthood in China. First ordained was Fr Andrew Kim Taegon who returned to Korea with a bishop and a priest in 1844. In 1846 all were martyred with again thousands of lay people. In all 8,000 to 10,000 French missionaries but mainly lay people martyred.

**6 pm Confessions  
6.30pm Vigil Mass**

**9.30 am Mass      Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September      25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time      John and Iris Cassar 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

**No Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and 6.30pm on Thursday instead of usual 10 am.**

From Monday to Wednesday, Fr Thomas is on "Priests ongoing Formation at Ramsgate. On Thursday Fr Thomas is at Basingstoke for a "Priests Safeguarding Training Programme". Back to celebrate Mass at 6.30 pm.

**Next SVP Social this Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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

**Fundraising raffle from this weekend for refurbishment project and new chairs for the church**

Tickets after Masses up to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Prizes of £25 M&S voucher, wine, chocolates, biscuits, toiletries

**We need a couple of Gazebos to erect in the garden for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Has anyone a Gazebo we could borrow for the morning? If so please speak to Fr Thomas, Joe McMahon or Liz.

**Need for more Children's Liturgists for the liturgy at the 9.30 am Sunday Mass**

We need a few more individuals over 18 who are willing to have DBS check, to attend safeguarding training and work with some very lovely people who are already Children's Liturgists to continue this important ministry. Please come forward as we need you !! Further information can be obtained from Liz Challand.

**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.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September**

							50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary food		TOTAL of all money
Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Raffle money 2 church hires	Gift Aid	Loose	
£67	£16.75	£101.82	£242.54	£51.98	£480.09	£340 £150.00	£10 (£2.50)		<b>£982.59</b>