



"TAKE ME HOME"

The Ascension of our Lord is almost as extraordinary as the resurrection! But just as St Paul reminds us that there is no cross without a resurrection and if there were no resurrection from the dead our faith would be in vain; in turn the ascension helps us to make sense of the resurrection.

Jesus had finished his work on earth and was returning to his rightful place: The place from which he was sent: The right hand of the Father. This gives hope and reassurance to those of us who have lost loved ones; that the culmination of their journey has taken them back to their rightful place.

Many of us will have seen the film or the play 'Les Miserables' with that wonderful scene near the end as Jean Valjean nears his death. In his final hours he sees all those who have given their lives in the pursuit of truth. They are waiting for him. The rendition is "take me home".

I am always deeply moved, but equally reassured, when I have had the privilege of being beside the bed of someone dying, and in that moment of death they look up and smile and sometimes hold out their arms. There is a real sense of going home not only to join their loved ones but also to join their Heavenly Father.

When Jesus left his disciples he wanted the light of his love and his presence to continue to burn : to burn in their hearts as a constant reminder. The light of the Paschal Candle continues to burn until the sending of God's spirit: the advocate, the comforter, at Pentecost. We can hold that light and those who have died in our hearts

Each Sunday at Mass in the words of the creed we profess: "We believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting." The Ascension of Christ reminds us of that onward journey to the Father and on to eternity. So let us not be afraid but in the words of Sunday's collect remember that "The Ascension of Christ is our exaltation!"

Tina Quinn

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

1. As Jesus returns to the Father he commissions his disciples. In what way do you live out your baptismal commission?
2. What gifts can you use to preach the Gospel in your daily life?
3. How do you reflect in your life the 'Gospel of Christ'?

Vincent Harvey

17 MAY 2015
THE ASCENSION
OF THE LORD



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
- CHRIST THE KING &
ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
PORTSWOOD
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION,
NETLEY ABBEY



TODAY: SUNDAY 17 MAY 2015

RETIRING COLLECTION: World Communications Day.

Envelopes available in the porches. 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation' (Luke 16:15). The words of Jesus to his disciple at His Ascension resonate at this time when the 'whole world' searches for meaning, identity, truth and justice sometimes in the most conflict ridden situations.

The inspiration of Pope Francis over the past year has continued to preoccupy the media, not least through his initiatives on tackling human trafficking, peace in the Middle East, rapprochement between Cuba and the USA. All these, and many more Good News stories have been explained and made accessible to the media in this country through the work of the Catholic Communications Network of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales.

One reason why the World Communications Day is always held on the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord is that it expresses a commitment to the mandate to '...proclaim the Good News to the whole world'. Please support the crucial work of the Catholic Communications Network by your generosity to the collection which is taken today, enabling the Church to continue its work of communication. See website www.catholicnews.org.uk.

THANK YOU to **Father Serafino** who is presiding at the 9am Mass to 'ease' the load a little!

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES retreat at St Joseph's this weekend (Sat/Sun).

PARKING IN PARK CENTRALE: NO PARKING ... EVER! sadly some people were booked last weekend!

FILIPINO CHOIR 7pm Mass. Rehearsals at 6pm.

RECENTLY DIED:



George Manser RIP late of Sarisbury Green. Requiem Mass 2pm Wednesday 20 May in St Edmund's Church followed by burial at Hound Cemetery. Reception of the Coffin 4:30pm Tuesday 19 May. May he rest in peace. Our sympathy to his family.

Richard Baker (Jnr) RIP late of Shirley. Funeral service 11am Friday 22 May in St Edmund's Church followed by burial at Hollybrook Cemetery. May he rest in peace. Our sympathy to his family.

Edmond Gough RIP late of Bulgaria. Funeral service 11am Tuesday 26 May at St Joseph's Church, followed by burial at Hollybrook Cemetery. May he rest in peace. Our sympathy to his family.

THIS WEEK

FOR INFORMATION: Mon: Day Off: TC/VH

Tues Clergy Meeting: VH/TC

Wed Hospital on call: VH; Mayor Making: VH/TC

Thurs Wilberforce Dialogue: VH

Fri Hospital on call: VH; St George Mass: VH

Sun Confirmation Cathedral: VH

LUNCH CLUB meet at 12noon on Wednesdays in St Edmund's Hall. **Monday & Wednesday Club Drivers are urgently needed on a rota basis.** Contact the Parish Office if you can help.

RELICS OF BLESSED LOUIS & BLESSED ZÉLIE MARTIN

arrive Wednesday 20 May with a Liturgy of Reception at St. Theresa's in Totton at 12:30pm. Mass at 7pm. See noticeboard for full programme.

WILBERFORCE DIALOGUE 6:00pm - 7:30pm Thursday 21 May in Solent University Conference Centre. The University Chaplaincy has organised this annual Wilberforce Dialogue with two internationally recognised prominent Muslim speakers discussing the potential conflict between two 'freedoms' i.e. "Are freedom of religion and freedom of expression compatible?". In the ISIS and post-Charlie Hebdo world, the question remains about the compatibility of Freedom of Expression and Freedom of religion.



ALPHA COURSE next session "Why Did Jesus Die?" 7pm Thursday 21 May at St George College, Leaside Way. For more info contact: Marjorie Dean: marjoriodean00@gmail.com; Deirdre Fairman fairmans@ntlworld.com.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING will take place from 7pm-9pm Thursday 21 May at St Edward the Confessor Church, Chandlers Ford. Please register with Soraya Cicerone at Portsmouth Diocese to book a place. Email: Soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

POETRY SHARE 7pm Thursday 21 May in St Joseph's Church. Theme: 'Mirrors and Shadows'. Do join them with your good thoughts, favourite poets and bring a friend.

EU WELCOME INFO EVENING 6pm Friday 22 May in St Edmund's Lodge.

FROGZ: Junior Youth Group at St Boniface, next meet at 6pm on Friday 22nd May.

NEXT WEEKEND

A DAY OF HEALING with Little Way Healing Ministries 10am coffee, 10:30am start to 4:30pm, Saturday 23 May, Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr. Laurence Brassill OSA, Mrs. Pauline Edwards and team offer a day of teaching and healing. All welcome. Jesus said: "Lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed". **Come and see.**



PENTECOST SUNDAY 24 May. We will be celebrating 'the birthday of the Church' after all Sunday Masses; please join us for cake and refreshments in the halls. **Please bring a cake along if you can.**

CONFIRMATION 2015: Please pray for the nearly 60 young people from our Pastoral Area who will be confirmed 3pm at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on Pentecost Sunday 24 May.

NEXT WEEK (Half Term)

SPRING BANK HOLIDAY Monday 25 May. Church closed. No Adoration.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING 5:30pm-6:30pm Tuesday 26 May in the Louis Room at Holy Family Church.

MARTHA'S MEETING 7pm Tuesday 26 May in St Edmund's Presbytery.

GENERAL ITEMS

THANK YOU: From the local LIFE group for the £443.50 received from the Ash Wednesday collection and from the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre for the £364.73 from the Crib collection to be used for educational purposes in the West Bank.

PLEASE PRAY for Yvonne Postlethwaite's Father who died last week. May he rest in peace. We also remember the whole family in our prayers.

MESSAGE FROM MARY'S MEALS: "We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your recent donation of £50.00. We are so grateful for your support. Every donation to Mary's Meals, large or small, goes a long way to helping us reach more children with a nutritious daily meal in their place of education. We are delighted to be able to say we are now feeding over 996,000 children – a figure which is a true testament to the many, many acts of kindness from donors all over the world. Together we are making child hunger a thing of the past".

EASTER WATER please bring a bottle next week (Pentecost) if you wish to take home some Easter Water from the 'baptism pool' (not drinkable!).

PRESS RELEASE: Portsmouth People, has taken the **GOLD AWARD** in this year's ACE awards ceremony. The gold award for the best church magazine is the top national award in the annual competition of The Association for Church Editors.

ROOM TO LET in the Student House, 13 Rockstone Place. £300pcm incl. bills. Immediate occupation, for students only. Contact the Parish Office Tel. 023 8033 3589.

LIVING TO LOVE—WHY CHASTITY IS KEY: 6pm—8pm

Saturday 30 May: Chastity offers young people a pure and true framework for love. They long to hear this message, but too often we find ourselves unequipped to speak to them about it. Dawn Eden, international speaker and author of 'The Thrill of the Chaste' will be giving a talk for parents, teachers, catechists and youth leaders on speaking to young people about theology of the body and chastity. The evening will take place at St Bede's, Popley Way, Basingstoke. RG24 9DX; a light buffet supper will be provided. Cost of the evening will be £5.

ANCHOR ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME six evening sessions for adults interested in understanding and deepening their faith. Time: 7:30pm—9pm Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 June and 1, 8 July at St Theresa's Church, Totton. Tel. 023 8086 2270 to book.

ARUNDEL—CORPUS CHRISTI—CARPET OF FLOWERS: Thursday 4 June. Coach arrives at Arundel Cathedral 4pm, Holy Mass at 5:30pm. Phone 023 9282 0744 to book. Arranged by Confraternity of the Rosary. See noticeboard for more information.

PEACE WALK 2015: meet at 12:15pm Sunday 7 June at the Peace Fountain, Watts Park, Southampton. Join the Southampton Council of Faiths on this interesting and varied walk around the city visiting different places of worship. Refreshments provided on the way. Visiting Abu Bakr Mosque, Vedic Temple, Nanaksar Gurdwara, Synagogue and St Edmund's Church.

BISHOP CRISPIAN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE of ordination to the priesthood takes places this year. We are delighted as a Diocese to be able to celebrate this wonderful occasion with him with Mass at the Cathedral on Tuesday 9 June, 11am. All are welcome - save the date!

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 21-28 August 2015. Overland by train or flying from Southampton. Booking Form and brochure available on Diocesan website <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/> in the porches.

SPEAK UP FOR THE LOVE OF ... MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT, Wed 17 June – CAFOD and The Climate Coalition have organised a mass lobby of Parliament on Wed 17 June to make our voices heard with our newly elected MPs and ask them to tackle climate change. Millions of people are pushed deeper into poverty because of the effects of a changing climate. The day will also include an ecumenical service and a rally with music and guest speakers. More info at <http://www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/17-June-climate-change-event>. To book a place, please register on the webpage and/or contact the CAFOD Portsmouth office: portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385

TRUE SURVIVOR COURSE: Monday 27 – Wednesday 29 July. A spiritual survival course for young men aged 16-25. Over 3 days hiking and camping in the New Forest, we will learn how to survive in the wilderness whilst learning how our Catholic faith can survive and flourish in our world. We will learn how to find and purify water, how to make a fire by friction, how to build shelter, how to track, trap and prepare animals, and we will discover how prayer, God's mercy, the Eucharist and the Church allow our faith to burn brightly in a cold world. For more information on the skills that will be learned, and for pictures of past courses check out www.truesurvivor.uk and www.facebook.com/truesurvivor. The cost of the course is £60.

CHERISHED COURSE: Mon 10—Wed 12 August. The Cherished Course began as a True Survivor Course for young women but has developed into much more than that. They still cover the core elements of wilderness and spiritual survival, but the course, led by Maria Hince, then goes on to explore theology of the body, what God created womanhood to be, how the world often attacks and distorts it, and how, in Christ, we can find a renewed, pure womanhood. The course is for young women aged 16-25. The cost of the course will be £60. For more info contact Will Hince on 07780 221 686 or email whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Letters will be sent with further info, and consent forms to all those who get in touch.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 22 Nov—2 Dec 2015 see poster on noticeboards. The Bishop, together with Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey and Fr James McAuley will be leading the Pilgrimage in November. Book online or receive more details at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or contact the Pilgrimage Organisers Deacon Iain and Cheryl MacFirbhisigh: Email: [blessings41@gmail.com](mailto: blessings41@gmail.com)/Tel 01534 725 963.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Nellie O'Hanlon and family, Kusun Senanayake, Richard Milne, Margaret Power, John Morris, Paul Sassu, Isabel Bradshaw, Moyra Clearkin, Peter Scott, Gail February, Sita Hearn, Nelum, Sheila Morris, Phyllis Grattan, Maria Gibzinska, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Patricia Penny, Joyce Mnguni, James Adie, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Albie Escorcio, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, NW, Carlene Metcalf, Bosco & Myra Andrade, Joe Sculley, Tegar Marriott, Josie Franklin, Joan Wheeler, Joy Grant, John O'Reilly, Bridget Busk, Joan Roberts, Phoebe, Tony O'Donnell, Pam Bennett, Pauldia Grant, Laura Pinson, Evelyn Nolan, parishioners who are ill or having surgery and all listed in the Lady Chapel Prayer Book at St Edmund's. Thank you for keeping them all in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 17 MAY 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	16 MAY	VIGIL MASS	6:15PM *SJ	SR RITA—GOD'S BLESSINGS ON HER FEAST DAY (RS)
			7:00PM SE	MASS IN POLISH
SUN	17 MAY	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	9:00AM SE	AGOSTINHO GONCALVES RIP (MG)
			10:00AM SJ	ALEXANDER AND EDWARD INTENTIONS (BB)
			11:00AM SE	ROSLYN COYLE, DAKSHI & MALLIKA—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR THE MONDAY CLUB (ANUSHKA)
			7:00PM SE	STEPHANIE McLEAH—WELLBEING (LG)
TUES	19 MAY	DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN, PORTSMOUTH	10:00AM SE	TERESA GACA—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (G, C & M FAMILIES)
WED	20 MAY	OF 7th WEEK OF EASTER	2:00PM SE	REQUIEM MASS: GEORGE MANSER RIP
			7:00PM SE	FATHER PAUL LEONARD—WELLBEING (LG)
THURS	21 MAY	OF 7th WEEK OF EASTER	12:15PM SJ	ROBERT'S FAMILY & SOULS IN PURGATORY (RK)
FRI	22 MAY	ST RITA OF CASCIA	11:00AM SE	FUNERAL SERVICE: RICHARD BAKER (JNR) RIP
			7:00PM SE	MR VR MASCARENAS RIP (VRM)
SAT	23 MAY	OF THE 7th WEEK OF EASTER	11:00AM SE	ROBERT ANDREWS—THANKSGIVING (MD)
			6:15PM SJ	ROBERT'S INTS—GUIDANCE FOR VOCATION (RK)
			7:00PM SE	MASS IN POLISH
			9:00AM SE	BRIAN & ETHNA NUGENT RIP & ANNA MARIA EGAN RIP (KN)
SUN	24 MAY	PENTECOST SUNDAY	10:00AM SJ	SARAH KENNEDY-DONNELLY RIP (F)
			11:00AM SE	ANUSHKA PONNIAH—BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVING (PARISH OFFICE, JUDY BROWN & THE MONDAY CLUB)
			<u>3:00PM</u>	<u>CONFIRMATION MASS: ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL PORTSMOUTH</u>
			7:00PM SE	DOMINIC GARDNER RIP (LG)

Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey
 E-mail address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Father Tomy Chirackalmanavalan
 E-mail address: fathertomy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Presbytery Tel. No: 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ
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, Southampton, SO17 1XJ
 Parish Website: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
 Pastoral Area Web: http://www.catholic.co.uk/
Apostleship of the Sea: Roger Stone Tel 07963 345 618
 E-mail address: rogerstone@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk
PA Property Administrator: Chris Barber Tel 023 8033 3589
 Email Address: cbarber@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Catholic Home Care: Anne Monaghan 023 8033 3589
 E-mail address: catholichomecare@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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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
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 Tel. No: 023 8178 6316
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 Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton, SO15 5DL
Safeguarding Rep.: Albie Escorcio 07925 090 482
S'oton Uni. Chaplain: Sister Catherine 07811 107 046
Solent Uni. Chaplain: Sister Valentina 07983 883 377
Vocations to Priesthood: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/vocation/

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2015

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Psalm Response

God goes up with shouts of joy;
 the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. ***Alleluia!***

Prayer of the Church Week 3

READINGS SUNDAY 24 MAY 2015

PENTECOST SUNDAY

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7.12-13
 Gospel: John 20:19-23

<u>2nd COLLECTION TODAY</u>	<u>2nd COLLECTION NEXT WEEK</u>
WORLD COMMUNICATIONS	CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND

Collections	10/5/15 1st	10/5/15 CAFOD / NEPAL
Total	£2,262.61	£929.69
Cash	1,222.37	743.75
S / O	832.19	—
Gift Aid Tax	208.05	185.94

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