

THE MESSENGER

Serving the Churches of Holy Ghost and St. Bede

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871



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PASTORAL AREA CLERGY

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Rev Chris Whelan

Rev Gaston Forbah

Rev Dea Patrick O'Connell

Sacred Heart, Hook 01256 577007

Rev Paul Leonard

St Michael, Tadley 0118 981 4572

Rev Patrick Tansey

St. John the Baptist, Andover

Rev Austin Gurr 01264 352829

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 26th January 2020

St Matthew, in his Gospel, describes the coming of Jesus in prophetic terms, "The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light." But the light that Jesus reveals is not a new political dispensation. The darkness is not merely the darkness of oppression. It is not just the people of Israel who have been subjected to a foreign power: it is the whole of humanity. Jesus is the light of the world that exposes the true darkness that is sin, which is preventing all human beings from fulfilling their true destiny as sons and daughters of a loving Father in the everlasting Kingdom of Heaven. The revolutionary project that Jesus starts is far from a political revolt. It involves real change of heart and it starts with faith: faith in God, but, first of all, faith in ourselves. Do I really believe that God loves me and has called me into a relationship of love? This is the project of Jesus, to change the world by changing one person at a time, enabling every one to believe that they are beloved sons or daughters of the one Father, God in Heaven. And so, in today's Gospel, we see Jesus at the beginning to His project to bring this new light, this new revelation, into the world. He calls the fishermen, Peter and Andrew, James and John, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Their mission is to capture the hearts and minds of people, opening up to them the promise of eternal life. So let us take up the invitation to follow Jesus. Let us ask for eyes that see as He sees, and for the courage to respond to the needs of our world with His love and compassion.

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Morning Prayer before all weekday Masses

Sun 26th Jan	9.00 am	SB	Joan, Tito Gomes RIP
	11.00 am	SB	People of the Parish
	12.30 pm	SB	Baptisms
	6.30 pm	SB	Dec. Mbrs Hynes & Murphy Families
Mon 27th	12 noon	HG	<i>St Angela Merici, optional memorial</i> Pino, Michella Colella RIP
	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11 am</i>		
Tues 28th	No Mass		
Wed 29th	9.30 am	HG	Maureen Burnand RIP
Thur 30th	9.30 am	SB	Int. Gerard & Lettie Murphy
Fri 31st	9.30 am	SB	<i>St John Bosco, memorial</i> Int. Mick, Peg Moore
	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 11am</i>		
Sat 1st	No Mass		

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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Sun 2nd Feb	9.00 am	SB	Hannah, Claudia Durangparang RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Jimmy Burke RIP
	6.30 pm	SB	People of the Parish

"Walk with your feet on earth, but in your heart be in heaven." — Saint John Bosco

SUNDAY OF THE WORD

In his autumn Apostolic Letter, *Aperuit Illis*, Pope Francis established the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as the 'Sunday of the Word'. Pope Francis is clear that the relationship between the Risen Lord, a community of believers, and sacred Scripture is essential to who we are as Christians. "We need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness" the Holy Father says in *Aperuit Illis*. In our Diocese of Portsmouth, we are keeping a whole Year of the Word. As part of this we recently received copies of the Gospel of Luke from Bishop Philip, which is part of the aim to promote the need for all of us to develop a deeper understanding of Scripture.

CAFOD RECYCLING COLLECTION

Help raise money for CAFOD who are looking for unwanted jewellery, currency and coins, stamps, mobile phones and gadgets. No ink or toner cartridges. Please bring any items to the Church on a Sunday and place in the red sack in the large meeting room.

CARITAS HOMES WITHOUT BORDERS PROJECT



There will be a tea party in aid of our Parish's Refugee Community Sponsorship resettlement scheme at St. Joseph's Church, St Michael's Road, RG22 6TY between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 8th February. It would

be great if you could find time to pop along and support the party. Also, contributions of cakes, home made or purchased, and donations of prizes for the tombola or raffle would be much appreciated.

BASINGSTOKE CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT

The next concert will be on Saturday 28th March 2020 at Fairfield Halls, Croydon at 7.30 pm. Basingstoke Choral Society and Croydon Philharmonic Choir perform *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff, *Dockland Sinfonia* will be conducted by David Gibson. Tickets are available from £15 by the ticket line on 020 3292 0002 or via twww.fairfield.co.uk. We put the Sing in BaSingstoke! Join us at rehearsals on Wednesday nights – 7.30 pm at The Vyne School.

NEW DIOCESAN WEBSITE

Our brand new Diocesan website has now been launched at <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk>. The Diocese are keen to receive feedback on the new website so that they can continue to improve it. Feedback can be given at <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/what-do-you-think>.

A PRAYER FROM ST THOMAS AQUINAS

*Grant me, O Lord my God,
a mind to know you,
a heart to seek you,
wisdom to find you,
conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance in waiting for you,
and a hope of finally embracing you.
Amen.*



DIARY:

Sunday 26th Jan: Music: 9 am Choir: 11 am Cantorg: 6.30 pm Quiet
Refreshments after 9 and 11am Masses
Polish Rosary at 4 pm SB
Toddler Group 1.30 pm —3.15 pm SB
Choir 7.30 pm SB
Repository Shop open 9.00 am—3 pm
FHC Session 10 am—12 noon SB

Tues 28th
Wed 29th
Thur 30th
Sat 1st

Sunday 2nd Feb: Music: 9 am Choir: 11 am Popley: 6.30 pm Quiet
Refreshments after 9 am Mass
Polish Rosary at 4 pm SB
Welcome to our FHC Children

REFRESHMENTS

Just a reminder that there will be refreshments after 11 am Mass on Sunday 26th January.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION STAMPS

First Holy Communion coloured cards are available in the Cloister, these will need to be stamped every Sunday after Mass by the Priest.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

If you would like your child to be Baptised or would like to find out more about when the course will be running please email baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk or visit our website at

<https://www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk/sacraments/> where you will find a welcome letter and application form. Dates for February's course will be 9th February, 16th February, Baptism 23rd February and Welcome at 11 am Mass on 1st March.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations and welcome to Hudson Cooper Bennett, Hanna Lucy Jones and Helena Anna Bar who will be Baptised today. We also thank Deacon Tony and his wife Pam for running our new Parish Baptism Preparation course.



FUNERAL

Requiem Mass for Susan Vanni RIP will take place at St. Bede's Church on Thursday 13th February at 11 am. We remember Susan's family at this sad time. May she Rest in Peace.



ST. JOHNS CATHEDRAL SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend we have a second collection which is done annually in support of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family. Please give generously, gift aiding your donation wherever possible using the envelopes which will be available. Many thanks.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Parish Collection amounted to £2,592.94p.
Grateful thanks.