

South East Hampshire Pastoral Area
Parish of Jesus Prince of Peace
St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

Priest: Father James Lewis

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, 7th September 2025

Parish Mass Book page 133

Scripture Readings at Mass

Wisdom 9:13-18 *Who can divine the will of the Lord?*

Philemon 9-10, 12-17 *Have him back, not as a slave anymore, but as a dear brother.*

Luke 4:25-33 *None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.*

Fr. Tom Hiney writes...

I worked as a freelance journalist and author for several years, writing for The Sunday Times, The Spectator, and The Observer. During that time, I also wrote a biography of the American novelist Raymond Chandler and a non-fiction book called On the Missionary Trail, which was serialised on Radio 4. In my late 20s, while based in South Africa, I began to reexplore the Christian faith of my childhood, and eventually (in my mid-30s) returned to the UK, where I attended Anglican seminary, later working as a British Army chaplain.

After being received into the Catholic Church in 2020 by Bishop Philip, I was sent to Rome for four years. I was ordained as a Catholic priest last year and have been working at the Cathedral. I am passionate about teaching the Catholic Faith and, when I have time, am still writing.

Fr. Tom will begin celebrating Masses next weekend



You are warmly invited to a gathering at St Michael's Church

Date: Sunday, 14th September, after Mass in the hall.

Occasion: Welcome to Father James and Father Tom and a chance to look ahead together as a community to share our hopes. If you have a ministry or help in any way in church life you would be most welcome.

Join us for refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Our Liturgies this week

Reconciliation; in the half hour prior to Mass

Saturday 6th September

Our Lady on Saturday

12 noon Mass for The Parish

Father James Lewis celebrates Mass

7th September

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass for Canon Gerard Flynn RIP

Father James Lewis celebrates Mass

Monday 8th September

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

Tuesday 9th September, Feria

Wednesday 10th September, Feria

10.15 am Mass for The Parish

followed by Adoration

Father James Lewis celebrates Mass

Thursday 11th September, Feria

Friday 12th September, Feria

Saturday 13th September

St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial

12 noon Mass for Canon Gerard Flynn RIP

Father James Lewis celebrates Mass

14th September

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass in thanksgiving for Father James and Father Tom

Father James Lewis and Father Tom Hiney celebrate Mass

Sacrament of Confirmation

for Young People 2026

'At the heart of our faith is one truth: God loves you' (Pope Francis)

Dear young people, parents and carers.

In the Autumn Term, we are beginning the journey for those that would like to consider receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, next Summer. This is open to all young people that are in year 8 and above from September 2025.

We are beginning with the exciting, new youth alpha series. Following this, there will be an opportunity to enrol in early January for further faith-based interactive sessions to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We are delighted that Bishop Philip will be Confirming our young people with the Holy

Spirit at the Sacred Heart Church, Waterlooville, on Tuesday 2nd June at 7pm.

If you would like to receive more information about this opportunity, please e mail: confirmation@jesusprinceofpeace.org.uk and provide your name, age, and a parent's email address and mobile.

Fr James Lewis

jlewis@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Alpha returns to St Michael's ...

We begin another programme for the autumn term. Alpha starts Monday 29th September at St Thomas More School 1pm and Tuesday 30th September at St Michael and All Angels Church at 7pm. **Alpha** is a faith-building programme. It's a way to know the faith much better. Ten meetings include video presentations and discussions ... as well as good company.

... and First Holy Communion 2026

We then get ready for First Holy Communion next year. The **Alpha** programme lays the foundations for parents and guardians of children in Year 3 and above, looking to make First Holy Communion next year. As **Alpha** ends, we will invite families to register the children. Preparation for children and parents begins in February 2026.

Sunday Mass is the most important element. Mass times are on our websites and in our newsletters. At the Sunday Mass the faithful gather for our weekly celebration of Jesus' Resurrection. We hear the scripture readings and the homily which teach about our faith.

Please sign me up for the Alpha programme

Email office@stmichealsleighpark.org.uk providing your name and email address.

Catholic Grandparents Association meet on Tuesday 9th September at 10am in the Committee Room

How your CAFOD donations make a difference

Jo Lewry invites you to come and hear about how your donations to CAFOD are making a difference to communities in Ethiopia.

On Saturday 20th September from 10:30am to 1:30pm there will be a CAFOD meeting at St Bedes Church Hall Basingstoke RG24 9DX for CAFOD volunteers and supporters - everyone is welcome. A simple lunch will be provided please book your place by emailing Jo on jlewy@cafod.org.uk