



# Watching and Waiting

Moments of great calm,  
 Kneeling before an altar  
 Of wood in a stone church  
 In summer waiting for God  
 To speak; the air a staircase  
 For silence; the sun's light  
 Ringing me, as though I acted  
 A great role. And the audiences  
 Still; all that close throng  
 Of spirits waiting, as I  
 for the message.  
 Prompt me God;  
 but not yet. When I speak  
 Though it be you who speaks  
 Through me, something is lost.  
 The meaning is in the waiting.

R. S. Thomas.

7 DECEMBER 2014

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
 PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

**SOUTHAMPTON  
 CENTRAL AND WEST  
 PASTORAL AREA  
 ALSO INCLUDES  
 ST. BONIFACE,  
 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
 & HOLY FAMILY**

Advent is a time of waiting. In today's society waiting is almost counter cultural, we are persuaded to put wanting over waiting: We demand instant access, we become frustrated if things do not happen immediately. We are reminded in our readings this weekend both by the prophet Isaiah and re-echoed by John the Baptist that our time of waiting is a time of preparation.

For those who sit vigil with their dying relative, that time of waiting which can often seem endless, cruel, pointless. But it also is a valuable time to prepare. Time to listen, time to have those final conversations, time to repair any broken relationships, time to prepare for a change in direction. The challenge is to stay in that present moment and find meaning in the act of waiting.

Like Mary, pregnant mothers will appreciate the necessity to wait for those nine months from conception to birth. Externally this appears to be a time of apparent inactivity but medicine teaches us that the time in the womb is fundamental to the remainder of our existence: we grow, we develop, we are nourished, nurtured and protected. The waiting of pregnancy is a profoundly creative act.

John the Baptist was one who waited between times. He stood between the Old and the New Covenant but clearly understood that the One whose sandal he was not worthy to untie, was the one who was and is to come. We find ourselves this Advent both waiting for the incarnation that happened 2000 years ago and the second coming at the end of time.

The poet Thomas challenges us to take the frenzy and anticipation out of waiting, to wait in stillness and in calm. It is only within that stillness that we will hear the one who allows us to find meaning in the waiting.

Tina Quinn

### THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

1. What needs to be put right in your life to prepare for Christ's coming? What steps do you need to take?
2. Like John the Baptist, do you point others to Jesus? How? When?
3. How is Christ in your life already? Where do you experience him?

Vincent Harvey





## GENERAL ITEMS

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE: 7:30pm Monday 22 December ... at St Edmund's Church.** An opportunity to stop in the midst of the Christmas rush and ponder where we are in our relationships: *with God, each other and the Faith Community.* As part of the celebration priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come along and *'prepare for the coming of Christ!'*

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE .....** thank you to **Fiona Morris** and all who co-ordinated the Fayre, planned and executed it and all who brought in goods, attended and supported it in whatever way.

**EVANGELISATION STRATEGY TEAMS:** Every Pastoral Area is to establish an Evangelisation Strategy Team in early 2015. Clergy have been issued with Guidelines for the process of establishing such a team in their own Pastoral Area. Lent 2015 will be a period of prayer, preparation and discernment. These guidelines are on the Diocesan Website which gives more details about the purpose of the teams, how they will operate, and how they will be established.

**INSPIRATION FOR ADVENT:** Youth discipleship initiative, *'Made for Glory'*, are issuing a daily reflection for Advent, based on the Gospel reading for each day. They will be featured on the diocesan Facebook page each morning of Advent - make sure you invite your friends to *'like'* the page so that they get these videos!

**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA: CHRISTMAS PRESENTS** Christmas is coming! Deacon Roger, the Port Chaplain, will be taking a prayer booklet and gift to the hundreds of seafarers who will visit Southampton Port this Christmas. Roger has purchased 1,000 Christmas prayer booklets at 10p each and donations would be welcome to cover the cost! Lots and lots of chocolate selection boxes needed please or any other gift you would like to make. Leave gifts in the St Edmund's or St Joseph's porches or at Holy Family Presbytery office Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday mornings.

**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](mailto:tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**CHAPLAINCY DAY: 10am—1pm 10 January 2015, Discovery Centre, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by buffet lunch and networking.** Are you a chaplain (lay or clergy) working in any capacity? Hospital, pastoral care, police, prison, ethnic chaplaincies? Are you interested in volunteering for any one of the Chaplaincy Teams? The Chaplaincy Department of the Diocese of Portsmouth invite you to a morning to: hear Bishop Philip Egan speak on his vision for chaplaincy in the context of the new evangelisation; understand how the Framework for Collaboration will promote and support chaplaincy services in the diocese; meet the chaplaincy teams and hear about their activities. Please RSVP to [cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP:** Starting Wednesday 14 January 2015 from 7:30pm - 9pm and then every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (excluding August). A small group meeting monthly to pray and reflect on the Scriptural Rosary and Our Lady's messages. Venue: 125 Hill Lane Southampton. Contact Heather on email: [heather.hauschild@gmail.com](mailto:heather.hauschild@gmail.com) for further details. All welcome. Just go along and join them.



## HOMECARE CLIENTS CHRISTMAS GIFTS:

**Unwrapped gifts** for our elderly are being gratefully received. While you're out shopping **in the next two weeks**, please think about picking up a gift or two for us to pass on through their carers. Most Christmas offerings in the stores at the moment would be suitable along with stationery, stamps, jams and toiletries etc. Baskets available in the porches. **Thank you for the lovely gifts already received!**

- ★ **NAME A STAR** to hang in the church at Christmas in memory of a loved one. £1.50 per star. Available at Masses from this weekend. All proceeds towards HCPT.

**TRAIDCRAFT CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFTS** available for sale at St Joseph's Church after the 6:15pm and 10:00am Masses and also in the repository area at St Edmund's. Catalogues available at both churches. Please do not take these away. Order forms available at St Joseph's. *Ordering through the Parish Office will ensure a percentage is given to Parish funds, Telephone 0223 8033 3589 or send an email to [southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).*

**THE PRIMARY CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIP (PCP)**, based in Southampton, offers a one year PGCE programme to those seeking to become primary school teachers. The course is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and St Mary's University College, Twickenham. Trainees benefit from a small, friendly, supportive environment with a mix of ages and backgrounds. Lectures are delivered by outstanding practising teachers who have the credibility and respect needed to help you develop successful and relevant teaching strategies. They offer:

- A PGCE for the full primary age range with the opportunity to gain credits towards a Masters degree in Education
- A 40 week course with over 20 weeks spent in schools.
- A supportive environment where trainees can gain modules of the Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies
- Placements in high quality Catholic schools in Southampton, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

Tuition Fees below the national average  
Qualifications required: Hons degree (2.2 or above); GCSE Grade C or above in English, Maths & Science; experience in an English Primary School. For further information visit our website: <http://www.pcp-scitt.org.uk>.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Sita Hearn, Nelum (Anushka's sister), Marge Whiteman, Mary Davies (fall recovery), Phyllis Grattan, Maria Gibzinska, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Stella Grace Krumina (toddler), Marie Adams, Patricia Penny, Joyce Mnguni, James Adie, Peter Hunt, Edward O'Donovan, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Hélène Scrase, Emma Bailey, Laura Pinson, Madeleine Clarke, Debbie Murphy, Albie Escorcio, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, Pat Cummings, 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, Terry Clarke, 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 WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 2014

SAT	6 DEC	<b>VIGIL MASS</b>	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	MICHAEL JOHN BROSNAN—GET WELL (DB) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	7 DEC	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	BRIAN & ETHNA NUGENT RIP (KN) MICK KINSELLA (PP) DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CURTIS HAYWARD FAMILY (F) JULIA BROOKING RIP (F)
TUES	9 DEC	<b>2nd WEEK OF ADVENT</b>	10:00AM SE	KATE & FRED McEWING RIP (GC&HP)
WED	10 DEC	<b>ST SWITHUN WELLS</b>	7:00PM SE	KATE & FRED McEWING RIP (KEOGH FAMILY)
THURS	11 DEC	<b>2nd WEEK OF ADVENT</b>	12:15PM SJ	WILLIAM KNOWLES RIP (RD)
FRI	12 DEC	<b>OUR LADY OF GAUDALUPE</b>	7:00PM SE	MARY JOSEPHINE SHANAHAN RIP (NK)
SAT	13 DEC	<b>ST LUCY</b>	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	FRED & KATE McEWING RIP (WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB) SEAN, KATHLEEN & STEWART ADAMSON RIP (DC) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	14 DEC	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ('Gaudete')</b>	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	AGOSTINHO GONSALVES RIP (MG) PEOPLE OF THE PARISH OLIVIA LEE RIP (HP&GC) KINGA SYSAK—THANKSGIVING & GOD'S BLESSINGS (3rd BIRTHDAY) (JS)

**PASTORAL AREA PARISHES:** MASS TIMES Holy Family, Millbrook Sat Vigil 18:30; Sun 11:00am; 1:00pm (Polish); Holy day 19:00. St. Boniface, Shirley Sat Vigil 18:30; Sun. 08:30; 10:30; Holy day 10:00; 20:00. St. Vincent de Paul, Lordswood Sun 09:15; Holy Day 10:00.

### Contact Details:

**Parish Priest:** Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey  
 E-mail address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
 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/

**Apostleship of the Sea:** Roger Stone Tel 07963 345 618  
 E-mail address: rogerstone@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

**Catholic Home Care:** Anne Monaghan 023 8033 3589  
 E-mail address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**EU Welcomer's Project:** Dave Adcock 07786 392 886  
 E-mail address: euwelcome@yahoo.co.uk

**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr Michael Cronin 023 8120 8517

**Martha's Gift Shop:** 023 8033 3400

**PA Pastoral Assistant:** Tina Quinn Tel. No. 023 8033 3589  
 Mobile 07827810457 email: tqinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Zbigniew Budyn  
 Tel. No: 023 8178 6316  
 E-mail address: zbudyn@gmail.com  
 Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL

**Safeguarding Rep.:** Albie Escorcio 07925 090 482  
**So'ton Uni. Chaplain:** Sister Catherine 07811 107 046  
**Solent Uni. Chaplain:** Sister Valentina 07983 883 377  
**Vocations to Priesthood:** www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vocation/

**OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:**

Springhill Primary	023 8033 3954
St Anne's School	023 8032 8200
St George College	023 8032 2603

### Prayer of the Church week 2

#### **SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 2014 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B**

##### Psalm Response

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.

##### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his  
paths straight. And all mankind shall  
see the salvation of God. **Alleluia!**

#### **READINGS SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 2014 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B**

1st Reading:	Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
2nd Reading:	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel:	John 1:6-8.19-28

#### **NO 2nd COLLECTION TODAY    2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

Collections	30/11/14 1st	30/11/14—2nd CHURCH MAINT. FUND
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,409.78</b>	<b>£271.11</b>
Cash	1005.56	121.73
S / O	1,139.85	119.50
Gift Aid Tax Rebate	264.37	29.88

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