

18<sup>th</sup> August 2019

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

"I have come to bring fire to the earth."

(Luke 12:49)

### Immaculate Conception Church

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

Tel: (023) 8055 5470

Website: [www.immaculateconception.church](http://www.immaculateconception.church)

Email: [portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

<b>Sun 18 Aug</b>	<b>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	8.30am	-
		10.30am	Adrian Andries
		-----	No Service
Mon 19 Aug	St John Eudes		
Tue 20 Aug	St Bernard	10 am	
Wed 21 Aug	St Pius X	11 am	FUNERAL – Margaret Gallagher
Thu 22 Aug	The Queenship of Mary	10 am	John Laurent
Fri 23 Aug	St Rose of Lima	10 am	
Sat 24 Aug	St Bartholomew	10 am	John Bannon
<b>Sun 25 Aug</b>	<b>Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	8.30am	†Mgr Patrick Murphy-O'Connor
		10.30am	Adrian Andries



#### Today's readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Psalm – 40: 2-4, 18 (14b)

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Hebrews 12: 1-4

Gospel – Luke 12:49-53

**Please note:** 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.

### IMPORTANT ROOF NEWS

Please be sure to read carefully the **separate roof newsletter**. Scaffolding is about to be put up and whilst work is taking place, the church will be closed which means we must move all activities to the hall for the next few months.

Please also take a **volunteer sheet**. Your help is essential to the smooth running of this project so please use this sheet to sign up for whatever you can help with.

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

**Adult Baptism** During the 10 am Mass on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August we welcome into the Christian faith community, Enah Asinya who has been preparing for the last few months. Please pray for him as he continues his Christian journey.

### My dear Friends:

Today's readings and Gospel message can be summed up in the words, "I am on fire with zeal for the Lord God of hosts" [1 Kg 19: 10]). That *fire* is a burning love which is, and has been, the radiance of a soul's intimacy with God. It is a love so intense that the person cannot contain it, but wants to proclaim it from the mountain tops! It is a romance between the soul and God which is more precious than life itself. This divine romance is demonstrated in the lives of the countless men and women, sung and unsung heroes and heroines, who have poured their lives into translating that divine love into relationship with others.

As a child I remember summer drawing to a close, and the first autumnal breeze heralding the chills of winter. A place where friends and families sat around glowing fires sharing hopes and dreams. I have never seen a family sitting around an open refrigerator! I guess the message is that as families and Faith Communities, it is the warmth of God's love burning within us as we strive to be a community which is warm, positive, inclusive and attractive, that God's love is experienced and shared.

Our prayer is to be *on fire with zeal for the Lord God of hosts*.

Peace, love and Blessings,  
Fr. Antony

## Money:

### Main Collection:

Gift Aid Envelopes inc tax reclaim - £151.86

Loose plate collection – £298.28

Standing orders - £1080.27

Second Collection – inc tax reclaim - Roof £437.87

**Next week:** 2nd collection – Roof Fund

**Taize Prayer evening** at Assumption Church Netley TODAY at 6.30pm. ALL WELCOME.

Very calm, prayerful with song, prayers and meditation shared in a loving community.

## Vocations "I have come to set the earth on fire,"

*Do you want to carry the fire of the Lord to his people as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?* 'To explore further, contact Fr John Cook [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Tel: 01329 318869

## Vocation Seeker Barbecue, Tuesday 27th August

**7pm** Hosted by Bishop Philip, 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](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**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](http://www adaywithmary.org)

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb – 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**SONGS OF PRAISE** A special outdoor Songs of Praise music recording at **The Wight Proms** Wed 28<sup>th</sup> August, 6 – 9 pm including performances from some very special guests. All welcome. We are especially keen for enthusiastic singers to join us. 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](mailto: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.

## Quiet Day ~ Called by Name

**7th September 10.30- 4.30**

**Verbum Dei Retreat Centre, Nunnery Lane, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight**

From the mainland we will be using the 9.00am vehicle ferry and returning at 5.30pm. There is the option of travelling Friday night on the 8.15pm ferry. Cost is a donation to the Community; lunch is provided and endless coffee and tea.

To book a place or for more information contact Patricia Yandell on 07835948435 or email [patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk) or Sister Dora on 01983 529554 or [doraluzgc@gmail.com](mailto:doraluzgc@gmail.com)

**CAFOD** | Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

## CAFOD Update meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September from 7:15pm to 9pm at St Colman's Church, St Colman's Avenue Portsmouth PO6 2JJ. Jess Michelmores 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](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) or phone 01252 329385

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE VIGIL:** at BPAS Abortion Centre, Royal South Hants Hospital, Brintons Terrace, Southampton, SO14 0YG. 25 September – 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Join us in this ecumenical witness alongside people of other faiths and those of no religious persuasion, standing in solidarity for the sacredness of life. Your witness, fasting, and prayer is literally a matter of life or death... It is a most humbling spiritual work of mercy... we are not there to judge, just to BE THERE for a woman who has no one else to turn to in her crisis. To sign up for 1 hour/week for 6 weeks ring/text the local co-ordinator Adam Smith-Connor 07535 937 865 or email [40daysfor-lifesouthampton@gmail.com](mailto:40daysfor-lifesouthampton@gmail.com) (if unable to commit each week, whatever you can is much appreciated)

**Launch Event:** Tuesday, 17 September (8 days before the vigil starts) 7pm Holy Family Church, Redbridge Hill, Millbrook SO16 4PL. The event includes a showing of the highly acclaimed, sensitive "Unplanned" film which has had huge box-office success this year in the USA. Further information at [40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/Southampton](http://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/Southampton).

*Prayer and witness near abortion centres have proved life-saving for thousands of babies who would otherwise have been aborted, their mothers avoiding life-long agony and regret. Now however silent prayer and witness are being suppressed in British courts of law against this country's greatest asset of free speech and free public assembly...As Pope Francis reminded us once again this May, opposition to abortion is not a religious issue but a human rights issue.*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30 am – 3.00 pm