

# GAUDETE IN DOMINO SEMPER (REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS)

John the Baptist's guidance when approached by those seeking baptism is direct even to the point of bluntness. Then we remind ourselves that he is saying what people must have known already. The tax collectors knew they shouldn't cheat their own people. The soldiers knew they shouldn't practise extortion. But voicing thoughts and truths often makes them more real and challenging. (Perhaps why we state volubly, if quietly, our sins during reconciliation - don't forget we have a Reconciliation Service next Tuesday 18th). But John doesn't tell the tax collectors to stop collecting taxes nor does he tell the soldiers to give up being soldiers. He simply calls them to do what they already know to be right.

John's message of repentance is a very important part of what we all need, but it will only be part of what will save us. We wait in eager anticipation for the coming of Jesus the Christ at Christmas, because God in Christ is offering us far more. Jesus is not just putting us back on our feet, recalling us to a faithful following of God's law. He is doing that, but he offers so much more.

We do not need to be a parent to know that the birth of a child brings hope to its parents, family and friends. Children are a sign of hope for the future, and they bear within themselves that hope of so many great possibilities, as yet unfulfilled. Is this not what we see looking into their eyes and hear when listening to their voices? And yet the birth of the Christ-child brings not only hope for Himself but real hope for us. The hope Christ brings is a new birth, not just a second chance. It's a return to the hope of our childhood and even more, a new and certain hope of life with God, of being a child of God, in this life and forever.

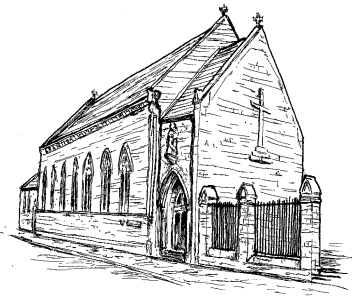
*Deacon Andy Philpott*

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## THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. "What must we do?" people ask John the Baptist in today's Gospel. His answer is basically to be 'honest', to be 'people of integrity' and to be 'generous' in response to others. Are we? Are you? Am I?
2. "The Lord God is in your midst" Zephaniah says (1st reading). Yes he is where we are, where you are, where I am!! Do we look and live as if we believe it? If 'yes', when and how? If 'no', why not?
3. "There is no need to worry" St Paul writes (2nd reading). Yet we do! Why do we? Can you/I not simply trust God? What is stopping us?

*Vincent Harvey*



16 DECEMBER 2018  
**THIRD  
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



## **TODAY SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2018**

**"JINGLING BELLS"** carols, tea, mince pies, today 3pm - 4:30pm. All welcome. Please bring plate to share. Help with welcoming and teas and/or donations of clothing for homeless (box in foyer) much appreciated. Please contact: Jenepher Tel.: 07891 733 939.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, St Dominic's Priory, Shirley Holms Road, Lymington, SO41 8NH, Tel. 015 9068 1874 today at 3pm followed by tea & mince pies.

**FILIPINO CHOIR** 7pm Mass, rehearsals at 6pm.

**2019 PARISH DIARIES** available in the porches for £1.

**PARISH THEME** for 2019 ... **Disciples** .... watch this space.

**POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: EVANGELISATION: *In the Service of the Transmission of the Faith.*** The people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

### **THIS WEEK**

#### **FOR INFORMATION:**

Mon JP/VH Day off

Tues Team Meeting: VH/JP/EF/AP  
Poitier Christmas Dinner: VH  
Penitential Service: VH/JP/EF

Wed Day of Prayer: Douai Abbey: VH

Fri URC gathering: VH

**ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE 7:30pm Tuesday 18 December at St Edmund Church.** As we reflect upon 'Mary, carrier of the Word' so we consider how we nourish God's Word in our lives and, like Mary, 'carry' God's Word into the world. There will be seven priests to celebrate the 'Sacrament of Reconciliation' if you wish to avail yourself of the Sacrament in preparation for the celebration of the 'Incarnation', the 'Word made Flesh', the 'birth' of Christ into our lives and the life of the world.

**SPRINGHILL SCHOOL VISIT** 9:30am—11am  
Wednesday 19 December in St Edmund Church.

**PASTORAL AREA CHRISTMAS LUNCH**—Parish Office will be closed from 12 noon to 2:30pm Wednesday 19 December.

**WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB** meet at 12noon on Wednesdays in the Stella Maris Centre. Contact Anne Monaghan at the Parish Office if you would like to join.

**RCIA** group have now adjourned for Christmas and will recommence meeting on Wednesday 9 January in St Edmund Hall. *There is an RCIA team meeting at 7:30pm Wednesday 19 December in St Edmund Hall.*

**GRANDPARENTS GROUP** meet 11am—12noon in Stella Maris Centre Thursday 20 December.

**EST GROUP** meet 7pm Thursday 20 December in St Edmund Presbytery.

## **ADVENT**

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

**\*\*Tuesday 18 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 on Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat (17.12—22.12) and Monday (24.12) from 11:30am.

**STAPLING OF CHRISTMAS MASS LEAFLETS: *Volunteers needed*** Monday, Tuesday Thursday, Friday anytime from 9am—1pm and 2pm—4pm. Please call at the Parish Office if you can help.

#### **STEWARDS/WELCOMERS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS For Reconciliation Service and Christmas Masses**

All offers of help greatly appreciated.

***Please add your name to the sign-up lists at the back of the Church. (Altar Servers list in the Sacristy.)***

### **NEXT WEEKEND**

**CHILDREN NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY PLAY AT THE 6PM FAMILY MASS** on Monday 24 December at St Edmund Church. Please contact Tony Croft on email: [tonycroft484@gmail.com](mailto:tonycroft484@gmail.com) ***\*\*There is to be a rehearsal at 9:45am on Saturday 22 December at St Edmund Church.***

### **NEXT WEEK**

#### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

##### **Christmas Eve—Monday 24 December 2018**

6:00 pm	Christmas Family Mass	St Edmund's
8:00 pm	Christmas Mass in Polish	St Edmund's
11:30pm	Christmas Night Mass	St Joseph's
11:30pm	Christmas Night Mass	St Edmund's

##### **Christmas Day - Tuesday 25 December 2018**

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 - Wed 26 December 2018**

11:00am	Altar Servers Mass	St Edmund's
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##### **New Year's Day, Tuesday 1 January 2019**

10:00am	Mary, the Holy Mother of God Mass	St Edmund's
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**NB: THE 11AM ALTAR SERVERS MASS** at St Edmund Church on Wednesday 26 December **replaces** the usual 7pm Mass. ***There will be no 7pm Mass Wed 26.12.18.***

**END OF YEAR SILENT RETREAT "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us"** from the evening of Friday 28 December to after lunch on Tuesday 1 January 2019 at the Verbum Dei Retreat Centre, Isle of Wight. Email [verbumdei.iow@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdei.iow@gmail.com) for more info or to book. See noticeboards.

**MASS AND PRAYERS FOR PRIESTS AND VOCATIONS TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE 7pm Friday 28 December in St Edmund Church.**

All welcome to come and pray for our priests and all those thinking about a religious vocation at this time. These will take place on the last Friday of each month. The Mass will be followed by half an hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and will include a Rosary for the same intention.

**A prayer group under the patronage of St Jean Vianney (the Cure of Ars) for the same intention will begin in January 2019 and will meet in St Edmund Hall. More details to follow.** "There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist" Pope John Paul II 2004.

**GENERAL ITEMS**

**BISHOP'S VISITATION**

Thank you to all who went the 'extra mile' during the Bishop's Visitation last weekend (Confirmation candidates; those that had a meeting with him; Holy Hour servers etc. ....). The Bishop was 'most impressed' by the Parish and the parishioners he managed to speak with (which was a high percentage of those who were at Mass!).

He enjoyed our celebrations of Mass (and the different styles); the 'activities' we are involved in; our 'outreach' both sociologically, ecumenically and inter-religiously. The Bishop had accessed our newsletters, web page and the 'tableau' for Southampton and our Parish in particular so that he could have a good idea of the Parish before his arrival.

Father Vincent spent around 1½ hours in discussion with him going through in detail the 12 page report which we had to provide well in advance of the Visitation. A good discussion, out of which came some 'insights' and useful 'suggestions' from the Bishop.



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

**TOP UK** a charity offering confidential self-help groups for anxiety problems. If you are living with OCD or a phobia such as panics, anxiety, fear of lifts, flying, queues, scared of parties or eating out, frightened of spiders, birds or mice, washing hands excessively, checking too frequently, they can help. Use of Stella Maris Hall, Bugle Street has been arranged for Thursdays 6:30pm from 10 January 2019 onwards. Email [info@topuk.org](mailto:info@topuk.org) or call 012 2557 1740 to book.

**POOR BOX:** As you know there is a box in the porches for donations for 'the poor' (those in need within the City in whatever way). Recently we were able to give £500 to each of these groups: Catholic Home Care, CLEAR, Southampton Rent Deposit Scheme, Basics Bank and Poitier Care. We have also managed to help some individuals who have found themselves in difficult financial situations. Thank you.

**VOCATIONS: Third Sunday of Advent – 16 December:** Do you rejoice in the Lord? Is He asking you to consider a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? To explore further, contact Father John Cooke on email [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or Telephone 01329 318 869.

**THE PARISH MISSION IN 2019** .... Parish Groups and Adorers are saying the 'Mission Prayer' when they meet.

**'STRENGTH TO STRENGTH'** a CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) course on Prayer during Lent 2019 ... watch this space.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY:** Monday 29 April—Saturday 4 May 2019. Father Martin Plunkett is leading a pilgrimage to the Italian Veneto region, to include the shrine of Our Lady Queen of Love, the Convent of St Josephine Bakhita in Schio and the City of Verona. Details and bookings: Pax Travel, 102 Blundell Street, London N7 9BL, or visit [www.paxtravel.co.uk](http://www.paxtravel.co.uk)

**200 CLUB—DECEMBER 2018**

1st Prize	Catherine Dolmans	£20
2nd Prize	Judy Brown	£10

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MALTA 2019:** After a wonderful pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in June another one is planned for 8—15 October 2019 to Malta. For information please contact Godfrey Doyle by email [godfreydoyle@gmail.com](mailto:godfreydoyle@gmail.com)

**SIGN UP FOR BISHOP PHILIP'S WEEKLY E-NEWS:** Bishop Philip invites you to sign up for his weekly e-Newsletter to keep in touch with the latest news and forthcoming events around the diocese. Visit [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews) to register.

**COMMISSIONING OF READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** will take place the weekend of 5/6 January 2019.

**NEW WELCOMERS APPEAL:** more welcomers needed at all Masses. Call Tina on 023 8033 3589 if you would like to join a team.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** George Chesworth, Margaret Hicks, Jean White, Colette Clarke, David Palmer, Brian Gardiner, Sheila Morris & family, Karen Bell, John Hennessy, Aruni Panabokke, Biddie Gooding (treatment recovery), Pat O'Neill, Judy Brown, Valerie Summerton, Myra & Bosco Andrade, Marcus Boulton-Smith, Jean Mooney, Kushmi De'Saram, Eloise Chessman, Albert Tan, Christopher Browne, Bobby Murphy, Abid & Abbas Akperally, Lucky, Sujatha & Mano Disshnayake, Daham Korlage, Jackie Galbraith, Joan Forbes, Doris Leggett, John O'Reilly, Bill Eastman, Shane Wing, Kathryn Morley, Carol Butt, Maureen Lee, Roy Reeves, Joachim Rodrigues, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Alex Boyle, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Joanne Cunio, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, JL, Malcolm Cross, O'Hanlon family, Paul Sassu, Peter Scott, Phyllis Grattan, Maria Annunziata, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, NW, Joe Sculley, Pauldia Grant and all parishioners who are ill.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER 2018

\*(Church 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	15 DEC	<b>VIGIL MASS</b>	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	SEÁN, KATHLEEN & STEWART ADAMSON RIP (DC) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	16 DEC	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ('GAUDETE')</b>	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	AGOSTINHO GONCALVES RIP (MG) AMY PEARL ROBINSON RIP (JR) DOROTHY & BOB FLETCHER RIP (F) PADDY, BRIDGET & TOMMY REILLY RIP (PR)
TUES	18 DEC	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	10:00AM SE 7:30PM SE	ROBERT & FAMILY—GOD'S BLESSINGS (RK) ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE
WED	19 DEC	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	7:00PM SE	MIKE GUTOWSKI—HEALTH & WELLBEING (EC&MC)
THURS	20 DEC	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	12:15PM SJ	TERRY CLARKE RIP (MC)
FRI	21 DEC	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	7:00PM SE	THE CONWAY FAMILY (GC)
SAT	22 DEC	<b>OF THE 3RD WEEK OF ADVENT</b>	11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	DOLLY MacKINNON RIP (GC & HP) MARGARET SINCLAIR RIP (MY) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	23 DEC	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	JOY POULOSE RIP (JS) MARGUERITE DUGGAN RIP (SMcC) HENDRY AROKIASAMY RIP (MT) IN THANKSGIVING FOR ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US (PHOS & THEOS)

**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:* Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey  
Email address: [vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Father Vincent Tel. No. 023 8033 4891

**Assistant Priest:** Father Jaya Praveen Yenubari  
Email address: [jpraveen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jpraveen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Father Jaya Tel. No. 023 8017 2104  
Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ

**Assistant Priest:** Father Elijah Fru Nde, Mob. 07774 667 010  
Email address: [elijahnde@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elijahnde@yahoo.co.uk)

**Deacon:** Deacon Andy Philpott  
Email address: [aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary & Tel:** Mrs Anne Wheeler / 023 8033 3589  
Parish Office Address: St. Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ  
Parish Website: [www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk](http://www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk)  
Parish Email Address: [southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Mrs Tina Quinn Tel 023 8017 0497  
Mobile 07827 810 457 email: [tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Catholic Home Care:** Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498  
Email address: [catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Hospital Chaplaincy:** 023 8120 8517

**PA Property Admin:** Chris Barber Tel 023 8017 0499  
Email Address: [cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Poitiers Project** Brian Arthur 07796 161 047/0238029 2692

**Polish Chaplaincy:** Father Mariusz Urbanowski  
Tel. No. 023 8178 6316  
Email address: [southampton@tchr.org](mailto:southampton@tchr.org)  
Address: 15 Landguard 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 Jaya Praveen Yenubari  
Tel. No. 023 8017 2104  
Email: [jpraveen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jpraveen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
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 School 023 8032 8200 • St George College 023 8032 2603

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH WEEK 3

#### 16 DECEMBER 2018 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

##### Psalm Response:

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

##### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.

**Alleluia!**

#### READINGS 23 DECEMBER 2018 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

1st Reading: Micah 5:1—4  
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5—10  
Gospel: Luke 1:39—45

#### 2ND COLLECTION TODAY CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

#### 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CATHOLIC HOMECARE

COLLECTIONS 9.12.18	1ST	2ND—CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,573.37</b>	<b>£331.83</b>
Cash	965.87	251.20
S / O	1,286.00	64.50
Gift Aid Rebate	321.50	16.13

#### CONFESSIONS TIMES

**St Joseph:** Thurs 11:45am • Sat 5:45pm  
**St Edmund:** Saturdays 11:30am