



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

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871



**29 NOVEMBER 2015
FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

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



VIGILANT BUT EXPECTANT: WATCHING AND WAITING

"In Advent the liturgy frequently repeats and assures us, as if to overcome our natural diffidence that God 'comes': He comes to be with us in every situation of ours, He comes to live with us and in us, He comes to fill the gaps that divide and separate us: He comes to reconcile us with Him and with one another. He comes into human history to knock on every door of man and woman of goodwill, to bring to individuals and families and peoples the gifts of brotherhood, harmony and peace. This is why Advent is par excellence the season of hope in which believers in Christ are invited to remain in active and watchful waiting, nourished by prayer and by the effective commitment to love". (Pope Benedict VI).

Pope Benedict succinctly presents the salient messages of Advent. We are reminded that again and again Christ comes to us, whatever our situation, and in the light of terrorist attacks over the last few weeks we must never give up hope. The divides might seem insurmountable but reconciliation is possible just as God became man in Christ Jesus. Like the prophets, Jesus paints a bleak picture of what is to come, and in a sense that is happening for us now. But this is not to paralyse us with fear, this is to energise us into action. Our hope is also in the accounts of God's action throughout human history. He fulfilled His promise to the House of David and Israel: Judah was saved and Israel dwelt in confidence. This is why we must constantly remind ourselves of God's love. This is why we retell the story over and over again. The waiting is to be watchful and active.

A diagnosis of cancer is potentially devastating for anyone, particularly if it is completely unexpected. It can shorten life and not denying medical treatment and miracles it can sometimes be incurable. It gives time to prepare, to contemplate life in its fullness (life eternal) to seek harmony and peace with friends and family and with God. For those who work with the dying this message is repeated again and again, not to make people fearful or scared but to encourage active and mindful preparation.

Tina Quinn

Jesus,

You have come into our world with all its sorrows
Keep us vigilant; to find your presence
in the midst of our struggles now.
Tell us again that your love
will triumph.

Make us aware of all the places in our world
where you are, and come, Lord Jesus,
to all the places in our lives
where you are not yet.

Anne Osdieck

TODAY: SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2015

SECOND COLLECTION: Church Maintenance Fund.

WELCOME TO FATHER DES celebrating 9am and 11am Mass at St Edmund's today (Sunday).



RECENTLY DIED: EILEEN THOMAS RIP late of Bassett Green Road, Southampton. Reception into St Edmund's Church 5pm Thursday 3 December; funeral 11am Friday 4 December followed by burial at Kings Worthy Cemetery, Winchester. May she rest in peace. Please keep her son John and family in your prayers.

THIS WEEK

FOR INFO: Mon: Day off: TC.

VH: Holy Land Pilgrimage until 2nd December.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK 7pm Monday 30 November Saint Joseph's House of Prayer, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, SO40 7DU.

MEDITATIVE/CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP inspired by the teaching of the late John Main meet from 6pm—6:45pm Tuesday nights. In the winter months they meet in St Michael's Church: entrance by the north door. All welcome.

WELLSPRING PRAYER GROUP meet Tuesdays 7:30pm — 8:30pm St Edmund's Hall. All welcome!

VERBUM DEI RETREATS

Quiet Days:

- *Mercy is coming to us* Wednesday 2 December

Silent Retreats:

- *Advent Retreat 4 - 6* December
- *New Year Silent Retreat 31* December - 3 January

Encounter Retreats:

- *Christmas Encounter (including a day of silent retreat on 26 Dec)* 24 - 27 December

For more info and to book, call 019 8352 9554 or email verbumdei.iow@gmail.com.

LUNCH CLUB meet at 12 noon on Wednesdays in St Edmund's Hall. New members welcome.



JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA) meet 7:30pm Thursdays in St Edmund's Hall, Rockstone Place, SO15 2EQ. Are you (a non-Catholic) interested in knowing more about the Catholic

Faith? Are you interested in finding out about becoming a Catholic? Are you a Catholic Adult who would like to be Confirmed? Do you know someone who might like to come along? All welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME IN CITY CENTRE PARISH: there is a meeting at 7:30pm Thursday 3 December in the Stella Maris Hall, 48 Bugle Street, SO14 2AH for all parents who have fully registered their child and provided the form and baptism certificate (*at least one parent needs to attend: please do not bring any children*). This is an important meeting as we will explain the process the First Holy Communion preparation will take. Your full cooperation will be essential. This is not a general meeting. **If you are not registered please do not attend, we are fully subscribed!**

NIGHT FEVER SOUTHAMPTON Friday 4 December at St Edmund's Church. Mass at 7pm followed by open church from 7:30pm to 10:30pm. Volunteers needed. Email Adrienne adriennehendry@yahoo.co.uk.

NEXT WEEKEND

11AM MASS AND CONFESSIONS CANCELLED SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER due to a wedding taking place in St Edmund's Church.



WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations to **Christian Vine and Lucy Ingham** who are getting married at 11am Saturday 5 December in St Edmund's Church. May God bless them all the days of their lives.

YEAR OF MERCY & ADVENT

YEAR OF MERCY AND ADVENT 'DAY BY DAY' BOOKLETS/CALENDARS now available in the porches. Booklets £1, calendars 50p.



JINGLING BELLS—Christmas carols for Mary's Meals from 3:30pm-4:30pm Sunday 6 December in St Edmund's Church followed by Christmas tea in the hall (contributions to refreshments/offers of help with most welcome). I'd be delighted to hear your choice of carols. Please bring friends/relations along. This is an opportunity to sing carols and is for everyone to enjoy. **Jenepher Parry Davies T: 07891 733939 E: sineadnicdaiithi@yahoo.co.uk**

YEAR OF MERCY commences Tuesday 8 December; the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. **There will be two Masses in the Parish: 10am in St Edmund and 7pm in St Joseph.** Make a note ... and watch this space for more information on how 2016 can be a 'Year of Mercy' in name and in fact. It is up to us ... with God's grace. Ideas for consideration gratefully received.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE CAROL SERVICE 7pm Tuesday 8 December in St Edmund's Church.

ADVENT REFLECTION DAY—To celebrate the start of His Holiness Pope Francis's proclaimed 'Year of Mercy. Father Des will be hosting a Day of Reflection; refreshments served from **10:00am for a 10:30am start Saturday 12 December at Saint Joseph's, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, SO40 7DU** focusing on one of the major themes of this special year: 'God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son' John 3.16. This will be a great way to begin your personal journey during the Year of Mercy and an excellent way to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus our only Saviour. *The day includes the celebration of Holy Mass and lunch. To book email Father Des frdes@montfort.org.uk or phone 023 8029 2337. The day will finish at 3:30pm.* A donation of £17.50 would be gratefully received.

SPRINGHILL CAROL CONCERT 9:30am Wednesday 16 December in St Edmund's Church.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE 7:30pm Monday 21 December in St Edmund's Church.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2015

*(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	28 NOV	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM *SJ	ETHEL HORSFIELD RIP (ADAMS/ROUSE FAMILY)
			7:00PM SE	MASS IN POLISH
SUN	29 NOV	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9:00AM SE	STOY AND JESSY—THANKSGIVING (JS)
			10:00AM SJ	TERRY CLARKE RIP (MC)
			11:00AM SE	PJ PHELAN RIP (GP & DP)
			7:00PM SE	ELIZABETH DORLING RIP (JMD)
TUES	1 DEC	OF THE 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT	10:00AM SE	TERRY CLARKE RIP (HP)
WED	2 DEC	OF THE 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT	7:00PM SE	PJ PHELAN RIP (PARISH OFFICE)
THURS	3 DEC	ST FRANCIS XAVIER	12:15PM SJ	BETTY PARDOE & CHRISTINE PENMAN RIP (HS)
FRI	4 DEC	ST JOHN DAMASCENE	11:00AM SE	FUNERAL MASS: EILEEN THOMAS RIP
			7:00PM SE	ROMEO AND JEAN ZANELLOTTI RIP (F)
SAT	5 DEC	OF THE 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT	11:00AM SE	MASS & RECONCILIATION CANCELLED
			6:15PM SJ	THANKSGIVING & CELEBRATIONS (ROUSE FAMILY)
			7:00PM SE	MASS IN POLISH
SUN	6 DEC	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9:00AM SE	PATRICK FINLAY RIP (GP&DP)
			10:00AM SJ	ETHELDREDA CONWAY (F)
			11:00AM SE	DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CURTIS HAYWARD FAMILY (F)
			7:00PM SE	SALOMEY SELORM MENSAH—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (RM)

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Parish Office Address: St. Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1XJ

Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
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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

DEANERY 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.

Prayer of the Church Week 3

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2015 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

Psalm Response

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

READINGS SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 2015 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6; 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

2ND COLLECTION TODAY NO 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Collections	22/11/15
	1st
Total	£2,007.01
Cash	966.77
S / O	832.19
Gift Aid Tax Rebate	208.05

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