



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
Parish Administrator: Lina Maria Speigal email: svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Newsletter editor: Malcolm Forster email: malcolmandrita@btinternet.com
Safeguarding Officer Liz Challand 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)
Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 21st September 2025

Special Second Collection this weekend for the Home Mission.

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Amos 8: 4-7

1 Timothy 2: 1-8

Gospel Luke 16: 1-11

This weekend the readings urge us to reflect on our attitude towards money, material things and especially our treatment of the poor and marginalised. Injustice, greed and oppression are the greatest factors that perpetuate poverty in society today. The central theme of the Book of Amos in the first reading is God's concern for justice especially for the vulnerable. In this reading the prophet Amos condemns those who cheat or exploit the poor and are warned that God will remember their sins, showing His deep care for the oppressed. Justice is not just a legal idea but a demand of Christian faith. Amos also focuses on God's judgement on people who worship Him outwardly but are corrupt and act with greed and oppression of others. God sees every act of injustice and calls on all who follow Jesus to righteousness and to treat everyone with dignity and respect. The second reading from the letter from St Paul to Timothy, one of Paul's strongest followers and companions, we are encouraged to demonstrate our faith by living a holy life within the Christian community. This is done through prayer, good works and striving for peace and harmony in society. Christians should be a witness to God's love by caring for the whole world. Christ as mediator reminds the Christian community that salvation is for all, not just a chosen few. In Luke's Gospel Jesus shows that even the greedy can recognise the benefits of generosity. Our faith calls us to be kind and compassionate not for personal gain but because God has given us everything. We must use worldly resources with care, honesty and justice. By sharing with others we reflect God's love and fulfil His call to help the most needy. Malcolm.

Mass times

Feast Days

**6 pm Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass**

Saturday 20th 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.

9.30 am Mass

Sunday 21st September 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time John and Iris Cassar RIP

6.30 pm Mass

Monday 22nd St Maurice and Companions Born in 250 in Thebes, present day Luxor in Egypt. Joined the Roman Army despite being a Christian. Promoted in the pagan society to be Commander of Roman Legion of 1,000 Egyptian Christians from Thebes. Before a battle he was told to offer sacrifices to pagan gods. Maurice refused but pledged his allegiance to Rome and left with his legion. Emperor ordered him back to join in pagan rituals and pay him homage. Whole legion refused so 10% of his legion were chosen for execution. Still refused so another 10% were martyred. The rest were then ordered to attack a group of Christians involved in a rebellion. They refused so the Emperor ordered that Maurice and his soldiers all be killed and they were all martyred.

10 am Mass

Tuesday 23rd St Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Born in 1887 in Italy to peasant farmers rich in faith. He was an altar boy. Looked after sheep. Caught typhoid fever and missed part of his education. Religious family wanted to help him become a monk as he had visions and ecstasies but needed to be better educated. Father went to USA to earn enough for private education. Then accepted aged 15 into Order of Capuchin Friars. Took Franciscan habit and name Friar Pio after Pope Pius I. He started 7 years study for priesthood at Friary of St Francis of Assisi, north of Rome. Health failed and his visions and ecstasies increased. Eventually ordained a priest. Sent home to his family to recover his health but then suffered "invisible stigmata" when he felt the pain of Christ's crown of thorns and scourging. The mystic served as a medic in the First World War. He contracted pneumonia in 1918 and was sent to a Convent where he remained for the rest of his life. Stigmata of Christ's wounds then became visible including the wound in his side which bled for the rest of his 50 years of life. The Capuchins did not hide Padre Pio so news quickly spread and the Convent was besieged by thousands of pilgrims. Vatican was cautious and asked him to say Mass in private. Abandoned due to protest from all the pilgrims. The day before he died in 1968 his stigmata vanished.

Wednesday 24th Our Lady of Walsingham "England's Nazareth". The shrine dates from the 11th century when in 1061 the Lady of the Manor in the village of Walsingham in Norfolk had three visions of Our Lady. She was asked to build a copy of the house in Nazareth where the Annunciation took place to Our Lady. The simple wooden house soon became a place of devotion to Virgin Mary and a shrine for pilgrims. In 1153 a Priory was founded to care for the spiritual needs of the pilgrims.

<p>6.30 pm Mass Paul Chandler RIP</p>	<p>The Slipper Chapel a mile from Walsingham was built in 1340 as the “final station” on the pilgrimage to the shrine. On the “Holy Mile” the pilgrims went barefoot. A magnificent Priory Church was built in the 15th century. Reputation as pilgrimage grew as wars and political unrest in medieval times made travel to Rome and Santiago de Compostela in Spain more difficult. Visited by almost all the kings of England from King Henry III to King Henry VIII and also Queen Catherine of Aragon who was a regular pilgrim. This came to an end when King Henry VIII ordered the dissolution of the monasteries. In 1538 the Priory was closed, the “Holy House” burned to the ground and the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham taken to London and destroyed. The Slipper Chapel survived and was bought in 1896 and restored. A year later Pope Leo XIII made the Chapel a Catholic shrine. In 1921 the new Anglican Vicar of Walsingham set up a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and a new chapel was dedicated in 1931 and extended in 1938 to form the current Anglican shrine. In 1934 Cardinal Bourne led 10,000 pilgrims to the Slipper Chapel. Now pilgrimages to Walsingham are ecumenical.</p>
<p>10 am Mass</p>	<p>Thursday 25th St Sergius of Radonezh Born 1314 in Russia. Family had been impoverished when their property was taken by the Grand Duke in Moscow. Moved to village of Radonezh. Bartholomew found learning difficult until a monk gave him Communion. He became a monk in 1337, took the name Sergius and then ordained a priest. Lived with his widowed brother in solitude in a small cell and simple chapel. Then brother left to join a monastery in Moscow. Sergius had a rapport with the wild animals and they shared food. He soon became known and people visited for spiritual guidance. Other hermits joined him. The hermitage with 12 monks then attracted more monks and became Holy Trinity monastery. After arguments over life style, he left to found a new monastery. Returned to Holy Trinity on demand. Sent monks to start new monasteries, almost 40, and spread the Gospel in Russia. Monastery became the most renowned in Russia; Sergius the most famous monk.</p>
<p>NO MASS</p>	<p>Friday 26th St Cosmos and St Damian Christian twin brothers born in the 3rd century in Arabia. Both became doctors at seaport of Aegeae, present day Turkey. Did not always charge for their services. Cured many ailments and were greatly respected for their work and charity. When Roman Emperor Diocletian started persecuting Christians, it was not possible for such famous Christians to remain hidden. Both arrested but refused to denounce their faith or worship pagan gods. Tortured by various methods which did not work. Both stayed true to their faith. Martyred with their 3 younger brothers. The veneration of Cosmos and Damian spread very quickly and became the most famous martyrs of their time. Mention of their names in the Canon of the Mass in the First Eucharistic Prayer</p>
<p>6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass</p>	<p>Saturday 27th St Vincent de Paul See separate sheet of his life story</p>
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>	<p>Sunday 28th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>
<p>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</p>	
<p>Your prayers are needed for the following people</p>	
<p>Sue Chandler Hazel Sale Mary Light Trevor Delves Fr Shaun Budden Ann Drumgoole</p>	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a Special Second Collection this weekend for Home Mission. (No gift aid as it is a national appeal)
Home Mission supports the Catholic Bishops’ Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis at Eccleston Square in London whose task is to bring back people to the Catholic Church, or attract new people to the Catholic Church.

Fundraising raffle for refurbishment project and new chairs for the church

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

We need a couple of Gazebos to erect in the garden for our 50th anniversary on Sunday 28th 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.

Next SVP Social is Wednesday 1st October – 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

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 13th and 14th September

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Raffle money	Catholic Education		TOTAL of all money
£77	£19.25	£84.62	£242.54	£51.98	£475.39	£150	£88 (£22)	57.24	£792.63