

**5 JANUARY 2020
THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD**



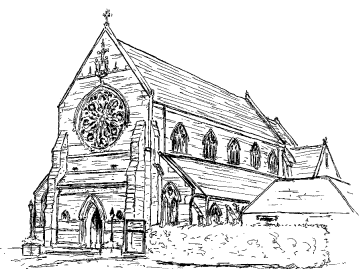
**ST JOSEPH'S &
ST EDMUND'S
CITY CENTRE
CATHOLIC PARISH
SOUTHAMPTON**

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



WE ALL NEED A GUIDE ON THE INTRICATE JOURNEY TOWARD HOLINESS

We should never deny ourselves a reading of all the Gospels at Christmastide, for their differences are part of the message. It is Matthew who tells us about the magi, whilst Luke tells us about the shepherds.

The shepherds that lived and worked near to Jesus place of birth were probably poorly educated and have the Christ child announced to them by the angels. They return home glorifying God for all they had seen and heard. For the magi it is rather different. They were most likely highly educated, urbane, and had made a complex journey from far away, meeting the sinister Herod on the way and departed for home saying nothing.

The uneducated shepherds were given a manifestation, dare I write 'an epiphany', that was emphatically religious, and they immediately became heralds to others of what the angels had told them, that "a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord". Neither God nor angels spoke to the magi. We do not know how the lives of the magi were changed, although they rejoiced at finding the child and paid homage. It is hard to be certain what the title 'The King of the Jews' meant for them. The only thing the magi are reported as saying was that they asked a question.

God chooses ways that are always reliable but which can be surprising. The uneducated shepherds were given by angels an elaborate understanding of Jesus Christ; the sophisticated magi were led to more than they reckoned. The gospel story of the magi is taken up largely with their journey, unlike that of the shepherds which concentrates on what was manifested to them and how they communicated it.

Many people might see their own response to Christ, Saviour of the world and Son of God made incarnate, as similar to that of Matthew's magi: a puzzling and prolonged journey with an unspoken outcome. Yet an epiphany there was, and the magi could be helpful guides on complicated journeys to Christ. Like the magi we are all called to worship Jesus, as we welcome the salvation He offers to each one of us. Whatever our background, whatever our circumstance, the Gospels always offer guidance in our way toward holiness. Then we, in our turn, must become epiphanies proclaiming Christ in the way we live and in what we say. *Deacon Andy Philpott*

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. What 'gifts' have you offered the 'infant King' this Christmas/New Year? Prayer? Charitable Works? Right Relationships? Determination to turn from sin and turn even more to good? What have you/will you offer?
2. "Lift up your eyes" Isaiah writes (1st reading). Where can you 'see' God? Where can you 'see' God at work? How can you become more alert to God in your midst?
3. Paul has been given the 'mystery' of God's presence (2nd reading). How do you unpack that mystery? How can you enter it more fully?

Vincent Harvey

TODAY 5 JANUARY 2020—THE EPIPHANY



BAPTISM: We welcome into our worshipping community **Juliette Gropora**, daughter of Jose Luis and Halima, who is being baptised today at St Joseph Church at 11:30am.

NO RETIRING COLLECTION today.

CRIB OFFERINGS: This Christmas 2019, our Crib offerings in the Diocese will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land. (*In alternate years, the collections are sent to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre*). These offerings remind us that the Christian community in the Holy Land represents a physical link between the modern world and the life and times of Christ – they are the ‘living stones’ of our faith. Since 1998, the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales has organised a group called the Holy Land Co-ordination. It is chaired by Bishop Declan Lang of Clifton. Recently, Bishop Declan issued the following statement: “As Bishops of the Holy Land Co-ordination have consistently highlighted, we all have a responsibility to oppose the continued construction of illegal settlements, which not only fuels human rights violations, but imperils any chance of a two-state solution. We stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as it strives for justice and peace amid these increasingly difficult circumstances and look forward to reiterating this support in person during our forthcoming visit to Christian communities in Palestine.” There is a website you can check out.

VOCATIONS...The Epiphany - January 5th, 2020 “Opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts.” Are you beginning to see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother? Contact Fr. John Cooke. Email vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

RECENTLY DIED:



Alex Boyle RIP. As you know 21 year old Alex died on Sunday 22 December. As we pray for him we pray also for his mother and father, Mary and Tony, and his sister, Amy. **Alex’s Funeral Service will be on Thursday 9th January at 11am in St Joseph Church.**

****The 12:15pm Mass at St Joseph will be cancelled.****

Alex will be ‘received’ into St Joseph on Wednesday 8th January at 6pm. You are welcome to attend.

Bernard Lovell RIP late of Banister Park, Southampton. Bernard was part of the 11am Mass Choir at St Edmund and will be sadly missed. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

THIS WEEK

FOR INFORMATION: 4-8 January VH away for break
Mon Clergy Day off
Thurs: VH Requiem Mass.

RCIA meet Wednesdays at 7:30pm in St Edmund Hall, Rockstone Place, Southampton for those enquiring about the Catholic faith.

NEXT WEEKEND

NB: 11AM SATURDAY MASS & CONFESSIONS ARE CANCELLED on Saturday 11 January 2020 due to First Holy Communion preparation session.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 1st Session on Saturday 11 January. First Holy Communion session for parent and child begins this Saturday (11th) at 10:30am prompt in St Edmund Church (car parking in St Anne’s School). ***This session is only for those who have registered.***

This will be a large gathering in the church so please do not bring siblings as 1½ hours will be too long to keep them occupied and it can be distracting for the FHC children who will be expected to concentrate (as will the parents!!!).



WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations to **Grzegorz Leszczynski and Marlena Adamus** who are getting married at 3pm on Saturday 11 January 2020 in St Edmund Church. May God bless them all the days of their lives.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION INSCRIPTION MASSES: 9am, 10am and 11am Sunday 12 January 2020.

RCIA RITE OF WELCOME 7pm Mass Sunday 12 January.

FEAST OF BAPTISM OF THE LORD next Sunday 12 January.

RETIRING COLLECTION is for Catholic Home Care.

NEXT WEEK

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION ONE 7pm—8pm Monday 13 January in St Edmund Hall for parents who have booked to have their children baptised.

SEPARATED/DIVORCED: Relationships that have broken down can lead to unresolved hurts and questions, to feelings of rejection or isolation. We are offering a **series of evenings for those who are separated, or divorced: ‘Restored Lives’** is run over 7 weeks **The first meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 14 January 2020 in St Edmund Hall.** Please contact one of our priests or the parish office if you would like to attend.

GRANDPARENTS GROUP meet 11am Thursday 16 January 2020 in Stella Maris Hall.

RICHARD ROHR GROUP 4:30pm Thursday 16 January in St Edmund Presbytery.

EST GROUP meeting 7pm Thursday 16 January in St Edmund Presbytery.

VERBUM DEI—PRAYER SERIES 7:30pm Friday 17 January St Edmund Hall. Contact Sister Emiliana on email emiliana.silva@solent.ac.uk All welcome.

BETHANY GROUP meeting 9:45am Saturday 18 January 2020 in St Edmund Presbytery.

ACORN LISTENING COURSE 10am—4pm Saturday 25 January 2020 in St Edmund Hall. Please email or phone the Parish Office if you are interested in attending.

GENERAL ITEMS

CHRISTMAS thank you from the clergy for the Christmas greetings, gifts and cards that have been given to them over the Christmas season. May God bless you!

POPE FRANCIS’ INTENTION FOR JANUARY: Evangelisation: Promotion of World Peace. That Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

WHITE FLOWER 'APPEAL': Next week cards will be available from SPUC to send to your local MP. As you will know in October 2019 a law was passed for Northern Ireland, whereby unborn babies can be killed for any reason! A lobby wants to introduce this into England and Wales.

We need to stand up against such a wide sweeping law which destroys life. If you wish please take a card next week and either fill it in and leave in the box provided, or send direct to your MP.

People often ask why our annual appeal is called the "White Flower Appeal". The name was originally inspired by the work of the *Weiße Rose* (White Rose) movement, a non-violent, intellectual resistance to the Nazis in Germany at the height of the Second World War. They became known for an anonymous leafleting and graffiti campaign that lasted 8 months between 1942 and 1943.

In February 1943 Hans and Sophie Scholl, two of the group's core active members were caught and arrested. Following interrogation, they were tried by the Gestapo and beheaded along with four others. The *Weiße Rose* and Sophie Scholl have been the subject of a number of films retelling the story of their bravery to new generations.

The White Rose still serves as an example to us of what can be achieved by standing up for what is right peacefully, but with determination, even in the face of hostility and oppression.

ST GEORGE CATHOLIC COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON have been judged to be **OUTSTANDING** for the fourth year in succession in their recent LA Inspection.

The Summary from the Inspection Report is: *"The school continues to provide a very good quality of education for its students. Staff and pupils are happy here and enjoy the school's strong sense of community. The quality of the care for students, and the range of opportunities presented to them ensure that everyone feels valued and well prepared for their next stage of life. The head teacher, his senior staff and governors are giving the school strong, caring and purposeful leadership."*

ALTAR SERVERS GUILD. Congratulations to Jamie Kerr and Justin Forbes who received their 'St Stephen Guild Medal' on the 26th December (St Stephen's Day). They are now fully enrolled as Altar Servers.

PILGRIMAGE TO SOUTHERN ITALY

Sunday 16th – Friday 21st August 2020. Led by Father Des Connolly SMM. This pilgrimage will take us to Pietrelcina (the birth place of Padre Pio). Cost excl. flight £676 per person based on 2 people sharing – single room supplement: £120. Flight price London Gatwick to Naples return will be quoted at the time of booking. Contact Gill at www.tangney-tours.com or phone on 017 3288 6666.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2020 led by Father Vincent and Godfrey Doyle. Following the successful pilgrimages last year to Santiago de Compostela and this year to Malta a further one is being planned for next year. ***This will be to Fatima and other religious and historic sites in northern Portugal, finishing in Lisbon.*** It is being planned for early October. Details available in the early part of next year.

NEXT ALPHA COURSE will be starting at **7pm Tuesday 3 March in St Edmund Hall.** A 10 week course for those wanting to brush up on the essentials of their Christian faith. It opens the door for those who have lapsed or long to renew their faith and transform their lives.

Please contact the Parish Office email southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you or anyone you know would like to join. Each session includes a meal and covers a key element of the gospel in a way that is easy-to-follow and leaves space for people to explore their questions about life, faith, and God. Sessions include:

Is there more to life than this? Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die? How can we have faith? Why and how do I pray? Why and how do I read the Bible? How does God guide us? Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit? How can I resist evil? Does God heal today? How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP PHILIP: As we prepare for the Year of God's Word which started at Advent and is to be followed in 2021 by a Year of the Eucharist, I wish to ask you to pray earnestly for the renewal of our Diocese of Portsmouth. Please say this prayer over these next few weeks for our clergy and laity:

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we beg you to change us, to convert us and to make us holy. Fill us with a deeper faith, hope and love for you. Send into our hearts the cleansing fire of the Holy Spirit and powerfully renew all the clergy, religious and laity of our Diocese. Unite us in love and respect for one another and unify us as your one, holy people. Grant us a new passion and zeal for the Catholic Faith, for mission, outreach and service. Help us to proclaim your Gospel generously to the poor and needy that many more souls may be saved by finding their way to you in your Church. May Mary Immaculate help us. May St Edmund of Abingdon and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati pray for us. Amen.

Holy Michael the Archangel defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust down to hell Satan and all the wicked spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Margaret Hicks, Maire Quirk, Ewa Evans, Ewa Slinn, Teresa Hodges, Sue Hanrahan, Marisa Tellegen, Myra & Bosco Andrade, Madeleine Clarke, Bunty Weerakoon, Christopher Browne, David Spencer, Pat & Don Devers, Azad & Viyille Perera, George Chesworth, Jean White, Sheila Morris, John Hennessy, Pat O'Neill, Marcus Boulton-Smith, Jean Mooney, Eloise Chessman, Bobby Murphy, Jackie Galbraith, Joan Forbes, Doris Leggett, John O'Reilly, Bill Eastman, Shane Wing, Kathryn Morley, NW, Carol Butt, Maureen Lee, Roy Reeves, Joachim Rodrigues, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Jeanette Brookes, Joy Grant, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, Malcolm Cross, Paul Sassu, Peter Scott, Maria Annunziata, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Pauldia Grant and all parishioners who are ill.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2020

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

SAT	4 JAN	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM SJ 7:00PM SE	DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE EDGE & WHITE FAMILIES (F) MASS IN POLISH
SUN	5 JAN	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	J CAMPBELL RIP (GC & JC) IAN MORLEY RIP (FM) JUDY BROWN RIP & BROWN FAMILY INTENTIONS MICHAEL BROPHY RIP & DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS (F)
TUES	7 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	10:00AM SE	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
WED	8 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	7:00PM SE	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
THURS	9 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	*11:00AM SJ 12:15PM SJ	FUNERAL SERVICE: ALEX BOYLE RIP **MASS & CONFESSIONS CANCELLED**
FRI	10 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	7:00PM SE	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
SAT	11 JAN	LITURGY OF THE DAY	*11:00AM SE 6:15PM SJ	**MASS & CONFESSIONS CANCELLED** JOACHIM RODRIGUES—BIRTHDAY—GOD'S BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (AR)
SUN	12 JAN	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	9:00AM SE 10:00AM SJ 11:00AM SE 7:00PM SE	KAREN NUGENT RIP (RH & SH) ALVYRA KLIMATIENE RIP (SIGITA) PREMA'S (ANUSHKA'S MUM RIP) BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY & PEARL V RIP (ANUSHKA PONNIAH) PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

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 09:30; 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
 Father Vincent Tel. No. 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton SO152EQ
Assistant Priest: Father Ansel D'Mello
 Email address: anseldmello@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Father Ansel Tel. No. 023 8017 2104
Assistant Priest: Father Jaya Praveen Yenubari
 Email address: jpraveen@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Father Jaya Mob. No. 07774 552 341
Deacon: Deacon Andy Philpott
 Email address: aphilpott@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary: Mrs Anne Wheeler
 Parish Office Tel. No. 023 8033 3589
 Parish Office Address: St. Edmund Lodge, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Email Address: southamptoncitycentre@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
Pastoral Assistant: Mrs Tina Quinn / Mobile 07827 810 457
 email: tquinn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Catholic Home Care: Mrs Anne Monaghan 023 8017 0498
 Email address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Hospital Chaplaincy: 023 8120 8517—Father Joe McNerney
Polish Chaplaincy: Father Mariusz Urbanowski
 Tel. No. 023 8178 6316 email: southampton@tchr.org
 Address: 15 Landguard Road Southampton SO155DL
Safeguarding Reps: Claire Thompson (via Parish Office)
Solent Uni. Chaplain: Sister Emiliania Silva—Mob. 07426 000 213
 email: emiliana.silva@solent.ac.uk
S'oton Uni. Chaplains: Fr Jaya Praveen Yenubari 07774 552 341
 Sister Valentina Stilo—Mob 07983883377

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 2

5 JANUARY 2020

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Psalm Response:

All nations shall fall prostrate
before you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

We saw his star as it rose and have
come to do the Lord homage.

Alleluia!

READINGS 12 JANUARY 2020

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

1st Reading: Isaiah 42: 1—4, 6—7
 2nd Reading: Acts 10: 34—38
 Gospel: Matthew 3:13—17

NO 2ND COLLECTION TODAY

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CATHOLIC HOME CARE

COLLECTIONS	OUR PRIESTS 25.12.19	1ST 29.12.19
Totals	£7,674.93	£2,845.33
Cash	6,511.80	1,084.44
S / O	930.50	1408.71
Gift Aid Rebate	232.63	352.18

CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION

St Joseph: Thursday 11:45am * Saturday 5:45pm
St Edmund: Saturday 11:30am