

**21ST, 25TH & 28TH
DECEMBER 2014
4TH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT,
CHRISTMAS &
THE HOLY FAMILY**



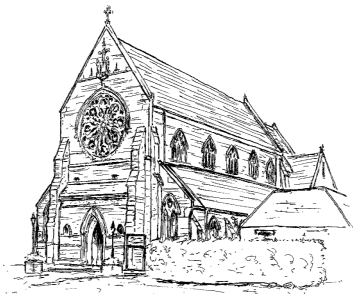
**ST JOSEPH'S &
ST EDMUND'S
CITY CENTRE
CATHOLIC PARISH
SOUTHAMPTON**

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

**SOUTHAMPTON
CENTRAL, WEST &
EAST DEANERY**

ALSO INCLUDES:

- ST. BONIFACE, SHIRLEY
- HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL,
LORDSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING, BITTERNE
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
PORTSWOOD
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION,
NETLEY ABBEY



We wait ... we look ... He is revealed!



*We have looked for you, Lord Jesus,
we have waited long for you,
we have hungered for your face:
O only longing of our faith,
may we gaze on you.*

*Like a spring gushing forth,
filling the night with its music,
you reveal to us the name of the Father:
Revelation of this Love
which possessed you since the first day.*

*What begins there in silence,
the oblation of grain for the fruit,
who among us can understand?
Behold the bread, behold the wine
already placed in our hands.*

*Toward what joy do you lead us,
other than the appearance of the Son
on the nights of Christmas and Easter?
Toward the eternal Eucharist
celebrated in the presence of the God of Life.*

Commission Francophone Cistercienne, La nuit, le jour

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

1. During Advent we hear God acting through people: the prophets, John the Baptist, King David, Mary How has God acted through you? What do you need to do to enable God to be enfleshed in your life?
2. Advent reveals a God of promises, a God who is faithful and fulfils promises. Are you a person of fidelity in all things? Do you keep your promises? How about the promise of being a witness of faith?
3. Mary said yes to God. When have you said yes to God? How did you act on it? Did it bring you and others closer to God?

Vincent Harvey

Wishing everyone a Holy, Blessed and Grace-filled Christmas. May your celebration of the Birth of the Christ Child enable Him to be born once again into your life and the life of our world. 2015 will be full of challenges as we endeavour in this Year of Faith and Consecrated Life to deepen even more our personal and communal relationship with God. God is with us!

TODAY: SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER 2014

(TWO WEEK NEWSLETTER)

WELCOME and thanks to Fr Des Connolly for presiding at the 6:15pm and 10am Masses in St Joseph's this weekend and on **Christmas** for the 11:30pm and 10am Masses in St Joseph; on the 27th & 28th (11 am, 6:15pm, 10am & 7pm) and for the next week; also thanks to Fr Mike Cronin for the 9am & 11am Masses on Sunday 28th.

OUR RETIRING COLLECTION is for Catholic Care.

FILIPINO CHOIR 7pm Mass. Rehearsal at 6pm.

THIS WEEK



RECENTLY DIED: Ida Tebano RIP late of Hawthorn Care Home, Woolston and Channels Farm Road, Swaythling. Funeral Tuesday 30 December at 1pm in St Edmund's Church, followed by burial at South Stoneham Cemetery. May she rest in peace. Our sympathy to her family.

Pearl Robinson RIP (a St Joseph's Sunday 10am parishioner). Funeral 1pm Tuesday 30 December in St Joseph's Church. Please remember her husband, John and family in your prayers. May Pearl rest in peace.

FOR INFORMATION:

Mon: Day Off: VH. VH away from Saturday 27th to Friday 2nd for family baptism.

NO ADORATION in St Edmund's Church from Monday 22 December to Friday 26 December. Adoration recommences Monday 29 December.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Monday 22nd December 7.30pm at St Edmund's Church. An opportunity to celebrate God's loving forgiveness and to receive, if we so desire, sacramental absolution. **Come along and prepare for Christmas.**

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS ST EDMUND'S BIG CHURCH CLEAN:

****NB: Tuesday 23 December from 2pm—4pm****

ALSO HELP REQUIRED TO put up and decorate the Christmas tree and prepare the Church for Christmas with candles, stars, flowers:

Monday	22 December	From 10:30am
Tuesday	23 December	From 10:30am
Wednesday	24 December	From 10:30am

All offers of help greatly appreciated.



ALL CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS are for the benefit of our Parish Priest, Father Vincent and Father Des. It is the most substantial part of their personal annual income. *Thank you for your generosity!*

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS FAMILY MASS CHRISTMAS EVE:

children are invited to dress up as angels or shepherds on Wednesday 24 December at 6pm Family Mass.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve—Wednesday 24 December 2014

6:00 pm	Christmas Family Mass	St Edmund's
9:00 pm	Christmas Mass in Polish	St Edmund's
11:30 pm	Christmas Night Mass	St Joseph's
11:30 pm	Christmas Night Mass	St Edmund's

Christmas Day - Thursday 25 December 2014

9:00 am	Christmas Day Mass	St Edmund's
10:00 am	Christmas Day Mass	St Joseph's
11:00 am	Christmas Day Mass	St Edmund's

St Stephen's Feast Day Friday 26 December 2014

10:00am Mass at St Edmund's only (No 7pm Mass)

Wishing you a holy, blessed and joyous Christmas from Mgr Canon Vincent and the team in the Parish Office and Presbytery: Anne Wheeler, Anne Monaghan, Tina Quinn, Chris Barber, Jeanne Carney, Pat Grant, Iris Kuitenbrouwer, Margaret Hicks, Anna Finn and Ros Peters.

VERBUM DEI has a retreat centre situated in peaceful surroundings on the Isle of Wight. They are holding a Silent Retreat: 28 December - 1 January 2015. To book or for more info contact iow@verbumdei.org.uk or call 01983 529554.

NEXT WEEKEND



WEDDING BELLS: Our congratulations to **Jonathan Rouse** and **Stephanie Dixon** who are getting married at St Joseph's Church 12noon Saturday 27 December 2014. May God bless them both all the days of their lives.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY Sunday 28 December.

NEXT TWO WEEKS

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS - FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD 12:15pm Thursday 1 January 2015 in St Joseph's Church. We welcome Father Des who will be celebrating this Mass.

ECUMENICAL FAMILY RAMBLE meet 2pm Thursday 1 January at Holly Hill Car Park. See Notice Board. For more info Tel. 023 8022 3389.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY on Sunday 4 January.

WELLSPRING PRAYER GROUP recommence meeting at 7:30pm Tuesday 6 January in St Edmund's Hall. All welcome!

LUNCH CLUB recommence meeting Wednesday 7 January in St Edmund's Hall.

HANDING ON THE FAITH: 'Journey in Faith' group meet next at 7:30pm Thursday 8 January and then every Thursday thereafter in St Edmund's Hall. *Would you like to find out more about the Catholic faith?* All welcome.

LITURGY GROUP meet 7:45pm Friday 9 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

DISCOVERING OUR IDENTITY young adult group meet Fridays at 7:45pm in St Edmund's Hall. All welcome!

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING 10am – 12:30pm Saturday 10 January 2015. (Trainer - Maureen Wiltshire). Venue St Edmund's Hall, Rockstone Place, SO15 1EQ. Contact Tina Quinn on 023 8033 3589 or email tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to book. This is for ANYONE who is working with or thinking of working with children or young people in any capacity within the parish. It is for those who have not previously attended training or who last attended training over 3 years ago.

CHAPLAINCY DAY: 10am—1pm 10 January 2015, Discovery Centre, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by buffet lunch and networking. RSVP to cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION WORKSHOP 10:30am Saturday 10 January at Stella Maris / St Joseph Halls for parents and candidates.

WELCOME RITES 9am, 11am & 7pm. Sunday 11 January in St Edmund's Church.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2pm—5pm Sunday 11 January in St Boniface Church Hall.

BAPTISM PREPARATION 7pm—8:30pm Monday 12 January in St Edmund's Hall for parents who are having their children baptised.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM meeting 7:45pm Wednesday 14 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

FAITH ALIVE group meet 7:30pm Thursday 15 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) will be making an appeal the weekend of 17/18 January.

GENERAL ITEMS

★ **NAME A STAR** to hang in the church over Christmas in memory of a loved one. £1.50 per star. Available at all Masses. Proceeds to HCPT.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY TAKEN ILL: Nancie Swainston, Pat Cummings, Fr Antony Gatt (now back home), Fr Roy Bennett and Fr Mike Hore (Dean of Guernsey in Southampton General for major surgery). We pray for a speedy recovery for them all.

FATHER PAUL LEONARD: Please pray for Father Paul who is suffering from depression and, with Diocesan support, is taking a 6 month break from parish work.

'GO FORTH, FRIENDS OF CHRIST: THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL & THE 'MISSIONARY OPTION': *The Parish and the New Evangelisation: A close look at Evangelii Gaudium, 27, talk by Bishop Philip Egan.* Other talks will be given by Fr Alexander Sherbrooke (St Patrick's, Soho) and Dr Caroline Farey (School of Annunciation). There will be opportunities for Confession and Adoration. **Saturday 31 January 2015; registration and coffee at 10am at St Patrick's, 21a Soho Square, London, W1D 4NR.** First speaker 10:30am, Mass 12:45pm, Vespers 5pm. Cost to Guild Members £10 and Non-members £15. To register email guildofourladyandstjoseph@gmail.com. Website www.schooloftheannunciation.com. See Notice Board.

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED OR BEEN INVOLVED WITH AN ALPHA COURSE? Would you like others to have this life changing opportunity in their faith journey? We are proposing to run an ALPHA course in Spring 2015, please do make yourself known and contact Tina Quinn Mob. 07827 810 457/email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

DIOCESAN E-NEWSLETTER: If you are on the internet, do you yet subscribe to the diocesan weekly e-Newsletter? This is very easily done by going to the diocesan website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk, and on the home page providing your e-mail address at the appropriate point.

THANK YOU to Julie Jack who has donated £200 towards the Church Maintenance Fund from the sale of her home-made cards which are sold in the porches.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SOUTHAMPTON (CTS) require a secretary to take and distribute minutes (3 evening meetings a year) and to assist in producing an annual newsletter.

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR HANDBAGS AND VALUABLES at all times whilst at Mass and in the halls. Items have been stolen in the past.

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITY at *Westminster Cathedral Choir School*. Interested parents can attend the chorister open morning on Sunday 8 February from 10:30am—2:30pm. Please contact the Registrar, Miss Lucy Auger on 020 7798 9081 or email: lauger@choirschool.com. See Notice Board for all the information.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Thank you to all who helped with the Christmas Fayre. A sum of £520 has been donated to the parish to be used towards the sound systems. The 1st prize of £150 was won by M & D Bastable. *Raffle winners please collect prizes from the Parish Office.*

'JINGLING BELLS' Christmas Carols: **thank you** to everyone who sang and lit candles and bought raffle tickets; £68 was raised to support relief efforts for the EBOLA CRISIS, www.careinternational.org.uk/ebola-crisis-appeal. Call Jenepher 07891 733 939 to contribute. **The draw will take place Sunday 21 December after 9am Mass.**

PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE: Note the centre spread of the latest Portsmouth People (when it's arrived) is all about the army chaplains from St Edmund's and St Boniface Churches who fought in WW1. Soon to be posted on the WW1 Notice Board in St Edmund's Church.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW DEACONS! Phil Carroll and John Paul Lyttle who were ordained at St John's Seminary, Womersley and Sacred Heart, Waterlooville respectively. They are due to be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood in the summer. We thank God for the great gift of their self-offering to the Lord. Please keep both of them in your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Gail February, Sita Hearn, Nelum (Anushka's sister), Marge Whiteman, Phyllis Grattan, Maria Gibzinska, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Stella Grace Krumina (toddler), Patricia Penny, Joyce Mnguni, James Adie, Peter Hunt, Edward O'Donovan, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Emma Bailey, Laura Pinson, Madeleine Clarke, Debbie Murphy, Albie Escorcio, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, , NW, Carlene Metcalf, Bosco & Myra Andrade, Joe Sculley, Tegar Marriott, Josie Franklin, Joan Wheeler, Bertie Radcliffe, Ken Woodford, Joy Grant, John O'Reilly, Bridget Busk, Joan Roberts, Phoebe, Tony O'Donnell, Pam Bennett, Pauldia Grant, Grace Baxter, Evelyn Nolan, parishioners who are ill or having surgery and all listed in the Lady Chapel Prayer Book at St Edmund's. Thank you for keeping all these people in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEKS BEGINNING SUNDAYS 21 & 28 DECEMBER 2014

SAT	20 DEC	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	MARGARET SINCLAIR RIP (MY) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	21 DEC	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	SEAN DAVIS RIP (AO'D) BRIDGET LENNON (TL&GL) CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS FOR THE UNIVERSE (FRANCIS & ANUSHKA) TINA QUINN—THANKSGIVING & GOD'S BLESSINGS (PO)
MON	22 DEC	LITURGY OF THE DAY	7:30PM SE	ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE
TUES	23 DEC	LITURGY OF THE DAY	10:00AM SE	JOY POULOSE RIP (JS)
WED	24 DEC	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	6:00PM SE 9:00PM SE 11:30PM SJ 11:30PM SE	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH MASS IN POLISH PEOPLE OF THE PARISH PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
THURS	25 DEC	CHRISTMAS DAY	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE	WILLIE & KATIE COADY RIP (S&D) GAIL FEBRUARY—HEALING & WELLBEING (AW) OLIVIA LEE RIP (PL)
FRI	26 DEC	ST STEPHEN	10:00AM SE	1: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
SAT	27 DEC	ST JOHN	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	JANUSZ EUGENIUSZ RIP (MK) NOEL VOLLE RIP (VERONIQUE'S FATHER) (TH&VH) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	28 DEC	THE HOLY FAMILY	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	SEAN DAVIS RIP (GP) 2: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB) 3: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB) 4: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
TUES	30 DEC	LITURGY OF THE DAY	10:00AM SE 1:00PM SJ 1:00PM SE	5: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB) FUNERAL: PEARL ROBINSON RIP FUNERAL: IDA TEBANO RIP
WED	31 DEC	LITURGY OF THE DAY	7:00PM SE	6: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
THURS	1 JAN 2015	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	12:15PM SJ	7: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
FRI	2 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	7:00PM SE	8: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
SAT	3 JAN	THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ	KATHLEEN BRENNAN RIP (EB) 9: JONATHAN'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (JB)
SUN	4 JAN	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	MICHAEL BROPHY RIP (F) TERRY CLARKE RIP (ROSARY GROUP) PEACEFUL NEW YEAR FOR THE UNIVERSE (ANUSHKA) PETER CARNEY RIP (F)

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER 2014—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: **Psalm Response:** I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER 2014—THE HOLY FAMILY YEAR B
Psalm Response: O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!

**READINGS SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER 2014
THE HOLY FAMILY YEAR B**
1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14
2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

**READINGS SUNDAY 4 JANUARY
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
1st Reading: Isaiah 6:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

2nd COLLECTION TODAY	CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS	2nd COLLECTION 4 JAN	2nd COLLECTION 11 JAN	NO 2nd COLLECTION 18 JAN
CATHOLIC CARE	FOR FATHERS VINCENT & DES	CHURCH MAINTENANCE	HCPT	

Contact Details:
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 Presbytery Tel. No: 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ
Parish Secretary: Anne Wheeler
 Parish Office Tel: 023 8033 3589
 Parish Email address: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
 Pastoral Area Web: http://www.catholic.co.uk/

Collections	14/12/14 1st	14/12/14 2nd—Christmas Flowers
Total	£2,153.42	£322.46
Cash	749.20	131.46
S / O	1,139.85	150.50
Gift Aid Tax	264.37	40.50
Thank you for your generous contributions. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.		
CONFESSION TIMES:		
St. Edmund's: Saturdays 11:30am St. Joseph's: Thursdays 11:45am; Saturdays 5:45pm		