

A parish in the Care of the Salesians of Don Bosco – Northeast Hampshire Pastoral Area
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth - Registered Charity Number 1199568

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Fr Anthony Clifford Lobo SDB - Priest in Charge - alobo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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PARISH OFFICE: 71 High View Road – Open, Tuesday to Friday – 8.30 to 12.00.



Sunday 26th November 2023 - Christ the King – Solemnity

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17 - The Lord will judge between sheep and sheep.
Psalm 22(23):1-3a,5-6 - The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28 - Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father; so that God may be all in all.
Matthew 25:31-46 - I was naked and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me.

'Christ the King'

Catchwords that have preceded this section of St Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 24:

- **To be watchful** i.e., to be able to recognise Jesus in those most in need.
- **To be ready** to love and care for those most in need.
- **To be faithful** in performing concrete deeds of mercy and service.

God tells us that He will be the one to bring back the strayed, bind up the wounded, because the kings and rulers have failed miserably in their role as protectors and shepherds.

The final judgement is based on one's adherence to behaviour patterns that have already been established like feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, etc. Those who behave in this way are called righteous.

Those who fail to see Him in the poor and suffering will go to 'eternal punishment'.

There is no way that we can do all the good that can be done in the world. God's positive command is open-ended and much more challenging than "thou shalt nots." We can only depend on the mercy of an all-knowing and understanding God, and live lives that are humble, which is what God calls us to be.

As we celebrate 'World Youth Sunday', let us recall the words of Pope Francis: "Jesus does not teach you, young people, from afar or from without, but from within your very youth, a youth He shares with you". Pope Francis – *Christus Vivit*.

God Bless,

Fr T

Have a wonderful weekend with Jesus.

Fr Anthony Clifford Lobo SDB

Weekly Mass Collection from 13th Nov to 19th Nov

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Contactless | 269.64 |
| Envelopes | 20.00 |
| Loose Plate | 333.00 |
| S/O gift aid | 710.00 |
| S/O non gift aid | 35.00 |
| Total | 1367.64 |

Thank you for your generosity especially for the Diocese of Bamenda.

First Holy Communion

For more information about the second session, click here:

[First Holy Communion: Session Two - God's Forgiveness and Love. \(oldsdhamphshire.co.uk\)](https://www.oldsdhamphshire.co.uk)

The next children's class will take place on **Tuesday, 28th November 2023, from 4.45pm to 6.15pm** where the children will learn about Celebration & Reconciliation.

Confirmation Programme

The Confirmation programme began with 41 youngsters, under the guidance of Catechists Anthony and Mandy Connelly and were assisted by seven other catechists.

The second session takes place on **Friday, December 8th, from 7.00pm to 8.30pm** at the Parish Hall.

Theme for the session: **Does God exist?**

Baptism Preparation

If you wish to have your child baptised, please fill out the online form on our parish website (Sacraments/Baptism).

Baptism Form: <https://form.jotform.com/232503465212345>

The Next Baptism course is on **Tuesday 28th November 2023** for Infant Baptism and Children, up to 7 years of age from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

RCIA – a programme open to all adults for Christian initiation and formation.

Are you thinking of becoming a Roman Catholic or do you know somebody else who is? Do you want to learn more about your own faith and help others join our community?

If so, then please come along to the RCIA programme on **Wednesday 29th November at 8pm, meeting in the entrance hall**. The theme of the next session: **THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE LIFE OF GRACE: God's Divine Life Within Us**.

Childrens Liturgy

On **3rd December, we will be celebrating our annual Christingle event with the children**. Christingle is important as we teach the children to celebrate Jesus as light of the world.

Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning:

The orange represents the world.

The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ.

The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations.

The candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope.



Helpers needed urgently.

As a community it's important to get the children engaged with Bible stories. In children's liturgy we try to tell and discuss the stories in a way they can understand and provide a safe environment for them to learn. To continue to do this we need helpers. You can do as much or as little as you want. Because of safeguarding we need to have a ratio of adults to children, and we are currently struggling to maintain this. Please contact Ericahuntley74@gmail.com if you would like to help, even if it is one Sunday a month.

Erica Huntley – Children's Liturgy coordinator.

Parish Pastoral Council

On Thursday, 16th November, a group of parishioners met to discuss and plan for a parish survey and begin the process to forming a parish pastoral council, who will collaborate with the Fr Anthony and other clergy to foster the pastoral life and mission of the parish. This is a consultative body that will help to discern the needs and aspirations of the parishioners, and to plan and implement pastoral initiatives accordingly. Any parishioner who is willing to offer of their gifts, time, and resources towards building the parish community, please write to Fr Anthony (alobo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Liturgy Committee

Thank you to the ad hoc liturgy committee that has prepared the Advent and Christmas programme. James Fitzpatrick-Ellis will be forming a team to aid with the Liturgies of our celebrations. If you would like to form part of the group, please write to jafitzp@hotmail.com or alobo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Eucharistic Adoration - Thursday Evening and Friday

Every Thursday evening from 7pm to 8pm, we have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration. During the month of December, we will have four different adorations on Advent. Every Friday morning, after mass, silent Adoration with Benediction from 10.00am to 10.30am.

OLSD Christmas Carol Concert - Sunday 17th December 2023. 5.00 – 6.15 pm in the church.

Festive music and carol arrangements sung by Vocal Point (16 Voice Choir) with congregational carols. Seasonal refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards. Retiring Collection for the Salesians in Bethlehem.

Parish Social Outreach Committee

Christmas Social Activities.

The weekends of 2nd/3rd & 9th/10th December raffle tickets, will be on sale after all Masses. First prize £50 shopping voucher. If anyone has any additional prizes to donate, they will be gratefully received.

16th December Children's Christmas party for ages 2 to year 6 primary school. From 2pm to 5pm. All First Communion children invited. We will provide pizza and sandwiches. Could parents please provide snacks and drinks? Attendance sheet to tick the snacks /drinks that you could supply, is in the Church entrance. Father Christmas will be calling. Please note a parent/guardian must stay with all preschool children.

17th December Christmas dinner for senior members of our local community and anyone who will be alone for Christmas. Numbers limited to 50. Tea and coffee will be available for anyone who wishes to stay for a carol concert at 5pm. If you would like to attend or know of an elderly/lonely person in the local community, please put names on the list in entrance.

To fund this, we will ask parishioners who can afford it to buy a plate. We have budgeted the meal at £7 a head. Please add all contributions to the coffee donation fund or to the coffee club section on the electronic payment. Thank you.

OASIS – Women's faith group

The Oasis core group would like to invite all the ladies of the parish and any of your female friends and family to our next prayer breakfast meeting. We will be meeting in the church hall on Saturday, 2nd December at 8.30am. We start with breakfast followed by prayer & praise. The December talk will be given by Philomena, one of the core group members and her talk is entitled 'Be Still'.

We would love to see as many of you ladies as possible in December and newcomers are very welcome. Please note there is no Oasis meeting in January, the next one will be 3rd February 2024.

World Youth Sunday 2023

Sunday 26th November is National Youth Sunday. The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has produced World Youth Sunday resources at <https://worldyouthsunday.org/wyd2023>

We are in the process of launching the **Young Adults group – Salesian Youth Movement of the parish**. If you are between the **age group of 21 to 35** and would like to form part of this important group of the parish, we will be meeting after the 10.30am mass, ie at 12.00 noon in the parish hall on Sunday 26th November to celebrate World Youth Sunday and to begin the formation of a group. **Michelle Friend** will be leading the Young Adults group.

Come and Join the Driving team at Farnborough Neighbourcare

Farnborough Neighbour care has been taking local people to doctor, dentist, and hospital appointments for over 25 years, which makes a real difference to the local community.

Farnborough Neighbourcare was set up and run for many years by Graham and Julia Dorey. Graham remains a member of our parish.

If you have time to spare, they need more volunteer drivers. Mileage expenses are paid, and times are flexible to suit volunteers. To find out more, telephone 01252 371199 or email neighbourcare.office@gmail.com. Website www.neighbourcare.org

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary - Starting School

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, now is the time to apply for admission to Reception Class in September 2024. The closing date is 15th January 2024.

Please apply online at

<https://educationonlineportal.hants.gov.uk/EducationOnlinePortal/en>

and download our admissions arrangements at Admissions <https://www.st-bernadettes.hants.sch.uk/admissions/> to complete and return your supplementary information form, along with a copy of your baptismal certificate. If you have not attended one of our open days and would like to have a look around the school, or if you need some help with your application, please contact the school office on 01252 548123.

Prayer for the Repose of the Soul of Teresa Watson

Tessie Watson passed away in the early hours of Friday 27th October morning. She was a long-standing parishioner first of St. Dominic's and latterly at Our Lady of Lourdes. She was aged 95.

Her funeral mass will take place at **Our Lady and St Dominic on Wednesday, 29th November at 9.30am** followed with burial at Ship Lane cemetery. Please keep the family in prayer.

Fr Tony Sultana – Change of email

Please note Fr Tony Sultana's new email addresses:

tony.sultana91@gmail.com or Anthony.Sultana@Salesians.org.uk

We Remember in our Prayers

Josie Dudley, Maurice McSharry, Matthew Claridge, Jan Cotteral, Anne Lister, Sean McCulley, George Robinson, Mr Trower, Mark Fensome, Baby Madeleine and her parents, Wendy, F Rose Morrison, Margaret Luffman, Eve Tarrant, Brian and Margaret Worley, Dolores Lee, Ross O'Meara, Colin Machin, Don O'Sullivan, Colette Lock, Albert Egan, Mary Robb, Catherine McBride, Deacon Paul Pole-Baker, Bernadette Fife-Schaw, Edith O'Brien, Bev Gerrard, Iris and Charles Cheesman.

| The Parish Agenda | Mass Times, Intentions, Parish Events & Notes |
|---|---|
| Saturday 25 th November | 11.00am Baptism – Phoebe Elizabeth Matrunola Born 10.00am to 1.00 pm Table Top sale 5.30 pm Vigil Mass Ronaldo & Ann Mary Morales RIP – Melanae & Stephen Heyes & Emylyn Wie Int |
| Sunday 26 th November CHRIST THE KING World Youth Sunday | 9.00am Mass Sally & Harry Humphrey RIP Hilary Humphrey Sharp RIP 10.30am Mass Mary Hehir RIP. 12.00pm Young Adults gathering |
| Monday 27 th November | 8.00am Mass Maria Hodson INT Parish office Closed |
| Tuesday 28 th November | 9.30am Mass Maria Hodson Birthday INT 4.45pm - 6.15pm First Holy Communion Class – Theme: Celebration & Reconciliation 7.30 to 8.30pm Baptism course |
| Wednesday 29 th November | 9.30 am Mass Teresa Watson RIP FUNERAL SERVICE followed by Burial at Ship Lane Cemetery 10.00am - 12.00pm Coffee & Toddlers Club in the Hall 8.00pm to 9.00pm RCIA – Adult Christian Formation – Theme: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE LIFE OF GRACE: God's Divine Life Within Us |
| Thursday 30 th November Saint Andrew, Apostle | 9.30am Mass Michael White and Family RIP 7.00pm to 8.00pm Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration – Theme: Advent – The Virtue of Hope |
| Friday 1 st December | 9.30am Mass Anthony & Grace Camilleri RIP 10.00am to 10.30am Silent Adoration with Benediction |
| Saturday 2 nd December | 8.30am Oasis Women's faith group. 11.00am Baptism – Isabella Valentina Nicodemo 5.30pm Vigil Mass St Clements Court INT |
| Sunday 3 rd December Frist Sunday of Advent | 9.00am Mass Denis Walsh INT 10.30am Mass Michael Fernando passed away in Sri Lanka last week RIP 7.00pm Advent evening prayer with Benediction |

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday from **4.15pm to 5.15pm** or by appointment.

Fr Anthony or Fr T is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation before or after every Mass.

During the weekend Masses a Priest will be available for the sacrament in the confessional.