

10th May 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter: Year A Part 1

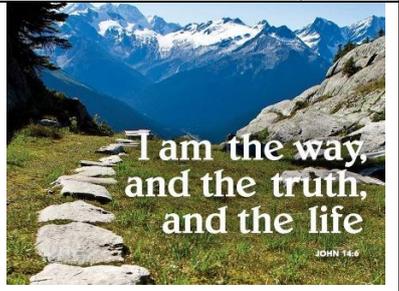
"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me." John 14 v1

Immaculate Conception Church

Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East
346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB
Tel: (023) 8055 5470
Website: www.immaculateconception.church
Email: portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood
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Parish Priest: Fr Antony Gatt

Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)
University Chaplain: Sr Valentina Stilo (07983 883377)
Safeguarding Officer: Pat Saunders (08044 2189)
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 10th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter		
Mon 11 th May	Fifth week of Easter		
Tue 12 th May	Fifth week of Easter	Pat Dunne RIP	
Wed 13 th May	Our Lady of Fatima	Mary Preston RIP	
Thurs 14 th May	Fifth week of Easter		
Fri 15 th May	St Matthias	Irene Matthews RIP	
Sat 16 th May	Fifth week of Easter		
Sun 17 May	Sixth Sunday of Easter		
	SUNDAY'S READINGS 1st Reading: Acts 6 1:7 Psalm 32 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2 4:9 Gospel: John 14: 1-12	NO PUBLIC MASSES Fr Antony will say Mass privately each day and include all requested Mass intentions The Parish Office is closed. The Parish email is still checked. For non -urgent matters please send an email to portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Enquiries re the Sacraments --please make an appointment by email. Unless it is an emergency , please keep calls/emails to a minimum on Mondays as this is Fr Antony's day off.	
	Rosary for May will be said via zoom Wednesdays 1830 see details on the other newsletter		

A recorded Sunday Mass will be on line, on facebook and parish whatsapp for 1000 Sunday morning

My dear Friends:

How are you? Well, the sun is shining, and the birds are singing. If it *is* cloudy today, we know that the sun is still there, radiantly bright, behind those clouds!

This Sunday's readings are very interesting! Even in the early days of the Church, 'Faith' Communities had their tensions and challenges. It would appear the widows and orphans of the Greek-speaking Jews (Hellenists), felt they were getting a raw deal in the distribution of charitable relief from the Hebrews (Aramaic-speaking Jews). In this relief work the Hebrews seemed to favour their own, Aramaic-speaking clan! The Hellenists were not amused!

The response to this human dilemma gave birth to the creation of the diaconate! These deacons (*diakonia*), a number of whom were Greek-speaking, Hellenists,

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5^h Sunday of Easter Year A : Newsletter Part 2

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The **Parish Bank Account** details are:

Name: **PRCDTR Immaculate Conception Church**

Sort Code 30-93-04

Account No: 00887995

For special donations give a reference please e.g.

RF = Roof Fund

ERF = Emergency Relief Fund

followed by your gift aid number if you donate in this
way

Thank you for your support and patience at this time

SAINT OF THE WEEK: St Matthias, Apostle

Matthias, whose name means 'Gift of God,' was not one of the original twelve disciples. He filled the vacancy left by Judas Iscariot after Judas betrayed Jesus and committed suicide. Matthias won a random ballot of two candidates selected by the others. This means that he must have been respected by the others to have been nominated. It was a Jewish tradition at that time to make the final decision by drawing 'lots'. People who were thought suitable were nominated, but the final decision was then left in the 'hands of God'. Very little is known about him. We do know from the Acts of the Apostles that he was one of the 72 who were sent out to preach the Good News (See Acts Chapter 1).

He had been a follower of Jesus since Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist. He was a witness to the Resurrection and remained with Jesus until his Ascension. Tradition has it that he travelled to Cappadocia, Jerusalem, Caspian sea and Ethiopia. Some early Church fathers claimed that he wrote a Gospel, but, if it existed, it has been lost.

CALL FOR EXPERTISE/ASSISTANCE WITH BROADCASTING. We have an urgent need for the voluntary help of parishioners with expertise in broadcasting and audio-visual media as we wish to (1) improve the quality of what we currently do and; (2) expand our ability to 'reach out' through these 'social distance' times. **Please** contact us by email at the parish office or leave a message on the answer phone. Thank you for your support.

MASSES FOR THE SICK AND THEIR FAMILIES, NHS FRONT-LINE WORKERS AND THOSE WORKING IN SOCIAL CARE: 1900 Thursdays finishes before the Care workers applause at 2000

In order to show a spiritual solidarity with all those who are involved in the ways described above, each week from next Thursday, a Catholic Bishop will celebrate Mass in their Cathedral which will be live-streamed for people to join. This will take place **every Thursday at 7pm.**

14 May Bishop Robert Byrne CO [St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle YouTube Channel](#)

21 May Bishop Mark Davies [Our Lady Help of Christians and Saint Peter of Alcantara, Shrewsbury](#)

28 May Bishop Terence Drainey [St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough YouTube Channel](#)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: While this notice was placed in the newsletter in March, we just wish to remind parents/guardians that the First Holy Communion programme is suspended until Government restrictions allow us to reconvene and have Mass with the Eucharist. There is therefore NO First Holy Communion Mass in June. We will be sending

further information to both current and future parents (for First Holy Communion in 2021) as soon as we can.

FINANCES: At the moment, **the only source of income** that the parish receives to maintain the site, support the parish priest and deal with the regular utilities and bills comes from those parishioners who donate on a regular basis through their banks. This gives on average £1100.51 per week. Thank you for continuing your regular donations. If you usually put money in the collection basket at Mass, you may wish to consider setting up a standing order with your bank instead. Standing order forms, together with Gift Aid forms if you are a UK tax payer, are available on the parish website under the 'forms' tab. We appreciate that this is not suitable for everyone, so please consider putting money aside, dropping envelopes into the presbytery or signing up to internet banking!

QUIZ CORNER (answers below)¹

1. The city of Isnik in modern Turkey was originally part of Ancient Greece. What was the 'ancient' name of this city and what famous event took place there in the 4th Century?
2. What am I? I am a length of cloth with the embedded image of a man.
3. What am I? I am a metal container suspended by chains from the ceiling/roof of a church. What is my function?
4. Who said? *"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."*

Details for joining the Zoom Virtual Rosary on Wednesday May 13th at 1830 (6.30pm)

(last week we were delighted to find Hector and Beatrice joining us from Latin America!)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82268412590?pwd=cUt0LOJSSjJlT0NvMW5RNmNLTm1rQT09>

Meeting ID: 822 6841 2590 Password: 009341

Dial by your UK location: 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 or 0131 460 1196 or 0203 051 2874

One tap mobile +442034815237,,82268412590#,,1#,009341# United Kingdom

+442034815240,,82268412590#,,1#,009341# United Kingdom

International: Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82268412590?pwd=cUt0LOJSSjJlT0NvMW5RNmNLTm1rQT09>

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL HELP AND SUPPORT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSOUTHAMPTON/bulletins/2880bf0>

Here is the latest news from the City Council :

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSOUTHAMPTON/bulletins/286c920>

And this one for this bank holiday week end- including VE Day activities

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSOUTHAMPTON/bulletins/28a5610>

¹ The first Council of Nicea (Nicaea) was a meeting of the senior bishops of Christianity. They developed and agreed the Nicene Creed which clarified the nature of God the Son to the Father and stated the core beliefs of Christianity. The Council also settled the date for Easter and started what we now know as canon law. (2) Turin Shroud which is argued to be the burial cloth of Jesus, although this cannot be proven scientifically. (3) A Thurible – an incense burner. Most types of incense are made from the resins of trees, like frankincense and have special oils added to them. The burning of incense is very ancient, and it symbolizes our prayers rising to Heaven. In the very old days when people didn't wash very often, had no deodorants and worked in the fields, the sweat and smell of the farms could make the Church smell! So incense helped 'cleanse' or 'purify' the smells, rather like we use deodorants or air fresheners today! The very old Cathedrals would have enormous incense burners (thuribles) swinging the full length of the Church to keep the Church smelling clean! (4) Mother Teresa.

A Prayer of Encouragement

Lord, You are the wind in my sails
You guide me as I steer and find direction.
You give me the strength to keep on going.
You watch over me as I navigate stormy seas.
You are the harbour where I stop for rest.
You are my encourager when I lose hope
. You are the lighthouse that keeps my path safe.
You are with me always. Thank you. Amen

(a short prayer of encouragement from www.lords-prayer-words.com)

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have produced some guidance for a range of different circumstances during COVID-19. This one is about making prayer and worship at home accessible for those with intellectual disabilities

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/accessible-communication/>

Do well you know your catechism?!!!

Here is a helpful A-Z index of the Catechism on the Vatican website vatican.va

How about the seven principles of Catholic Social teaching?

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Catholic-social-teaching->

or a video presentation from a Catholic who is Director of Public Health in Hereford on.

"Catholic Social Teaching and COVID-19"

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/covid-19-and-cst/>

Nurses Day: Tuesday 12th May is the 200th anniversary of the birth of **Florence Nightingale**. Internationally it was going to be the focal point of events to celebrate the WHO 'International Year of the Nurse' and is traditionally international nurses' day. There are many connections to 'Flo' locally, so although she was born in Florence (hence her name) she grew up at the main family home in Embley Park, she produced the blue prints for the old military hospital at Netley and first began to nurse around Embley Park and the Salisbury area.

Florence was a real 'polymath' being excellent in mathematics, literature, philosophy and history – as well as being fluent in French, Italian, Latin and Greek! The founder of modern nursing she argued for compassionate, skilled, and intelligent nurses, having introduced the first training school at St Thomas's London. She wrote many books on nursing and how to nurse. She was a prolific writer to her former students who were 'sent' to spread her ideas and standards around the world. She is renowned for being a social reformer, public health advocate and statistician. Indeed she developed the Coxcomb chart to assess mortality.

Nightingale pioneered district nursing and community nursing. She led reforms in India, and across the then Empire. Whether it was in the Crimea, or later, she battled for supplies, standards, and vocational professionalism. She stood up to medical staff and politicians in a male dominated society. Using her family contacts and friends, she was

a real political power. A very religious person, she saw nursing as a 'calling from God' and remarked:

"To be a fellow worker with God is the highest aspiration of which we can conceive man capable".

She is buried in the family plot in St Margaret's Church East Wellow. Here are a few of her famous quotes -most are from 'Notes on Nursing' (1859). They remain very relevant today:

"The very first requirement in a hospital is that it should do the sick no harm."

"Let whoever is in charge keep this simple question in her head (not, how can I always do this right thing myself, but) how can I provide for this right thing to be always done?"

"How very little can be done under the spirit of fear".

POET'S CORNER from Dennis Wilson- our weekly morale booster! Thank you Dennis!

The mother, as a normal rule, all alcohol forsook
But, as a cold was coming on, a dose of whisky took;
Then later, with her child in bed, to kiss 'goodnight' she bent:
"Oh Mummy!" said the little girl, "You're using Daddy's scent!"

Do you know who these three children are?²



RECENTLY DECEASED- RIP

Maire Quirk late of Bassett, Southampton. Graveside burial in Cornwall, but the family hope to have a memorial mass later in year in Southampton. May Maire rest in peace.

Kathleen White passed away peacefully supported by the Sacraments on 6th May. Many of you will remember Kathy for her gardening skills and cheerful tender loving care of the roses and gardens for many, many years.

Mary Preston, Brian's sister (Isle of Wight).

Please pray for these cherished ladies and their families.

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord, May they Rest in Peace. Amen

² The three children who saw Our Lady of Fatima: Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto.