

TO AVENGE OR TO FORGIVE! MISERICORDIA, MERCY, LOVE ALWAYS PREVAILS

Most people find it hard to let go of wrongs done to them. Sometimes the incident was deliberate, sometimes unintentional. But some go through life harboring grudges, making them miserable for many years. There are many areas in our lives that need forgiveness and therefore repentance. A good place to start is our own selves. We often say to ourselves, *I can never forgive myself for doing that unthinkable thing.* Because we have not forgiven ourselves, we feel bitter and angry - with ourselves, with others, with the world, and even with God. When we forgive and are forgiven, a great healing takes place in us. We learn to be humble. We also develop a positive outlook not only about God but also about ourselves, others, and society. We then think and speak well of them and do them good.

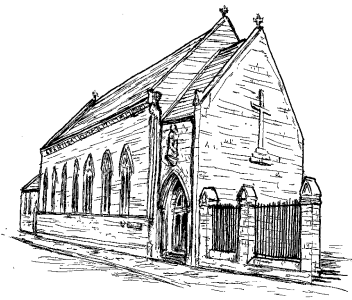
The three Scripture Readings of this 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C underline God's unmerited love and mercy for the repentant sinner. This is a God who forgives readily and takes great delight in the conversion of any of us. He is the Father who is ever eager to receive us back. The three parables of Luke 15 repeat the themes of the previous chapters as they respond to the Pharisees grumbling over Jesus' sharing table fellowship with sinners, outcasts and the poor (v.1). The common themes that link the parables internally are evidenced in the repetition of the words 'lost' and 'found' which imply celebrations of joy.

All three Scripture Readings of this Sunday reveal the drama of human sin which is so deceptive. How often do we worship the golden calves of today's society? How often do we run away from home? The image of God presented to us by Jesus in these parables is one who seeks us in love so that He can forgive us. He is the merciful Father, who receives us back and restores us to our place as a son with all the rights and dignity. He knows that we are lost because we have sinned against Him by disregarding His will. But He is willing to overlook that and extend the hand of forgiveness if we only repent. This is the heart of God toward us. He does not look to punish or to make us suffer, but to celebrate our homecoming with us. He does not hold our sins over us, but rather rejoices that we are back safe with him. He does not make us suffer any more than our sins have already made us suffer because he no longer considers us slaves, but sons, daughters and above all friends.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. It is said that the Prodigal Son 'came to his senses'. He opened his eyes to see, his ears to hear; he reached out for help, and got in touch with reality. The father's welcome was extraordinary, but it could only happen because the son came back home. Are we willing to let the Father embrace us, and are we prepared to come to our senses too?
2. The story of the Prodigal Son actually has no clear ending. We don't know if the elder brother went into the house to join in the celebrations, or whether he stayed outside, seething with self-righteousness. There is no ending, because it is not just a story, it is a challenge, to each one of us. How would you end the story? Would you go in or stay outside? What does your moral conscience tell you?
3. Forgiveness is all very well when we ask for it for ourselves. But how do we react when forgiveness is extended to others? Do we find it difficult to accept that God offers the same mercy to everyone, no matter what their past life?

Father Ezekiel Sungerukuari James



11 SEPTEMBER 2016
24th SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY
TIME



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
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
PORTSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING &
ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION,
HEDGE END
- ST BRIGID, WEST END
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION,
NETLEY ABBEY



TODAY SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2016

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY is for the **INTERNATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS NETWORK** founded to identify and nurture young emerging Catholic leaders globally to serve in the public arena; 250 young people have gone through the formation and are now working in Presidents offices, serving in poor communities, clergy or leaders in civic, political and business life at the highest level.

The formation takes the form of intensive week long training (accommodation provided) with exposure to social need and one-on-one mentoring with Bishops, Diplomats, MPs and others.

One of the consequences of Francis Davis' recent visit to Africa is a plan to launch the programme from Zambia focused on bringing forward Southern African young Catholic leaders focused on anti-corruption, mental health and poverty reduction. To be established by graduates of the existing programme and supported by the Franciscans and local Bishops.

To get this off the ground they need to raise £15,000. A company in Jersey will match gifts made from parish appeals over the next year. All the funds are invested in the young people as the staff are all volunteers and those contributing to the programmes, no matter how senior, give their time.

WELCOME RITES: 9am and 11am Masses.

BAPTISMS: We welcome into our faith community:



Beatriz Brito, daughter of Mario and Marlene being baptised at St Joseph's at 11:30am and

- **Nicholas Schmutz**, son of Christian and Gabriela
- **Henry Brown**, son of Paul and Chantalle
- **Christian Balicao**, son of Michael and Kirsty
- **Lily Nieziclek**, daughter of Sebastian and Monika being baptised at St Edmund's at 12:30pm.

RECENTLY DIED:



Muriel Noreiko RIP late of Southampton. Requiem Mass 10:45am Friday 16 September at Immaculate Conception Church. Our sympathy to Christine and Mike Smears on the death of their Mum (6:15pm Mass goes).

Vienna Moore RIP late of Siskin Close, Southampton. Funeral service 12:15pm Friday 16 September in St Edmund's Church followed by committal in the East Chapel, Southampton Crematorium.

David Cunningham RIP late of Biddlesgate Court, Upper Bugle Street. Reception of the coffin into St Joseph's Church 4:30pm Tuesday 20 September; funeral 12noon Wednesday 21 September at St Joseph's Church followed by committal at Wessex Vale Crematorium.

Yolanda Cirino RIP late of Orchard Lane, Southampton. Reception of the coffin 4:30pm Wednesday 21 September into St Edmund's Church. Funeral service 3:15pm Thursday 22 September followed by committal at the East Chapel, Southampton Crematorium. *May their souls rest in peace. Please keep their families in your prayers.*

THIS WEEK

WELLSPRING PRAYER GROUP meet Tuesdays 2pm—3pm in St Edmund's Hall.

LUNCH CLUB recommences Wednesday 14 September from 12noon onwards. *We thank Sarah Pinson for managing the club over the past few years and we wish her well in her new venture. Welcome to the team Laura Pinson who will be helping with the running of the lunch club.*

POETRY SHARE: YEAR OF MERCY 'Reaching Out: The Outsider' 7pm Thursday 15 September in St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street. All welcome. See noticeboard.

PILATES WITH HILARY 10am Fridays St Edmund's Hall.

NEXT WEEKEND:



WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations to **Marc Wren and Victoria Psaila** getting married in St Joseph's Church 1pm Saturday 17 September. *May God bless them all the days of their lives.*



BAPTISM OF POLAND—CONCERT WITH

'AVE VERUM' CHOIR: This year Poland has been celebrating the 1050th anniversary of its baptism. The conversion to Christianity began in the year 966 with the baptism of

Mieszko I, the first ruler of Poland and most of his court. As a result, Poland joined the ranks of established European states recognised by the papacy. To mark this occasion a concert called **'Bogiem Slawiena'** is being organised. **The Polish Choir 'Ave Verum' from London** will be performing in **St Edmund's Church on Saturday 17 September at 5pm.** The concert ends at 6:30pm and will be followed by Mass at 7pm. On behalf of the Polish Community and 'Ave Verum' choir you are cordially invited. **The Mayor of Southampton is attending!**

HOME MISSION SUNDAY 18 September.

LAUDATO SI: A study and reflections on Laudato Si, produced by CAFOD, will take place at Christ the King and St Colman Hall. There are 3 sessions lasting an hour each:

1. Creation is a Caress of God, Sun 18 Sep 2:30pm
2. The Climate is a Common Good, Sun 2 Oct 3:00pm
3. A universal family 16 Oct 2:30pm

Welcome to attend one or all of them. For info contact Deirdre Fairman 023 8045 2094.

NEXT WEEK:

OPEN EVENING AT ST MARY'S COLLEGE from 6:30pm—9:30pm Monday 19 September. Contact info: website: www.stmaryscollege.co.uk; Tel 023 8067 1267; address 57 Midanbury Lane, Bitterne Park, Southampton, SO18 4DJ. See noticeboard.

WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations to **Patrick and Helena** getting married 1pm Friday 23 September in St Edmund's Church. *May God bless them all the days of their lives.*

RECOMMISSIONING OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AND READERS at all Masses Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 September.

GENERAL ITEMS:

THANK YOU to St Joseph's 10am Coffee Club for £170 donated to HCPT and Parish Funds.

SOUTHAMPTON CELEBRATE WEEKEND

24-25 SEPTEMBER 2016

- Aims to stimulate our faith in a joyful and spiritual atmosphere of Christian community
- For all ages, young and old, singles and families
- Talks, workshops, drama and mime, lively Spirit-filled praise and worship, and daily Mass
- Children's streams to allow parents to attend the main events while their children are led in creative and spiritual activities by trained adult leaders
- Opportunities for being prayed over by the prayer ministry team
- Conference fee includes evening meal Saturday

"Angela and I always look forward eagerly to this conference. We know the four main speakers and they are inspirational. The conference attracts people from a wide area outside Southampton. We are blessed to have it on our doorstep at St George Catholic College. There is still time to book, either by phone 023 8029 2058 or on the website www.celebrateconference.org. For more info call Angela or me on 023 8077 2868." Frank Capocci



We are hoping to bring **Messy Church** to St Joseph's and St Edmund's – beginning with an Advent themed Messy Church session in November. Messy Church is about arts and crafts, stories and fun aimed at children and their parents.

In order to run Messy Church sessions (about 7/8 sessions a year), we need helpers. These sessions will run on a Saturday lasting an hour and a half and won't need huge amounts of preparation (one initial meeting and then turn up on the day). Are you willing to lead: A craft; Serve tea and coffee; Serve snacks; Lead a story; Lead a song? (All resources will be provided). Please contact Roxy Ashworth on roxy.ashworth@live.co.uk. All offers of help will be gratefully received.

SEMINARIANS IN FORMATION: Please keep in your prayers all those in formation for the priesthood as we begin this new academic year:

Allen Hall

Ian Cornford – fourth year

Ben Huntley – fourth year

James Lewis – first year

Oscott College

Mohanraj Edward – fourth year

St John's Seminary

Ansel D'Mello – sixth year

Robert Stewart – sixth year

Niall Farrell – third year

Paul Nwune – second year

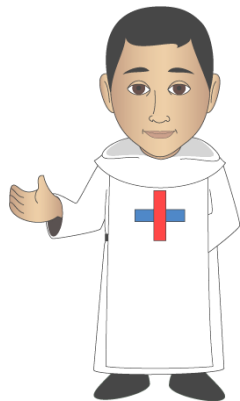
Venerable English College, Rome

Matthew King – third year

Oliver Welsford – second year

Daniel Ferguson – first year

Matthew King, although from South Africa, he applied to the Diocese whilst a parishioner here in St Joseph and St Edmund. We therefore occasionally send him a donation from the Parish Vocation Fund. We did so for the summer and he has written thanking the Parish. Thank you to all who continue to contribute to the fund.



CONFIRMATION 2017: The Sacrament of Confirmation for our Pastoral Area will next be celebrated by Bishop Philip Egan on Saturday 27 May 2017 at 11am in **St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth**. It is for those aged 13 by 31 August 2016, i.e. mostly school Year 9, but also older. Those eligible must be attending Mass at St Joseph's or St Edmund's (6:15pm, 9am, 10am, 11am or 7pm). **The first session of the programme is on Sunday 9 October 2016, and thereafter on the 2nd Sunday of the month (with a retreat weekend 13th & 14th May 2017). Each session is from 2pm-4 pm in St. Boniface Hall, Shirley.**

Candidates need to send a short letter or e-mail to Father Vincent (vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) applying to join the programme and saying why they would like to be confirmed. **Closing date to apply is 30 September 2016.** (Father Vincent is away for 3 weeks in September.)

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day – 7 October. This Harvest Fast Day, we are invited to join 32 year old Nicanora, from Bolivia on her journey from poverty to abundance. Let us stand alongside Nicanora as she learns new skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family. Please pray for our work at this time and give what you can. Thank you.

DAY FOR CATECHISTS 10am to 4pm Saturday 15 Oct at Portsmouth. Includes Pilgrimage through the Holy Door, Keynote speech by Bishop Philip, Mass of thanksgiving, lunch provided, practical workshops to discover/help the work of catechesis, time for sharing and discussion. Register by calling 01590 681 875 or online at website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation or email: ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS TRAINING: Fr Antony Gatt will be running a training course for those wishing to volunteer as Extraordinary Ministers. **These will be run on Tuesdays 18 & 25 October and 1 November at 7:30pm in Immaculate Conception Church, Portwood Road.** Let Father Vincent know if you would like to volunteer as an Extraordinary Minister at St Joseph's or St Edmund's; they are needed at all Masses.

ST GEORGE COLLEGE GCSE RESULTS: St George are celebrating their best first entry results ever this year. 70% of students secured 5A*-C grades incl. Maths & English, with 83% making expected progress in English and 80% in Maths. We are also forecasting to be in the top 5% nationally for the new Progress 8 measure. Well done staff and pupils at the College!

CAR PARKING: A reminder that Park Centrale Estate is private and no parking is allowed.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Fran Morley, Angela Capocci (op. recovery), Caroline Gailor, Rosa Santos, Irene Cartledge, Tony McCall, Father David Hutton, Lucky & Sujata, Mano, Nelum, Felicity Singleton (op. recovery), Sheila and Clare Morris, Morris & Patricia Penny, John Redhead, Jackie Duggan, Esther Pananwela, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Valerie Summerton (op recovery), Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Alex Boyle, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Joanne Cunio, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, JL, Malcolm Cross, Teresa Adams (stroke recovery), Judy Brown, O'Hanlon family, John Morris, Paul Sassu, Moyra Clearkin, Peter Scott, Phyllis Grattan, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, NW, Bosco and Myra Andrade, Joe Sculley, Josie Franklin, John O'Reilly, Bridget Busk, Pam Bennett, Pauldia Grant, Laura Pinson and all parishioners who are ill, having surgery or on our prayer list.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2016

*(Key to City Centre Catholic Masses below are SJ = St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street, SO14 2AH and SE = St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ)

| | | | | |
|-------|--------|---|------------|---|
| SAT | 10 SEP | VIGIL MASS | 6:15PM *SJ | SEÁN, KATHLEEN & STEWART ADAMSON RIP (DC) |
| | | | 7:00PM SE | MASS IN POLISH |
| SUN | 11 SEP | 24th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | 9:00AM SE | AGOSTINHO GONCALVES RIP (MG) |
| | | | 10:00AM SJ | RITA DOONOR RIP (MB) |
| | | | 11:00AM SE | COYLE FAMILY—PAST & PRESENT (RC) |
| | | | 7:00PM SE | BRIDIE, PADDY & TOMMY REILLY RIP (PR) |
| TUES | 13 SEP | ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM | 10:00AM SE | BRIDGET BUSK INTENTIONS—ESPECIALLY HER GRANDSON ALEXANDER BUSK (BB) |
| WED | 14 SEP | THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS | 7:00PM SE | ADRIENNE PENN RIP (DB & EB) |
| THURS | 15 SEP | OUR LADY OF SORROWS | 12:15PM SJ | NELLIE O'HANLON RIP (BM) |
| FRI | 16 SEP | SS CORNELIUS & CYPRIAN | 12:15PM SE | FUNERAL SERVICE: MRS VIENNA MOORE RIP |
| | | | 7:00PM SE | THOMAS CONNOR RIP (MR) |
| SAT | 17 SEP | ST HILDEGARD OF BINGEN | 11:00AM SE | CALLUM—GOD'S BLESSINGS & PROTECTION (MM) |
| | | | 6:15PM SJ | JOHN & HONORIA SULLIVAN RIP (PR) |
| | | | 7:00PM SE | MASS IN POLISH |
| SUN | 18 SEP | 25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | 9:00AM SE | SISTER MARY MacLEOD RIP (DMacK) |
| | | | 10:00AM SJ | BIANCA SWANN RIP (2nd ANNIVERSARY) (LS) |
| | | | 11:00AM SE | ROBERT & FAMILY—THANKSGIVING (RK) |
| | | | 7:00PM SE | ANGUS MacKINNON RIP (GC & HP) |

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. *Christ the King & St Colman* Sun 11:00; Holy Day 19:00. *Immaculate Conception, Portswood* Recon: Sat 10:30 (After Mass); Sun 08:30; 10:30; Holy Day 10:00; 19:30. *Our Lady of the Assumption, Hedge End* Sat Vigil 17:30; *St Brigid, West End* Sun 17:30; *St Patrick, Woolston* Sat Vigil 18:00; Sun 11:00; Holy Day 09:15 (term time); 10:00 (outside of term time). *The Annunciation, Netley Abbey* Sun 09:00, Holy Day 19:00.

Contact Details:
 E-mail address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Assistant Priest:
 E-mail address: fathertomy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Presbytery Tel. No: 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ
Deacon:
Andy Philpott andrew.philpott@virginmedia.com
Parish Secretary:
 Parish Office Tel: 023 8033 3589
 Parish Email Address: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.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 07827 810 457 email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
PA Property Admin.:
 Chris Barber Tel 023 8033 3589
 Email Address: cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Poitiers Project
 Graham Alldred 07980 933 828
Polish Chaplaincy:
 Father Zbigniew Budyn
 Tel. 023 8178 6316
 E-mail address: southampton@tchr.org
 Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL
Safeguarding Reps:
 Catherine Marshall-Cox & Claire Thompson
Solent Uni. Chaplain:
 Sister Virginia Adnan 07413 557 751
S'oton Uni. Chaplain:
 Sister Valentina Stilo 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 4

SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2016

24th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Psalm Response

I will leave this place and go to my father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

Alleluia!

READINGS SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2016

25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Amos 8:4—7

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1—8

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:1—13

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2ND COLLECTION TODAY | 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK |
| INT. YOUNG LEADERS NETWORK PROJECT | HOME MISSION SUNDAY |

| Collections 4.9.16 | 1st | 2nd—Church Maintenance |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Total | £3,151.82 | £291.97 |
| Cash | 1,581.06 | 206.35 |
| S / O | 1,256.61 | 68.50 |
| Gift Aid Tax | 314.15 | 17.12 |

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 |