

16th August 2020

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, YEAR A

'Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled'
(Luke 1:45)

<p>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 Twitter: @ic_portswood</p>	<p>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) Enquiries re the Sacraments: please make an appointment by email. Hall Bookings are not being taken at present .</p>
---	---

BOOKING TO ATTEND MASS

PLEASE NOTE due to current government guidelines, available capacity in the church is limited to 40 persons / 14 households except Saturday when it is 24.

Therefore, attendance at mass is advised through the BOOKABLE SYSTEM

Details of how to book a place for Holy Mass are on the last page of this newsletter and on the parish website.

Sun 16 Aug	10 am	ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Sunday Mass available from 10 am on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youtube • Facebook • Parish Website *Saturday Mass is recorded for Sunday	Audrey Reid RIP	 SUNDAY'S READINGS 1st Reading: Apoc 11:19,12:1-6,10 Psalm: Psalm 44(45):10-12,16 2nd Reading: 1 Corinth's 15:20-26 Gospel: Luke 1:39-56  https://www.dropbox.com/s/w7txdpumn69t0in/Children%27s%20Liturgy%20Video%2016.08.20.mp4?dl=0
	5.30 pm		-	
Mon 17 Aug	—	Feria	No Service	
Tues 18 Aug	10 am	Feria	Edmund Durkin RIP	
Wed 19Aug	7.30 pm	St John Eudes	John Laurent RIP	
Thurs 20 Aug	—	St Bernard	No Service – External funeral	
Fri 21 Aug	—	St Pius X	No Service	
Sat 22 Aug	10 am	The Queenship of Mary	Michelle & family	
Sun 23 Aug	10 am	21st Sunday Ordinary Time	-	
	5.30 pm		Constancio Botelho RIP	

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever. Amen

<p>The Parish Bank Account details are: Name: PRCDTR Immaculate Conception Church Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account No: 00887995 For donations please give a reference e.g: ERF = Emergency Relief Fund, GEN = General Fund (offertory collection), followed by your gift aid number if you donate in this way. <i>Thank you for your support and patience at this time</i></p>	<p>Contacting the parish While the Parish Office is often physically closed, the Parish email is still checked. For non-urgent matters please send an email to portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Unless it is an emergency, please keep calls/emails to a minimum on Mondays as this is Fr Antony's day off.</p>
---	---

My dear Friends



Today we are celebrating the *Feast of the Assumption!* This feast celebrates the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, body and soul into heaven. It is a feast celebrated by Catholic, Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Christians. Within the Catholic Tradition, it was promulgated as a dogma by Pope Pius XII in 1950. This is sometimes referred to as Mary's *dormition* or *falling asleep* – as she had not been touched by sin.

The question? In the grinding challenges of daily life against the backdrop of COVID19, multiple global catastrophes from Beirut to landslides, flooding, international and national conflicts, train disasters and humanitarian crises, what

has this doctrine and the celebration of this feast to say to me? What message does it contain to enlighten and guide me amid the stresses, pressures and anxieties I am experiencing?

You have often heard me refer to one of Mary's most beautiful titles, the *Theotokos* (Θεοτόκος *God-Bearer*)! You have also heard me refer to her as the first *living* tabernacle. Think about it! In her time,

- while she was the *God-Bearer*, she risked being ostracised by family and community;
- she was surrounded by social and religious stresses and pressures;
- she experienced political oppression and persecution;
- while trying to fulfil her civic responsibilities, she ended up homeless;
- like many migrants and refugees around the world, she herself became one as she sought refuge from tyrants who saw her Son as a threat to their wealth and corrupt power!

During all these trials and tribulations, she remained the *God-Bearer*! You know, I think the same applies to you and me!

I firmly believe, that for all our brokenness, emotional, psychological and spiritual woundedness; our countless human frailties and irritating foibles, when we receive the Eucharist, we, too, become the *God-Bearers* to our families, communities and world! We, too, become vibrant, radiating, loving, living tabernacles. It is then that the sometimes dusty storerooms of our hearts and souls, which had been hitherto filled with sheaves of dried out '*Christian things we should do*' are transformed into the beating heart of God, and the life-giving breath of the Holy Spirit!



Possibly, the scriptural scholars, and theologians, would not quite appreciate another facet of *dormition/falling asleep...However*, there are times when we '*fall asleep*' to the reality of our being *God-Bearers* to our world. The wonderful challenge of this feast is to allow the breath of God dwelling within *us* to fill us with pulsating life, renewed love, and inspiring Hope; for our own hearts to beat with the unfathomable love of His heartbeat; and, our eyes, words and actions to radiate the spirit of His Hope, Peace, Reconciliation, Forgiveness and Healing. The feast of the Assumption, borne by us into the world...as the *Theotokos, God-Bearer!*

Remember me as loving you,

Fr. Antony

Message from Fr Antony.....

As you know, we received an extremely generous legacy/donation which effectively wiped out our debt. I am now able to tell you that the amount came to £550,000! Our generous benefactors have chosen to remain anonymous. This gift will help and enable the parish, especially post COVID19, to address the pastoral, spiritual and social challenges of the next 25 years. Our prayerful thanks and appreciation to the donors. May God truly bless and reward their generosity. Our parish is named *The Immaculate Conception*. She is certainly looking after us.

With thanks and appreciation
Fr. Antony

AU REVOIR NOT ADIEU!

Dear Father Antony & my faith family, John & I are moving to Devon on Tuesday September 1st to be closer to one of our children & 3 grandchildren. Thank you all so much for over 40 years of friendship, laughter, tears (just a few!) , support & prayers ; we will miss you.

With love & all good wishes for the future,
John & Maryvonne (Tipper)

RECENTLY DIED Melentina (Tina) Leng



Please remember Tina and her family in your prayers. Tina died in hospital on Tuesday evening of this week with her son by her side. Her funeral is to be held here on Friday 28th August. Unfortunately due to the current situation, only a very limited number of invited family and friends will be able to attend. There will be a box in the church porch, in which you can put any cards you might want to send to the family, which will be passed to them by the funeral directors after the funeral.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

The Pastoral Team is looking for volunteers to join our parish St Luke's Bereavement Group which is really short of help. No previous experience required as Fr Antony will be providing training, but an interest in providing some practical and emotional support to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Please have a chat with Fr Antony or contact the parish office if you would be interested in finding out more.



QUIZ CORNER (Answers at bottom of the next page)

1. Where am I? I am mentioned in the Bible as being in the land of the Edonites- with whom King David and Saul regularly fought. I am about 50 miles away from the Dead Sea. King Amaziah took control of me and I was then known as "Joktheel" (2 Kings 14:7). My Hebrew name is Sela. I have appeared in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. Moses passed near me in the Exodus.
2. Who am I? I am the last Catholic King of England, Ireland and Scotland. (Wales was then within the Kingdom of England)
3. What am I? I am the second ex-cathedra infallible statement ever made by a Pope (made in 1950). (hint, Feast Day this week)
4. Who said? "The road to hell is paved with good intentions."

LENTEN JAM JARS

Now that we are open again for Mass, if you took home a Jam Jar before Lockdown for our Lenten Challenge to fill with change, please bring in any Jars you have and give them to the stewards in the porch as soon as possible. Thank you

BISHOPS NEWSLETTER – E NEWS Latest round up of news from the Bishop and around the Diocese.
Next issue available on the Diocesan website on 26th August due to holiday time

PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST

https://shoutout.wix.com/so/28NDDwK_w?cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af#/main

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' NEWS can be found at:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/>

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS FROM AROUND THE UK free online: <http://www.churchpaper.co.uk>

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL HELP AND SUPPORT

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid19/i-need-help.aspx>

and **CITY CORONAVIRUS UPDATE FOR THIS WEEK – includes youtube video update from Council Leader**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSOUTHAMPTON/bulletins/298d8f6>

PARISH WEBSITE: Don't forget you can access many resources on the parish website by going to this link.

<https://www.immaculateconception.church/downloads> Go to documents/resources.

SVP SUMMER CHALLENGES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

'Young Vincentians Summer Challenges' which all young people are invited to engage in over the next 6 weeks - "Seeds of Hope" Garden Design challenge and the "Summer Reading Challenge" for older young adults. More information at the following links:

Garden Design

<https://www.svp.org.uk/youth-svp/seeds-hope>

Closing Date 28th August

Summer Reading Challenge

<https://www.svp.org.uk/sites/default/files/content/Youth%20SVP%20Summer%20Challenge%202020.pdf>

To find out more about the work of SVP:

<https://www.svp.org.uk/>



QUIZ ANSWERS: (1) Petra, Jordan – The Rose City. (2) James 2 of England and 7th of Scotland (3) The Dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary- found in the document "Munificentissimus Deus" (Most Bountiful God), (4) St Bernard of Clairvaux

WISDOM CENTRE ROMSEY - REOPENING



We are delighted to announce that we are ready to safely welcome you back to Wisdom Centre for our Autumn/ Winter programme of events and Quiet Days from September onwards. Counselling services resumed at the beginning of August and our up and coming events are listed below. Further details are available on our website at: <https://www.wisdomhouseromsey.org.uk/wellbeing-and-spirituality-2/>. Like many similar organisations we are relying on your kind support to help us rebuild.

Most importantly, we hope you and your families have kept well throughout this unsettling time. We are doing everything possible to ensure the safety of guests, visitors, friends and staff. More about the safety procedures we have put in place can be found in our 'Keeping everyone safe' document at https://www.wisdomhouseromsey.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Keeping-Everyone-Safe_2_08_08_2020.pdf. You can also contact us on 01794 830051 or email us at reception@wisdomhouseromsey.co.uk

9th September at 7.30pm
WEDNESDAY EVENING MEDITATION GROUP
 will be starting up again on the. Please arrive in plenty of time, you will also need to book by Wednesday lunchtime by phoning or emailing the centre
 Tel: 01794 830206
 E mail: reception@wisdomhouseromsey.co.uk

Our **FRIDAY MORNING MEDITATION GROUP** also hopes to start up again soon.

17th October 2020
DIVINE NATURE IN THE CELTIC TRADITION:
A Day of Celtic Spirituality
 Facilitator: David Cole

21st November 2020
LISTEN AND YOUR SOUL WILL LIVE:
"Come all who are thirsty" Isaiah 55
 Facilitator: Patricia Yandell

26th September 2020
ENCOUNTERS ALONG THE WAY:
Join with Jesus as he journeys from place to place
 Facilitator: Pat Clegg

5th December 2020
ADVENT: A TIME OF WAITING
 Facilitator: Margaret Smithson

Join as a Street Pastor
and show God's love where
it's needed most.



Pictures Taken pre-lockdown and social distancing.

For over 11 years our teams have been patrolling the streets of Southampton offering reassurance, safety and support through listening, caring and helping. Volunteers come from over 50 churches, giving 4-6 hours for a patrol once a month to show the love of Jesus in the City and suburbs in various ways, from the practical to the spiritual. Throughout lockdown we have continued to patrol adapting our patrol format, times and places to be where we are needed. With the growth and requests for patrols we are in need of more volunteers for night-time patrols, evening community patrols and for afternoon community patrols.

To gain an insight into what it is to be a street pastor why not come on an observation with a patrol. To book up a convenient date just contact the office, details below

The next training dates are (Fri 7.30-9.30pm, Sat and Sun 9.30-4.30):

Friday eve, 9th, Saturday, 10th, Sunday, 11th Oct.

Friday eve, 23rd, Saturday, 24th, Sunday, 25th Oct.

Friday eve, 6th, and Saturday, 7th Nov.

Saturday, 14th Nov

Applications needed by Friday, 2nd October 2020

Apply now or find out more, just call or email us.

Call 023 8033 3387 Email: southampton@streetpastors.org.uk

Website: southamptonstreetpastors.org—application form available

Facebook: Southampton Street Pastors

SOUTHAMPTON STREET PASTORS

We are in need of more volunteers for Night-Time Patrols , Evening Community and Afternoon Community Patrols.

Could you help as a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor?

More information here on the posters or view the Street Pastor website at:

<https://streetpastors.org/locations/southampton/join/>

Ever thought about being a
PRAYER PASTOR with
Southampton Street Pastors?



Pictures taken pre-lockdown and social distancing.

Southampton Street Pastor patrols always have a Prayer Pastor team praying, whether it is a night-time, evening or afternoon patrol. Prayer for individuals and situations found on the street are requested from the Prayer Pastors in real time. Powerful answers to prayer are seen throughout the patrols. Our

11 years in the community has enabled us to be a tool for the churches to pray deeply and effectively for Southampton where it is needed most. James 5 v16 says: *"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective"*.

Could you give 4-6 hours once a month?

Prayer Pastors can apply at anytime. You are placed on a team of your chosen patrol type, praying once a month and you know your rota a year in advance.

Call us or email us to find out more or book an observation .

Call 023 8033 3387 Email: southampton@streetpastors.org.uk

Website: southamptonstreetpastors.org

Facebook: Southampton Street Pastors



Monthly meeting of
the Catholic
Charismatic Renewal

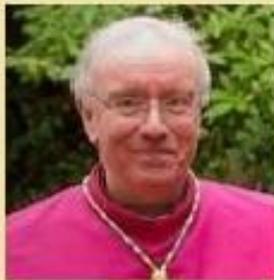
2020 THEME: THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – Are we listening?

Alton Day of Renewal has provided monthly spiritual refreshment for 45 years, and is one of the longest continually running Days of Renewal in the country. Come and renew your faith at this online mini-retreat morning.

Saturday 22nd August

45 YEARS OF ADORE “Filled with the Holy Spirit”

ADORE ONLINE 22 AUGUST
45th Anniversary Celebration



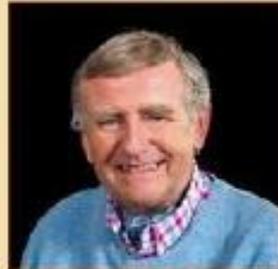
MASS



ADORATION



PRAISE



TALK

Mass and Adoration: Bishop Philip Egan
Hosting and Praise: Alastair Emblem
Guest Speaker: Charles Whitehead
Theme: How to be filled with the Holy Spirit

Follow up healing prayer ministry by telephone:
Call **07579 824523** 1.30-5.30 after the meeting,
or weekdays 10.00-4.00

We celebrate 45 years of Alton Day of Renewal with a special live-streamed Mass from Bishop Philip Egan at Portsmouth Cathedral, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Then, through our praise, reflection and inspiring talk from Charles Whitehead KSG, we will find out how we (like Mary, Elizabeth and John the Baptist at the Visitation) can be filled with the Holy Spirit and with joy.

We will pray for all participants to receive a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit and there will be opportunity for individual prayer by phone.

Timetable for the day (approximate timings)

9.30am	Rosary (not online – say privately)
10.00am	Mass, followed by Adoration
11.00am	Praise & Worship; reflection
11.30am	Speaker
12.30pm	End
1.30-5.00	Telephone Healing Ministry

Joining details

10.00 Live-stream Mass

www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/live-mass

11.00 Remainder of programme on Zoom. Please register in advance on [THIS LINK](#) or go to www.altonrenewal.com/contact.html and we will send you the link and password to the meeting.

More information at www.altonrenewal.com

Next meeting: 19th September 2020 10.00-12.30 “Here is your mother”
Speaker: Fr John Seddon OSB

Arrangements for attending Mass

The Church will be open for Mass only as follows:

Sundays: 1000 and 1730 (5.30pm)

Tuesdays 1000

Wednesdays 1930-7.30pm

Thursdays 1200 (noon)

Saturday 1000 – for those with special circumstances- recorded Sunday mass

Email booking : icmassbookings@gmail.com (preferred)

080024613720 for those with no internet.

For a guaranteed seat you will need to book in advance. However, you can turn up on the day on a **‘first come, first served basis’**. You will need to arrive at least **10 minutes before mass starts**, and be prepared to wait for vacancies /cancellations. [Please wait by the garden side of the church].

To make a booking:

- i) Send an email request to this email address: **icmassbookings@gmail.com** and state
 - a. Your name and address.
 - b. The total number in your household coming to Mass (let us know if there are under 10s).
 - c. The preference for the day of the week and mass time you wish to attend. (If you can give a second choice that will help if there are too many requests for one Mass time).
 - d. Whether there is a special circumstance (e.g. wheelchair access, working hours)
- ii) Or call this number **0800 2461372** and leave a message. We provide this option for those who have no access to the internet. If you have internet access, please email us.

You must specify the day of week and time you would like to attend Mass. This will be your usual Mass time each week. For the time being, *you cannot book more than one Mass a week* to allow as many people as possible to attend Mass. We are asking those who are retired, and those who can attend a Mass during the week, to sign up for a weekday Mass. Please do not ‘swop’ mass bookings, rather cancel them through the booking system, so we can release seats for those on shift work etc. Those who work unpredictable shifts should email us on a Wednesday for the following week. When your booking is confirmed, you will receive details of your seat and row number in Church. Numbers 1-10 are on the Sacristy side and 11-20 on the Lady Chapel side. Please try to arrive at the recommended time so we can prevent a queue.

Please do let us know if you need to cancel, or make a change, by emailing: icmassbookings@gmail.com or phone 0800 2461372 and leave a message. Any alterations or changes will normally be made on Wednesday of each week for the following week and we will do our best to help you. Just let us know if you have a query.

Capacity for Mass: Sunday- Thursday included – 40 people or 14 households

Capacity for Saturday mass (recorded) excluding households- 27

Specific Mass times and details are as follows overleaf.

MASSES AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SATURDAY 10 AM

The Sunday 'recorded' mass and for those with special circumstances – ***attendance MUST be booked for this Mass***

SUNDAY 10 AM, AND 5.30PM

Designed for those whose cannot come during the week, families, and those with unpredictable shifts. (for a **guaranteed seat you will still need to book in advance. However**, you can turn up on the day on a 'first come, first served basis'. You will need to arrive at least 10 minutes before mass starts)

TUESDAY 10 AM*

For those who can come during a weekday- ***attendance MUST be booked for this Mass.***

WEDNESDAY 7.30PM

For those who are on shifts and can come on an evening to take pressure away from Sundays. (for a **guaranteed seat you will still need to book in advance. However**, you can turn up on the day on a 'first come, first served basis'. You will need to arrive at least 10 minutes before mass starts)

THURSDAY 12 NOON

For those who can come during a weekday. (for a **guaranteed seat you will still need to book in advance. However**, you can turn up on the day on a 'first come, first served basis'. You will need to arrive at least 10 minutes before mass starts)

****SATURDAY 10.00 AM, AND TUESDAY 10.00 AM, will remain services only available by the booking system: icmassbookings@gmail.com or phone 0800 2461372 and leave a message.***