

**8th November 2020**

**THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**

'So, stay awake because you do not know either the hour or the day'.  
(Matt 25:13)

**Immaculate Conception Church**

Within the Pastoral Area of Southampton East  
346 Portwood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB  
Tel: (023) 8055 5470  
Website: [www.immaculateconception.church](http://www.immaculateconception.church)  
Email: [portwood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:portwood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portwood  
Twitter: @ic\_portwood

**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 .

**NO PUBLIC MASSES DURING NOVEMBER**

**SUNDAY MASS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO WATCH ON-LINE AT 10 AM EACH SUNDAY AS USUAL**

**From Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November the church will be open to drop in for  
private prayer on Sundays between 9 – 11 am.**

**All Covid-19 guidance remains in place in the church.**

<b>Sun 08 Nov</b>	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY</b> <b>Sunday Mass available from 10 am on:</b> Youtube, Face-book & the Parish Website <b>*Saturday</b> Mass is recorded for Sunday	Deceased relatives & friends of the White family	 <p><b>SUNDAY'S READINGS</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Wisdom 6:12-16 <b>Psalm:</b> 62(63):2-8 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Thess 4:13-18 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 25:1-13</p>  <p><a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/l4obpfyph0esov4/Children%27s%20Liturgy%20Video%2008.11.20.mp4?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/l4obpfyph0esov4/Children%27s%20Liturgy%20Video%2008.11.20.mp4?dl=0</a></p>
Mon 09 Nov	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	NO SERVICE	
Tues 10 Nov	St Leo the Great	NO SERVICE	
Wed 11 Nov	St Martin of Tours	NO SERVICE	
Thurs 12 Nov	St Josaphat	NO SERVICE	
Fri 13 Nov	Feria	Funeral – Joan O'Shea	
*Sat 14 Nov	Our Lady on Saturday	Joe Smith RIP	
<b>Sun 15 Nov</b>	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Patricia Wilson RIP NO PUBLIC MASS  Church open for Private Prayer 9 – 11 am	

**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***

**The Parish Bank Account details are:**

Name: PRC DTR 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.

*Thank you for your support and patience at this time*

**Contacting the parish .....**

The Parish Office is now Closed during lockdown until  
4<sup>th</sup> December. The parish secretary will still be  
working between home and the parish, so e mails  
will continue to be responded to. Please use e mail  
where possible to contact the parish unless you have  
an urgent matter and need to speak to Fr Antony.  
Many thanks.

E mail: [portwood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:portwood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

My dear Friends:

Today, we are celebrating Remembrance Sunday. A day in which, with liturgies, parades and ceremonies, in more usual times, we remember the ultimate sacrifice made by the countless men and women so that we can 'have lives' and live those lives in freedom and peace. For me, on this day, it is as if the world stops rotating for a few minutes. Those gallant, self-sacrificing, heroic men and women join us in a collective human quest for what life, and living life, are supposed to be about. And yet...

I remember the writings of the great Lebanese writer, Griban. He wrote a piece on "Good Friday" in which humankind awoke for a few minutes from its passive slumber and looked with great sympathy and pathos upon the crucified Jesus. People, who were engaged in their various all-consuming occupations, marinated in the various demands of life and living, cast a glance at Jesus, then returned to the routine of their lives unchanged. As I look at the political scenarios around the world, the civil wars tearing peoples and nations apart, hundreds of thousands of migrants fleeing their homes and livelihoods in pursuit of food, safety and a chance to 'live' – and seas turned into cemeteries as many die in this quest...The challenge for us, in creating a monument to those who sacrificed their lives that we might live, is to try be political aware and engaged in the building of peace. That recent movie, Official Secrets gives one a lot to think about.

Some of the horror and reality of war is summed up in a letter to my aunt, written on the 22nd July 1916, by S. L. Gordon, a comrade of my uncle William, who was killed on the 23 June, 1916: "I am surprised there was not more of us killed, it was a very rough day in the firing line, and we were on a working party, when we were started a short time the shell came that was the cause of poor Willie's death, he only lasted after he got it, up to the time he died he kept saying, God bless me. I don't think I can't say any more at present." May the Lord help us to truly appreciate the sacrifices of so many by being builders of peace within our country and world today.

Love, Peace and Blessings.

Fr. Antony



## SECOND COLLECTIONS

### THIS SUNDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> November: **Day for Life**

*Day for Life* is celebrated annually by the Catholic Church to raise awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life should be protected and nurtured from conception to natural death.

Please support this vital work in any way you can. The proceeds of the Day for Life collection assist the work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life-related activities supported by the Church.

You can donate on line at <https://www.dayforlife.org/article/donate/>

### NEXT SUNDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> November: **Homeless & Poor charities**

## NAMES FOR CEMETERY VISIT

Do let the Parish Office know as soon as possible, of anyone you would like Fr Antony to remember on his visit on behalf of the parish to the graves at Stoneham cemetery this November.

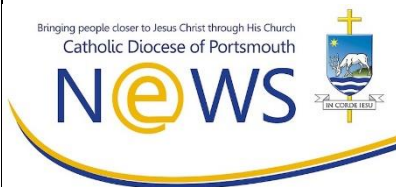
## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021

We have received several enquiries about the arrangements for commencing a new group in 2021 for First Holy Communion. Please could interested parents/guardians contact the parish office to register their details and join the waiting list. We do not anticipate commencing a new programme until after Christmas, Obviously Covid-19 restrictions will influence how we arrange the programme. In the meantime, we will prepare a 'pre-course' preparation activity pack for parents to explore with their children and start the journey at home.



## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

### Bishops Weekly Newsletter – E NEWS



Latest round up of news from the Bishop and around the Diocese. Lots of interesting notices, articles, reflections, online events, and videos and other opportunities both locally and further afar. Click on the logo for access.

### Portsmouth Vocations Prayer Newsletter November 2020

<https://shoutout.wix.com/so/7eNLIWw04?cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af#/main>

**QUIZ CORNER (Answers at bottom of p 5)**

1. Where am I? I am the last prison where John Gerard was held before being sent to the Tower of London prior to his execution on 23rd April 1594. Before that Gerard was held with Nichols Owen in the Compter in the Poultry.
2. Who am I? I was born in the year 400, probably in Tuscany. I was known for my ability to settle disputes both secular and theological. I became Pope in 440 and was the first Pope to be given the title 'Great'. I am considered a great defender of the teachings of the Church and staved off many heresies that were rife at the time.
3. What am I? I am a palace in which Popes lived until the 14th Century. I am the most ancient church in the world first built in 311-314 by Pope Melchiade.
4. Who said? "If we had no care for the dead, we would not be in the habit of praying for them."

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Charity Christmas cards available to buy online in support of Marys Meals:

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/christmas-shop>

**FROM THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS)**

Some new and interesting books for advent and the new liturgical year B starting on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November:

<http://go.pardot.com/webmail/520051/514608885/7c7dcf1f1ddddf0a0b4c9a6162e2b324e7190d173ae3efaf0cc7f177746e10ee>

**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**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKSOUTHAMPTON/bulletins/2a86572>

**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.

**DO PLEASE SHARE A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER** with other parishioners who may not have access to the internet. If anyone without internet access would like a copy sent to them each week while we do not have regular access to the church, please let the parish office know.

## POETS CORNER.....

### GLORY IN WAR?

You seek for glory? There is none in war,  
Among the truths historians ignore:  
Confusion, noise and smoke, foul reeking mud,  
And countless shattered bodies, oozing blood:  
The vile decay, the sickly smell of death:  
The pain before the final choking breath,  
Which does not come triumphant or in rest  
But suddenly, unheralded, and dressed  
In guise of hedgerow, tree or growing wheat,  
Or lurks amid the flowers at your feet.  
When battle lulls, it feeds that hidden fear  
Of things unknown: but there are none to jeer:  
For ev'ry hero by the World acclaimed  
A hundred others die alone, unnamed:  
Far distant from the kin they died to save:  
To find cold glory, in a foreign grave.



*Dennis B. Wilson*

A very different offering from Dennis this week but appropriate to the season. This is an extract from a longer poem called 'Elegy of A Common Soldier' which appears in one of his published collections 'Elegy of a Common Soldier and Other Poems'.

Dennis has written a huge variety of poems and published a significant number of poetry books. If you are enjoying Dennis' poetry you may be interested to have a look at his website:

<https://dennisbwilsonpoetry.com>

You may be interested to read the latest Government guidelines which have come into force for this latest lock down. Click on the picture below to read further details:



#### New National Restrictions from 5 November - GOV.UK

National restrictions from 5 November. Applies to: England (see guidance for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). COVID-19 case numbers are rising rapidly across the whole of the UK and in other ...

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

QUIZ ANSWERS: (1) The Clink Prison in Southwark which operated from the 12th Century until 1780. It was owned by the Bishop of Winchester. The Clink was possibly the oldest men's prison and probably the oldest women's prison in England. It is thought the name derives from the sound of the metal chains and bolting doors. (2) St Leo the Great (3) The Lateran Basilica of St John (4) St Augustine