

Looking to the End!

The focus at the end of each liturgical year (Church Calendar) and the beginning of every new liturgical year is always eschatological (end of time stuff!). For this reason the gospels proclaimed at the beginning of every new cycle are not taken from the beginning of each gospel (in this case Mark). They are taken instead from the future-orientated eschatological material in the gospel—the apocalyptic material. Today's gospel is the parable of the doorkeeper.

The task of the doorkeeper is to be vigilant about what is at the door. The one who is coming is the expected Messiah, but the unexpected one as well. The disciples are being told to vigil during the night, to stay awake, to be alert, which connects this passage to Jesus' Passion. 'Wait here, and keep awake', Jesus says to Peter, James and John in Gethsemane. And three times he found them asleep: 'you should be awake and praying not to be put to the test'.

Mark's Gospel spins on the axis of the Passion of Jesus. All we read in it should be read through the 'lens of the Passion'. Our 'command' as we journey is to 'carry the cross', and whilst doing this to be 'faithful' and 'alert' to Christ, who is in our midst, but is also promised in the end times!

As Advent opens we need to pause, ponder and slow down in order to be alert to what/who we know is on the horizon. We need to find space to be ourselves in the presence of God and brave enough to ask the question 'where am I going?', 'what is my destiny?' The answer in our minds may be obvious, but is it also the answer in our hearts?

Vincent Harvey

Our night watch is long, Lord,
and the cold wind of sloth threatens to put out the
fire of our hearts;
will it still burn to light up your face,
when you knock at our door?

"When the Son of Man comes
Will he find faith on the earth?"

Watch in prayer, I come like a thief,
to surprise you.

Watch in prayer, that you fall not into temptation:
he who holds fast to the end will be saved.

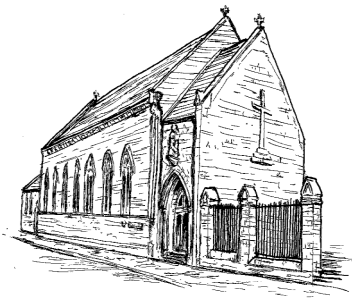
Watch in prayer: the one who is ready,
I myself will wait on in my kingdom

(Commission Francophone Cistercienne)

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

1. During Advent how might you practise active watching for and recognising the coming of Christ each day?
2. As a Christian what should you be doing as you wait for the 'coming of the Lord'?
3. What are you going to do this Advent to enable Christmas to be a real and tangible celebration of Christ's entry into your life?

Vincent Harvey



30 NOVEMBER 2014

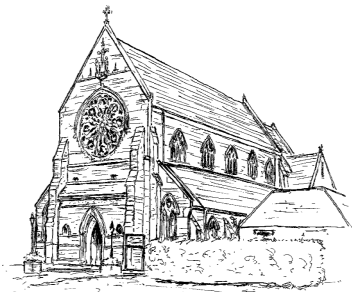
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**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**



TODAY: SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2014

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY is for the Church Maintenance Fund.

WELCOME AND THANKS to Fr Des Connolly who is celebrating 6:15pm and 10am Masses this weekend and presiding at Masses next week in Fr Vincent's absence.

ALTAR SERVERS please pick up a letter about Christmas and St Stephen's Day.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE TODAY (SUNDAY) after morning Mass in **St Edmund's Hall**. Raffle 1st prize £150 plus paint ball vouchers, photo shoot, Christmas hamper and lots more. Bacon and egg sarnies. Bottle stall, cake stall, Bric a Brac, Kids corner, sale of Christmas cards and gifts.



KEEP CALM AND EAT (MORE) CAKE:

afternoon tea and quiz fundraiser for HCPT Group 170 (the local branch of the national charity which takes sick, disabled and disadvantaged children on pilgrimage-holiday to Lourdes) today (Sunday) 3pm at Holy Family Church Hall, Millbrook. Tickets £6 adult / £4 child.

ADVENT SERVICE TODAY (Sunday) at 5:30pm at St Edmund's Church. *Please come along to mark the beginning of Advent and to pray for all our volunteers.*

THIS WEEK

MORE ADVENT ITEMS:

- **Evening Prayer** 6:30pm every Wednesday and Friday before Mass
- **'JINGLING BELLS': Christmas Carols** Sunday 7 December 3:30pm-4:30pm, followed by refreshments and a raffle. Silver collection. **All welcome!** No need to book.
- **Ecumenical Taize Service for Churches Together in the City to mark Advent** will take place in St Mary's, on Sunday, 7 December at 6 pm. Come along. Taize musicians welcome also.
- **Penitential Service** on Monday 22 December at 7:30pm.
- **ADVENT 'DAY BY DAY' BOOKLETS** now available in the porches. Adults £1, children/infants 50p.

FOR INFO: Mon-Fri: VH away (break)

Sun: Goan celebration: VH

Ecumenical Taize for Advent: VH

BINGO CLUB meet 2pm on Mondays in St Edmund's Hall.

AN EVENING OF HEALING with Little Way Healing Ministries 7pm-9:30pm Monday 1 December at Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr. Laurence Brassill OSA and Mrs. Pauline Edwards and team offer an evening of teaching and healing. Jesus said: *'Lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed'*. **Come and see.**

SOUTHAMPTON AND WINCHESTER VISITORS GROUP AGM 7pm Monday 1 December at Avenue St Andrews.

WELLSPRING PRAYER GROUP meet Tuesdays at 7:30pm in St Edmund's Hall. All welcome!

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB meet Wednesdays at 12noon in St Edmund's Hall.

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

NIGHT FEVER: Dates for your diary: 6 December at Our Lady Immaculate Parish: Bournemouth and 13 December at St Mary's Gosport. Do support these local events. This is a first for Bournemouth and Bishop Philip will be celebrating the Mass and attending Gosport on 13 December.

NEXT WEEKEND

BISHOP'S VISIT TO ST BONIFACE: We pray for a successful visit by Bishop Philip to St Boniface Parish next weekend 6/7 December.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: workshop for Parents and Candidates 10:30am Saturday 6 December in St Joseph's Hall/Stella Maris Centre.

MASS OF INSCRIPTION - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES at 9am and 11am Masses at St Edmund's and 10am Mass at St Joseph's Sunday 7 December.

ANNUAL GOAN COMMUNITY EVENT: Feast of St Francis Xavier Celebration taking place on Sunday 7 December from 12:30pm - 5:30pm in St Boniface Church Hall, Shirley, Southampton. Tickets £10 for adults and 13-18 year olds; children (5-12) £6. Live Goan Band. Dress Formal. Authentic Goan Buffet. Complimentary Drinks. Spot Prizes & Raffle. To book call Dina 023 8078 0774 or Text Roque 07816 195 002, email roquevaz@yahoo.co.in. See Notice Board for info.

ECUMENICAL FAMILY RAMBLE Itchen Valley Country Park. Meet at 2pm Sunday 7 December at 'The Barn'. See Notice Boards for info.

NEXT WEEK

SPRINGHILL VISIT to St Edmund's Church 1:30pm Monday 8 December.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE CAROL SERVICE 7pm Tuesday 9 December in St Edmund's Church. (Rehearsal from 11am-12:30pm).

EU WELCOME PROJECT GROUP meet 7pm Thursday 11 December in St Edmund's Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2pm-5pm Sunday 14 December at St Boniface Church Hall, Shirley.

PASTORAL AREA CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE 3pm-4pm Sunday 14 December at Holy Family Church. Come and sing your favourite Carols and join with other children from the Pastoral area. Children's liturgy groups, First Holy Communion Candidates, altar servers, all very welcome. For further information contact Tina Quinn: Pastoral Assistant 023 8033 3589/07827 810 457.

GENERAL ITEMS

THE PASSAGE is a Christian Charity working with Homeless People around the Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Station and Parliament Square area of Central London. *If you donate through The Big Give website just after 10am on 5, 6 or 7 December every £1 is worth £2 due to matched funding.* The Big Give site is quieter on Saturday and the matched giving remains open longer on that day. The link is [http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/project/The Passage](http://new.thebiggive.org.uk/project/The%20Passage). Email: Andrew.H@passage.co.uk.

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 on Mob. 07827810457/email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

REFURBISHMENT OF ST EDMUND'S PARISH HALL: Jenepher Parry Davies will donate £1 from each sale of her first solo album, 'The Spinning Wheel' towards the costs of refurbishment of St. Edmund's Hall. Call 07891 733 939 or Email: sineadnicdaihi@yahoo.co.uk to purchase a copy. Website: www.jenepher.co.uk.

ST EDMUND'S CAR PARKING ... some people are being complacent and parking on the private road into the estate behind us and getting fined! No parking is allowed in the estate or on the approach roads. We can park 4 cars in front of the Lodge and 4 or 5 behind on the graveled area only.

ST ANNE'S ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION: As required by the Admissions Code, the Governing Body of St Anne's will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions policy for the school year 2016/2017. The consultation period runs from 17 November 2014 to 26 January 2015. Copies of the proposed policy can be obtained from the school office. Comments on the policy to be sent to the Clerk to the Governors at the school by 26 January 2015.

CHAPLAINCY DAY: 10 January 2015, 10am-1pm, 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. We will also be seeking your views on the development of chaplaincy services in the diocese. Please RSVP to cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: Starting Wednesday 14 January 2015 from 7:30pm - 9pm and then every 2nd 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 or Dudley 023 8067 9079 for further details. All welcome. Just go along and join them.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DECEMBER 200 CLUB WINNERS

Anna Griffiths	1st Prize	£25
Tony & Kathryn Wade	2nd Prize	£10

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.



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. Thank you! Baskets available in the porches.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY? To learn more about your Catholic Faith; deepen your prayer life; develop close Catholic friendships and grow closer to Jesus and His Mother. Weekly meetings 10:30am every Saturday in the Louis Hall, Holy Family Church, Millbrook. Tel. 023 8077 8203. See Notice Board and leaflets in the porches. Also go online website: www.holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk/legion-of-mary.

TRADICRAFT 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). Email Parish Office southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

REVIEW OF DIOCESAN SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT: The Diocesan Trustees are currently engaged in a Review of the future shape and remit of the Diocesan Department for Schools. They are consulting Heads and Chairs of Governors in all our schools but are also keen that anyone who has experience of the Schools Department be invited to respond/comment. If you wish to respond to the questions below please do so and email your comments to the Episcopal Vicar for Education: veducation@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

- What do you value about the work of the Schools Department?
- What could be improved about the work of the Schools Department?
- In an ideal world, what support and services would you like the Schools Department to offer schools?
- What services would you be prepared to pay for from a re-formed Schools Department? Thank you, Father Vincent.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Nenum (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 30 NOVEMBER 2014

SAT	29 NOV	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	SIMONE HUGHES RIP (TONY'S MUM) (TH&VH) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	30 NOV	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	STOY & JESSIE—THANKSGIVING (JS) JOHN & MAUREEN WADE RIP (TW) PJ PHELAN RIP (DP&GP) ELIZABETH DORLING RIP (JMD)
TUES	2 DEC	1st WEEK OF ADVENT	10:00AM SE	PJ PHELAN RIP (PARISH OFFICE)
WED	3 DEC	ST FRANCIS XAVIER	7:00PM SE	ETHELDREDA CONWAY (F)
THURS	4 DEC	ST JOHN DAMASCENE	12:15PM SJ	ROMEO & JEAN ZANELLOTTI RIP (F)
FRI	5 DEC	1st WEEK OF ADVENT	7:00PM SE	JON—MOTHER'S INTENTIONS (MM)
SAT	6 DEC	ST NICHOLAS	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	PHIL—MOTHER'S INTENTIONS (MM) MICHAEL JOHN BROSINAN—GET WELL (DB) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	7 DEC	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	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)

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: tquinn@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 1

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2014 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

Psalm Response

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

READINGS SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 2014 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

1st Reading:	Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
2nd Reading:	2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel:	Mark 1:1-8

2nd COLLECTION TODAY CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND

NO 2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Collection	23/11/14 1st
Total	£2,148.30
Cash	744.08
S / O	1,139.85
Gift Aid Tax Rebate	264.37

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