

28th July and 4th August 2019

SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

"Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; everyone who searches finds; everyone who knocks will have the door opened". (Luke 11:9-10)

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

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 28 July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	†Patrick Cussen
Mon 29 July	St Martha	10.30am	-
Tues 30 July	St Peter Chrysologus	-----	-
Wed 31 July	St Ignatius of Loyola	10 am	-
Thu 1 August	St Alphonsus Liguori	10 am	-
Fri 2 August	St Eusebius of Vercelli	10 am	†Dr Kenneth Webb
Sat 3 August	Our Lady on Saturday	10 am	†Ted Andrews
Sun 4 August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 am	A Special Intention
Mon 5 August	St Mary Major	8.30am	†Audrey Reid
Tues 6 August	The transfiguration of the Lord	10.30am	-
Wed 7 August	St Sixtus II	-----	-
Thu 8 August	St Dominic	10 am	-
Fri 9 August	St Teresa Benedicta of the cross	10 am	-
Sat 10 August	St Laurence	10 am	-
Sun 11 August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	†Gilbert Powell
		10.30am	-



Welcome to our Masses this Sunday. A very warm welcome to anyone visiting our parish this weekend. Please do gather with us after the 10.30 am Mass for tea and coffee in the hall.

My dear Friends:

One of the great Eastern Mystics once said: *Wear gratitude like a cloak and it will feed every corner of your life.* I think the challenge for many of us, as followers of Jesus, is how do we ensure we are wrapped daily in that cloak of gratitude, love and hope as we face the demands, pressures, stresses and responsibilities with which each day presents us?

That cloak of gratitude, with its interwoven threads of faith and hope, is not a self-righteous bubble, judging others and the rest of the world – crazy, though, at times, the inhabitants of this world may seem! I think it is in the sacred stillness of the soul, fused as one with God, and his awesome creation, that we can truly see with new eyes, love with new hearts, and feel God's surge of hope for His creation.

One of our parishioners recently pointed me in the direction of Jürgen Moltmann's writings. They echo the 'quickening' of the heart which feels compelled to give birth to God's Love, Peace and Hope: *That is why faith, wherever it develops into hope, causes not rest but unrest, not patience but impatience. It does not calm the unquiet heart, but is itself this unquiet heart in man.*

Those who hope in Christ can no longer put up with reality as it is, but begin to suffer under it, to contradict it. Peace with God means conflict with the world, for the goad of the promised future stabs inexorably into the flesh of every unfulfilled present.

Love, Peace and Blessings,
Fr. Antony

Money:

Last week

Main Collection:

Gift Aid Envelopes inc tax reclaim - £120

Loose plate collection – £308.75

Standing orders - £1080.27

Second Collection –Roof Fund £447.62

Next week: 2nd collection – Roof Fund

Sunday 11th Aug: 2nd Collection – Roof Fund

Baptisms

This Sunday we welcome into our faith community 3 children: Ivy Nicholson, Nandi Mseka and Ronan Piga. Please pray for them, their families and Godparents who will support them to grow in their Christian life.

During August, please note: several activities will take a break and start again in September.

- There is no tea and coffee after Mass during August due to holidays. We will re-start again on Sunday 1st September, which will also including our next CAFOD Cake Sale which is also taking a break for August.
- The Parish Youth Club and the Dancing Group will also be shutting down for the summer holidays as most members are going away. We will re-open in September when the schools are back.
- Children's Liturgy during the 10.30 am Mass will also take a break and start again when schools are back.

Funerals Please remember in your prayers Peggy Taggart and Claude & Mary Edwards, who died last week. Peggy's funeral will be on Wednesday 14th August at 11 am. A date for Claude and Mary is still to be agreed.

Support in prayer and spirituality is reaching our modern technology so that it is accessible to us anywhere and in many different ways. Here are a couple you might like to try.

- Pray As You Go is a daily prayer session app designed for use on portable devices, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc. A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week and one session for the weekend. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. It is founded in Ignatian Spirituality and uses the imagination to enter more deeply into prayer. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection. It aims to help you to: become more aware of God's presence in your life, listen to and reflect on God's word and grow in your relationship with God.
- Dynamic Catholic - Sign up for very short Daily Reflections to be e mailed to you. Start each day with an inspiring quote sent directly to your inbox. These simple yet powerful messages will help you to live each day with passion and purpose.
<https://dynamiccatholic.com/daily-reflections>

Fanning the Flame Summer Camp, hosted by the Dominican Sisters based in Sway in the New Forest. 19-23 August for ages 10 – 25 yrs. Gather with around 100 young people, bring your friends, make new ones. It doesn't matter where you are in your relationship with Christ, you are welcome to come along and ask questions, spend time with the Lord, receive the sacraments and have a lot of silly fun!
www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp



CAFOD Update meeting 18th September

You are invited to a CAFOD update meeting on Wednesday 18th September from 7:15pm to 9pm at St Colman's Church, St Colman's Avenue Portsmouth PO6 2JJ. Jess Micheltmore 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

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.

For Sale: Household Goods & Furniture. For further details and enquiries, please call Catherine on 023 80475297 or 07870631082

LOST & FOUND An empty rucksack was found in the hall last Sunday after tea and coffee following the 10.30 Mass. If it belongs to you, please claim it back from lost property in the church porch. There are currently a range of other items in lost property. If you think you have lost anything at the church, please take a look and recover anything belonging to you.

Rotas for August

8.30 am

Welcoming –Ken Waters

Readers –Francine and Dudley Plunkett

Offertory –Rita Muldowney and Ken Waters

Eucharistic ministers –Lawrence Vella, Nicole

Northern, Isabella Wright, Maryvonne Tipper,

Maureen Weir

Parish Secretary on holiday - This week is a two week newsletter as I will be on holiday next week. I will be in the office again on Thursday 8th August. Please contact Fr Antony if you have any urgent issues but otherwise, please e mail the parish office and I will get back to you on my return.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK:

Open again on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th August