



3 DECEMBER 2017

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

STELLA MARIS DEANERY

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



# BEING ADVENTUROUS

Happy New Year! No I have not lost my senses, yet, nor my calendar. Today we begin Year B of the liturgical calendar. This 'new' year of the church will focus on the Gospel according to Mark. Today's Gospel comes from chapter thirteen, which focuses on eschatology, meaning 'the study of the last time or things.'

The last verses of the chapter, which form our Gospel reading, are words of hope and a call for vigilance. Jesus urges His disciples to be watchful and ready. They are to live as if Jesus will return momentarily. If they live that way they will never be caught off guard. Accordingly, even though many people are spending their time preparing to celebrate the first coming of Jesus in His birth in Bethlehem, the readings call us, His disciples, to reflect on Jesus' Second Coming, at the end of time, or at least at the end of our personal time here on earth.

Why not be **adventurous**. Let's step out and dare ourselves to be different. Why not act as if Jesus is coming today. Why not be loving, caring, giving, and not just at Christmas, but also each day of our lives. That doesn't mean we have to spend money like this was the most important and last Christmas of our lives. It means that we need to focus on the people in our lives and see how we can make a positive difference. It means taking risks, for the sake of others.

We are called to be ready and willing to meet Jesus as He comes to us not only as a baby in Bethlehem, or as our crucified Saviour, or as the Master at the end of time, but also as He comes to us in each person we meet as we travel through each day. We must be watchful to see Him as He comes. We must be vigilant. We must be **adventurous**.

Deacon Andy Philpott

### THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. Advent is a time to 'be alert', to 'stay awake' for God in our lives (Gospel). What are you going to do in order to be alert and awake to God's presence ... ? Extra time in prayer, Adoration, weekday Mass, reading of Scripture?
2. What are you 'thankful' to God for (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)? Your life, your family, your health, your faith ...? Name them and say 'thank you'.
3. How can you make this Advent a time of restoration and recreation?

Vincent Harvey

## TODAY SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2017

**RETIRING COLLECTION TODAY:** Church Maintenance.

**TODAY ..... 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** (see elsewhere) when as 'Church' we await the coming of Christ at the 'end of time' and at 'Christmas'. At all Masses we bless the **Advent Wreath** and light the first candle as a reminder that the journey has begun! **Make the most of Advent** by purchasing some of the many booklets (for adults and children) and 'Advent Calendar' for children available at the back of both churches.

**ECUMENICAL FAMILY RAMBLE** 2pm today. Starting point St Mary's Church Car Park.

**JINGLING BELLS** today from 3pm—4:30pm, carols in St Edmund's Church followed by tea in the hall. *Please bring a plate to share.* Also gloves, scarves, jumpers, hats for homeless people. Silver collection in aid of Poitier Project (Father Des).

**YOUTH CHOIR** 7pm Mass, rehearsal at 6pm.

### THIS WEEK

**FOR INFORMATION:** Mon: Day off: VH/RB

Tues Hospital on call: VH. Springhill: VH  
Clergy Meeting: VH/RB. SCOF: VH

Wed Supervision: VH/RB. Springhill: RB  
Diocesan Spirituality Team: VH

Thurs Diocesan Bamenda Committee: VH  
Spiritual Direction, London: RB.

Fri Mass St George: VH.

Confessions St George: VH/RB

Advent Meal/Reflection URC church: VH

Sat Evangelisation Study Day: VH  
Various meetings: RB

**CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP** St Michael's, Bugle Street, Tuesdays 6pm—6:45pm.

**SCOF** meeting 7:30pm Tuesday 5 December in St Edmund's Hall.

**WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB** meet at 12noon every Wednesday in St Edmund's Hall.

**SPRINGHILL CONCERT PRACTISE** 1pm—3pm Thursday 7 December in St Edmund's Church.

**BAMENDA COMMITTEE MEETING** 7pm—9:30pm Thursday 7 December in St Edmund's Presbytery.

**RCIA GROUP** meet at 7:30pm on Thursdays in St Edmund's Hall, Rockstone Place for those enquiring about the Catholic Faith.

**PILATES WITH HILARY** 10am Fridays in St Edmund's Hall. Text Hilary 07786 617 302 to join.



**YOUTH CLUBS: Frogz Junior Group** for ages 8-12, meet **2nd & 4th Fridays of the month** during term-time from 6pm—7:15pm. Next meeting **Friday 8 December**, theme "Advent Party".

**Frassati Society Senior Group** for ages 12-18 meet **Fridays** 7:15pm-9pm. The group is led by Sister Mary Catherine OP from the Dominican convent in Sway. Both take place in St Boniface Church Hall.

**CONFRATERNITY OF THE ROSARY—SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** Friday 8 December at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. Starts with Mass at 12:15pm; includes candle-light procession, candles placed at the Altar of Our Blessed Lady, hymns/prayers followed by Benediction. All welcome!

### NEXT WEEK

**SPRINGHILL CONCERT PRACTISE** 1pm—3pm Monday 11 December in St Edmund's Church.

**SPRINGHILL YEAR 6 CAROL CONCERT** 7pm Tuesday 12 December in St Edmund's Church.

**SPRINGHILL VISIT** 9am—11am Wednesday 13 December in St Edmund's Church.



**CHRISTMAS CHOIR:** Come and join us to sing carols for the Midnight Mass at St Edmund's on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals 7:30pm on Wednesdays 13 and 20 December. For more information email Carla at [carla.philips75@gmail.com](mailto:carla.philips75@gmail.com)

**EST MEETING** 7:45pm Wednesday 13 December in St Edmund's Presbytery.

**SOUP LUNCH** 1:05pm Thursday 14 December in Stella Maris Hall (after 12:15pm Mass). Proceeds for CAFOD.

**ST MARY'S COLLEGE PRACTISE & CAROL SERVICE** Practise 10am—12 noon, Carol Service 7pm Thursday 14 December in St Edmund's Church.

### GENERAL ITEMS

**STONEMWORK REPAIRS** being undertaken in St Edmund's Church the week of 4—8 December. *All activities as normal whilst work going on.*

**PARISH THEME:** as we begin the 'New Liturgical Year' (with the Gospel of Mark) we pick up the theme of 'Peace'. November 2018 will see the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One. As the year progresses, without doubt society, civic and religious, will be focusing on world peace, maybe more needed now than ever in our world history! We in the Parish will pick up a different aspect/facet of peace each month, beginning in December/Advent with 'personal peace', 'at one with oneself, with others and God'.

**POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR DECEMBER:** The Elderly: That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

**ADVENT:** "For the great human family it is necessary to renew always the common horizon toward which we are journeying. The horizon of hope! This is the horizon that makes a good journey .... the time of Advent that we begin again today returns us to the horizon of hope, a hope that does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God. A hope that does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful!..... [Advent is] a new journey of the People of God with Jesus Christ, our Shepherd, who guides us in history towards the completion of the Kingdom of God!(Pope Francis, Sunday Angelus, 1st Sunday of Advent, 2013).

## ACCOMMODATION NEEDED FOR MALE STUDENT

from 22 to 26 December so that he can join his family for Christmas. Tel. Mum—Rosa 07448 942 566.

**ALTAR SERVERS** ... thank you to all our Altar Servers. Without the teams we have we could not celebrate Mass with dignity and reverence. Thank you.

*Christmas is coming and we need to organise the serving at Christmas Masses: Christmas Eve (Sunday 24th) at 6pm in St Edmund; then 11.30pm in both St Joseph and St Edmund; then Christmas Day (Monday) 9 & 11am St Edmund and 10am St Joseph. And, of course, St Stephen Day on 'Boxing Day', 26th December at 11am: at this Mass new Servers are 'enrolled' into the Guild of St Stephen. Please pick up a letter today from the sacristy and let us know in the next couple of weeks which Masses you will be serving at, and who is due a medal!!*

## ADVENT

### ADVENT: IDEAS .....

- Pop into Adoration at St Edmund during the week for a 'time of quiet' in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord
- Buy an 'Advent Booklet' to guide you through this period of 'expectant waiting'
- Advent Anticipation at Avenue St Andrew's Friday, 8th December at 6pm to 'prepare ourselves'. Bring food to share. Let Father Vincent know so that he can inform Avenue St Andrew's

**ADVANCE WARNING—ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE 7:30pm \*\*Tuesday 19 December at St Edmund 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!'

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

**\*\*Tuesday 19 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 11:30am from Saturday 16 December to Saturday 23 December.

**STAPLING OF CHRISTMAS MASS LEAFLETS:** Volunteers needed Monday—Friday 9am—1pm and 2pm—4pm from Wednesday 13 December. Call at the Parish Office if you can help.

### STEWARDS / WELCOMERS / READERS / E. MINISTERS For Reconciliation Service and Christmas Masses

All offers of help greatly appreciated. Please add your name to the sign-up list at the back of the Church. (Altar Servers list in the Sacristy.)

**POST CHRISTMAS CONCERT!** You are invited to enjoy a lovely mix of classical and festive music by three University of Birmingham music graduates at 7:30pm Wednesday 3 January 2018 at St Boniface Church, Shirley. Raffle and refreshments available. Donation only, all profits to help Lizzie Wood (Angela's daughter) in her fundraising for her year working as a missionary for NET ministries Ireland. COME ALONG!



## GIFTS FOR CATHOLIC HOME CARE CLIENTS

**2017** It's that time of the year again when we ask parishioners, while out shopping in the next two to three weeks, to please consider picking up a small gift or two for us to pass on to our elderly clients. Many of the Christmas offerings now in the shops would be suitable—toiletries, chocolates, biscuits, socks, scarves etc. Gifts should be new and **unwrapped** so that individual health and dietary requirements can be considered when our Carers select for their clients. **Baskets available in the porches this weekend.**

**MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Thursday 14 December at 7pm. If you feel you would benefit from this simple but profound encounter with the Christ then you are welcome to Saint Joseph's, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DU.

**UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN!** A day of reflection in preparation for Christmas will take place at Saint Joseph's, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DU on Saturday 16 December from 10:30am—after Mass at 3:30pm. Please bring a packed lunch. A suggested donation of £20 would be welcome.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME, SAN GIOVANNI AND ASSISI IN HONOUR OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SAINT PADRE PIO** 30 Oct – 6 Nov 2018 led by Father Des Connolly SMM. Price: £875pp includes estimation of flight cost – half board. For more info please contact Gill 017 3288 6666 or Father Des: 023 8029 2337 or [fatherdes@icloud.com](mailto:fatherdes@icloud.com)

**DO YOU SUPPORT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Father Vincent (full recovery), Kay Walshe (op. recovery), Dolina MacKinnon, Judy Brown, Karen Nugent, Andrea Reiter, Abbas Akperally, Lucky, Sujatha & Mano Disshnayake, Himat Amlani, Francis Ponniah, Daham Korlage, Kushmi, CA, Alan West, Jackie Galbraith, Joan Forbes, Keiran Walstall, Doris Leggett, Marisa Tellegen (op. recovery), John O'Reilly, Albie Escorcio, Carmen Escorcio, Linda Seikus, Bill Eastman, Shane Wing, Janice Cummings, Kathryn Morley, Carol Butt, Maureen Lee, Roy Reeves, Myra & Bosco Andrade, Joachim Rodrigues, Marie Adams, Ken Rouse, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Jackie Duggan, Esther Pananwela, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Valerie Summerton, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Alex Boyle, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Joanne Cunio, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, JL, Malcolm Cross, O'Hanlon family, John Morris, Paul Sassu, Moyra Clearkin, Peter Scott, Phyllis Grattan, Maria Annunziata, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, NW, Joe Sculley, Pauldia Grant and all parishioners on the prayer list who are ill, having surgery or treatment at this time.

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2017

\*(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	2 DECEMBER	<b>VIGIL MASS</b>	6:15PM SJ WALTER GABRIEL SINCLAIR RIP (100TH ANNIV.) (MY) 7:00PM SE MASS IN POLISH
SUN	3 DECEMBER	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9:00AM SE ANNIE'S HEALTH—HEALING AND WELLBEING (JB&MB) 10:00AM SJ MARI A & ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK) 11:00AM SE PJ PHELAN RIP (DP & GP) 7:00PM SE ROMEO & JEAN ZANELLOTTI RIP (F)
TUES	5 DECEMBER	<b>OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT</b>	10:00AM SE JOZEF, LUDWIKA & THEIR ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK)
WED	6 DECEMBER	<b>ST NICHOLAS</b>	7:00PM SE JOZEFA S & ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK)
THURS	7 DECEMBER	<b>ST AMBROSE</b>	12:15PM SJ HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY (RK)
FRI	8 DECEMBER	<b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	7:00PM SE ADA'S FATHER & ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK)
SAT	9 DECEMBER	<b>OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT</b>	11:00AM SE AREK K & ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK) 6:15PM SJ JACK SINCLAIR RIP (MY)
SUN	10 DECEMBER	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9:00AM SE STOY & JESSY—THANKSGIVING (JS) 10:00AM SJ SLAWEK & ANCESTORS—HEALING OF FAMILY TREE (RK) 11:00AM SE DECEASED MEMBERS OF CURTIS HAYWARD FAMILY (F) 7:00PM SE ROBERT & FAMILY—GOD'S BLESSINGS (RK)

**PARISHES MASS TIMES:** Holy Family, Millbrook Sat Vigil 18:30; Sun 10:30am; 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:** Parish Priest: Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey  
Email address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Assistant Priest:** Father Ross Bullock  
Email address: rbullock@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Presbytery Tel. No: 023 8033 4891  
Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

**Deacon:** Andy Philpott [andrew.philpott@virginmedia.com](mailto:andrew.philpott@virginmedia.com)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Tina Quinn Tel 023 8017 0497 (Mon-Wed)  
Mobile 07827 810 457 email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**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, SO17 1XJ  
Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk

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

**Catholic Home Care:** Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498  
Email address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

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

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

**PA Property Admin.:** Chris Barber Tel 023 8017 0499  
Email Address: cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Poitiers Project** Graham Alldred 07980 933 828

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Zbigniew Budyn  
Tel 02381786316  
Email address: southampton@tchr.org  
Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL

**Safeguarding Reps:** Catherine Marshall-Cox & Claire Thompson

**Solent Uni. Chaplain:** Sister Emiliana Silva—Mob. 07426 000 213  
email: [emiliana.silva.solent.ac.uk](mailto:emiliana.silva.solent.ac.uk)

**S'oton Uni. Chaplains:** Father James Bradley (Priest Chaplain) email: jbradley@portsmouthdiocese 023 8077 8203  
Sister Valentina Stilo—Mob. 07983 883 377

**Vocations to Priesthood:** [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vocation/](http://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

**3 DECEMBER 2017**

**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 10 DECEMBER 2017**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B**

1st reading: Isaiah 40:1—5, 9—11

2nd reading: 2 Peter 3:8—14

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1—8

**2ND COLLECTION TODAY**

**2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK**

**CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND**

**CATHOLIC HOME CARE**

COLLECTIONS	1st 26.11.17	2nd 19.11.17 CATHOLIC HOME CARE
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,624.07</b>	<b>£411.13</b>
Cash	1,053.31	264.88
S / O	1,256.61	117.00
Gift Aid	314.15	29.25

Thank you for your generous contributions and gift aiding. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.

## CONFESSION TIMES

**St Joseph's:** Thursdays 11:45am

Saturdays 5:45pm

**St Edmund's:** Saturdays 11:30am