

11th August 2019

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When someone is given a great deal, a great deal will be demanded of that person; when someone is entrusted with a great deal, of that person even more will be expected." (Luke 12:48)

Immaculate Conception Church

Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East
346 Portwood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB

Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: www.immaculateconception.church

Email: portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood

Twitter: @ic_portswood

Parish Priest: Fr Antony Gatt

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)

University Chaplain: Sr Valentina Stilo (07983 883377)

Safeguarding Officer: Pat Saunders (023 80442189)

Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)

Confessions: Saturday at 10.30am after morning Mass

Rosary: Wednesdays, starting 25 mins before Mass

Hall Bookings: portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sun 11 Aug	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	†Gilbert Powell
		10.30am	†Emma Conti
		-----	No Service
Mon 12 Aug	St Jane Frances de Chantal	10 am	†Janina Dacka
Tue 13 Aug	St Pontian & St Hippolytus	11 am	FUNERAL – Margaret Taggart
Wed 14 Aug	St Maximilian Maria Kolbe	10 am	Adrian Andries
Thu 15 Aug	Holy Day of Obligation: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7.30 pm	-
Fri 16 Aug	St Stephen	10 am	Holy Souls
Sat 17 Aug	Our Lady on Saturday	10 am	Edmund Durkin
Sun 18 Aug	Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	-
		10.30am	Adrian Andries



Today's readings

1st Reading – Wisdom 18:6-9

2nd Reading – Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

Psalm – 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22

Gospel – Luke 12:32-48

Please note: In future at ALL Masses where the Responsorial Psalm is said rather than sung, the response will be said by the congregation after each verse.

Welcome to our Masses this Sunday. A particular welcome to any visitors with us on holiday in the area.

Lourdes Petitions, candles and water. I will be going to Lourdes on Friday 23rd August. If anyone would like to send petitions, have candles lit or water brought back please contact me by Thursday 22nd August. Liz Bellamy 023 8042 2047 or 0781 3628744

From Tina Leng The all-clear has been given so that I shall be winging my way to Northern Ireland on 1st August. A special thank you to everyone for their love and prayers during my stay in hospital and Greensleeves, Portswood. May our heavenly Father bless you all.

Recently died Alex Michels, father of Deidre Michels and Tracey-Lee Michels De Jongh. Alex, aged 69, died in South Africa on Friday morning after very recently being diagnosed with cancer. Please remember him and his family in your prayers at this time.

Choir Please note that the Choir will not be singing at the 10.30 am Mass during August but will start again on Sunday 8th September.

My Dear Friends

"Father, you have spent 60 years of your priestly life teaching us how to live...but you have not yet taught us how to die!" These words were part of a Parish Council's farewell speech to a very elderly missionary who had decided to spend the last few years of his life in his native country. He remained where he was! So...how do we prepare for death...?

I believe we can prepare for death by celebrating the gift of life to the full – celebrating each day as a gift, and not a taken-for-granted right! John Powell expressed it poignantly: *There are only two potential tragedies in life, and dying young isn't one of them. These are the two real tragedies: If you go through life and you don't love ... and if you go through life and you don't tell those whom you love that you love them.*

Essentially, loving, being loved is what the essence of life is about! When our hearts become more expansive, more generous, more inclusive death does not come like a thief in the night, but as St. Francis describes it, Sister Death!

I think Powell sums up life, living, death and dying very well in The Secret of Staying in Love: God isn't calling us to a lonely, joyless existence with the promise of a delayed reward. God is calling us to live, to love and enjoy the challenge. God's formulas are roadmaps to freedom and peace. God is saying to us: "The only way to live is to be free. So save your heart for love and save your love for persons. Don't ever let any 'thing' own you. Don't let money or fame or power or the pursuit of pleasure put a ring in your nose and lead you around. Love persons and use things." And of course, this is the only way to live, to be free. Enjoy the Journey!

Love, Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Antony

Money:**28th July 2019**Main Collection:

Gift Aid Envelopes inc tax reclaim - £54.50

Loose plate collection – £276.61

Standing orders - £1009.88

Second Collection – inc tax reclaim - Roof £392.37**4th August 2019**Main Collection:

Gift Aid Envelopes inc tax reclaim - £102.50

Loose plate collection – £199.45

Standing orders - £1009.88

Second Collection – inc tax reclaim - Roof £403.04**Next week: 2nd collection – Roof Fund**

We have just sent a cheque for £1195.49 to CAFOD for the money raised for Sunday cake sales for the past 12 months.

Roof Fund Standing Orders & Gift Aid

If you already gift aid your donations and would like to make a regular donation to the roof fund, we would like to encourage you to set up an additional standing order to enable easy gift aiding of these additional donations. To do this our bank details are:

Account Name: Immaculate Conception Church

Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account number 00887995.

Please quote reference "BF???" substituting your gift aid ID number for the question marks. Thank you again for all your valuable contributions.

Taize Prayer evening at Assumption Church Netley on Sunday August 18th at 6.30pm. ALL WELCOME. Very calm, prayerful with song, prayers and meditation shared in a loving community.

Vocations “... for He has prepared a city for them.” Are you called to lead the Lord's people to the eternal city that He has prepared for them? 'To explore further, contact Fr John Cook vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Tel: 01329 318869

Vocation Seeker Barbecue, Tuesday 27th August

7pm Bishop Philip is hosting a Barbecue with Evening Prayer, for those who may be considering a vocation to the Priesthood - even if tentatively. Come and see. It will be a friendly & relaxed evening. Our Seminarians will be at the gathering too. Our Diocesan Clergy are also invited to attend and to bring with them anyone in their Parish who may be interested. If you hope to come, please get in touch asap to book your place. The BBQ is aimed at those aged 16 to 55 (abiding by normal safeguarding procedures if under 18). If you know anyone in your Parish who may like to attend this, please let us know asap and we can make contact with them:
vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Pastoral Area Newsletter Please find copies of the Summer Pastoral Area Newsletter in the porch to take away.

SONGS OF PRAISE You are warmly invited to a special outdoor Songs of Praise music recording at **The Wight Proms** this August. The evening will include performances from some very special guests. All are welcome and we are especially keen for enthusiastic singers to join us and lead the viewers at home in the singing. The recording will take place on Wednesday 28th August, 6:00pm – 9:00pm. This event will be in the beautiful grounds of Northwood House, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 8AZ. Seating will be informal, please bring your own chairs or rugs to sit on the grass. To apply for free tickets, please send your name, address, contact phone number and number of tickets requested to SOPcongregations@avantimedia.tv Please include 'Songs of Praise Isle of Wight' in your subject header. Alternatively, you can call us on **0161 873 7073** to book your tickets.

ADORE: Alton Day of Renewal Praying more effectively for family, friends and others to come into a relationship with the Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit... This is part of our overall 2019 theme "The Power of Prayer - praying to make a difference in the world." Guest Speaker, Fr Mark Hogan. Come for the whole day, or just morning or afternoon. No need to book in advance and it's free but we do invite donations on the day, for those who can afford it, to cover expenses. 11 am Rosary, 11.30 am Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession, 1 pm Shared lunch (bring finger food to share.), 2 pm Praise & Worship, 2.30 pm Talk, 3.30 pm Healing ministry, 4 pm Finish

CAFOD | Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

CAFOD Update meeting 18th September

Wednesday 18th September from 7:15pm to 9pm at St Colman's Church, St Colman's Avenue Portsmouth PO6 2JJ. Jess Micheltoreau our Communications Officer for Latin America will be speaking about our work in Columbia and how your donations are making a difference to people's lives. Please book your place so that we have an idea of how many people are coming by emailing portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or phone 01252 329385

A day with Mary at St John's Catholic Cathedral, Sat 7th Sept, 9.45 am – 5.15 pm starting with Mass celebrated by Bishop Philip. A day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. See poster on noticeboard for further details or www adaywithmary.org

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – 21st Feb – 4th March 2021, organised by Fr John Cook. Please note: *there is a fair amount of walking involved & stamina required to join this Pilgrimage*. For further details please contact Fr John Cook or Mrs Clare Ryan on 01329 318 869.

Vacancy, Diocesan Property Manager:

Salary £25,000—£35,000. See Diocesan website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for job description, more information and an application form. Closing date 14th August 2019.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:
Thursday & Friday 9.30 am – 3.00 pm