

St Joseph's Catholic Church

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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY **TIME - YEAR C**

Sunday 5th October: TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 6th October: Feria of the 27th Week in Ordinary Time or St Bruno, Founder, optional memorial. No Mass today.

Tuesday 7th October: Our Lady of the Rosary, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 8th October: Feria of the 27th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 9th October: ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Religious, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 10th October: Feria of the 27th Week in Ordinary Time or St Paulinus of York, Bishop, or St Denis, Bishop, & Companions, Martyrs, optional memorials. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 11th October: Feria of 27th Week in Ordinary Time or St John XXIII, Pope, optional memorial or Our Lady on Saturday. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 5th October: 8.30am for the Intentions of Marius Ciochon.

11am for a Private Intention.

Tuesday 7th October: 10.00am for a Private Intention.

Thursday 9th October: 10.00am for the Intentions of Kennet Anthony (Charles Anthony's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Philip Rowlands, Jonathan Sheridan, Deanna Knight, Angela Jordan, Eric and Beryl Thompson, Lesley Smith, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, Joshua David, Marie O'Sullivan, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael.

Collections: 28th September: Plate collection £633.02; Candles £19.29; Poor Box £10. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 5th October: TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C.

All three readings this Sunday speak about Faith and how it works in our lives. "To one who has Faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without Faith, no explanation is possible." (St. Thomas Aquinas). We need to thank God for everything, giving Him the credit for our well-being. Most of us are inclined to forget God's providence when our earthly affairs are going well. We pray to Him only when trouble strikes. God often answers such prayers. Stronger Faith enables us to accept the adversities and the trials of life.

N.B. This Sunday is the third of four when, annually, we are obliged to take a '**Mass Count**' of attendees as required by the diocese to feed into national statistics which are then submitted to the Vatican.

World Day of Migrants, Refugees, and the Homeless:

While usually celebrated on the last Sunday of September, the event this year will be celebrated this weekend, to coincide with the Jubilee of Migrants. The theme is Migrants, missionaries of hope, emphasising the resilience and faith of migrants and refugees in the face of hardship. In Rome, Pope Leo will preside over two days of celebrations. At home, we also mark the event. It is a day for acknowledging the presence of migrants and refugees in our communities, celebrating their contribution and becoming more aware of the difficulties they encounter. This is not a new event – it has been marked in the Catholic Church since 1914 – an indication that the movement of people from their homeland is not a recent phenomenon. Throughout history, people have migrated in search of a better life for themselves and their families.

Wednesday 8th October: 12.30pm – 2pm: The church will be open for quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome at any time whilst the church is open.

Thursday 9th October: 10.00am Mass: The pupils of Year 5 at St Joseph's School will join us today.

7.30pm: RCIA Session 2 – Introduction to the Catholic Church.

Saturday 11th October: 10.00am - 12 noon initial Children's Learning Session for this year's First Holy Communion Programme – at St Joseph's School.

Sunday 12th October: 11.00am Mass - We are joined by this year's new First Holy Communion candidates.

OCTOBER – Month of the Rosary: October is designated as the "Month of the Rosary" because we celebrate the Feast of 'Our Lady of the Rosary' on 7th October. Pope Leo XIV is inviting the faithful to join in praying the Rosary every day during October to invoke God's gift of peace in war-torn lands - "I invite everyone, each day of the coming month, to pray the Rosary for peace—personally, in the family, and in community."

St John's Cathedral Portsmouth: Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th October: The Cathedral welcomes the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of **Our Lady of Fatima** and relics of the Fatima Visionaries, Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto this weekend. The programme begins at Midday on Saturday when the bishop welcomes and crowns the pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima, and celebrates the lunchtime Mass. The visit continues until after the 12 noon Mass on Sunday 5th October, and includes opportunities for praying the Rosary together, talks and veneration the relics of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, as well as the fifteen minutes of meditation for the First Saturday devotion.

Free On-line Course: Understanding the Bible from Start to Finish. Learn about the Old and New Testaments, free of charge, world-renowned course presented online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. The course started on Wed 1st October at 7pm UK time (x 8 Wednesday evening sessions), but it is still not too late to join. Information & Registration: www.comeandsee.org

Stop assisted suicide - further action needed! As the assisted suicide Bill progresses through the Lords, Peers have made it clear that receiving physical letters will have the most influence at this stage of the process. **Right To Life UK** has launched a new **EasyAction** tool that creates a personalised letter to be sent in the post to a Peer highlighting a key concern with the Bill, selects a Peer to receive it, and customises the letter so that it is addressed from you. **Please take action now** and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

Saturday 18th October: Formation Day for Readers: The Liturgy Project team invites you to a formation day for Readers at St Bede's, Basingstoke on Saturday 18th October. All readers, experienced and new, are welcome to attend. This day will include a session on Lectio Divina. Register attendance at liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Also, 18th October: 7.30pm CANTEMUS CHOIR CONCERT at **St Joseph's Church**. The programme includes 'Five Days that Changed the World' by Bob Chilcot, John Rutter's 'Requiem', and lighter pieces including 'Blue Moon'; 'In the Mood'; and 'Scarborough Fair/Sound of

Silence'. Tickets £10 on the door. Interval Refreshments. Proceeds to St Joseph's Church.

Saturday 25th October: Douai Abbey Autumn Pastoral Programme: *Ecumenical Council of Nicaea AD 325* - A Day of information & discussion. The Council of Nicaea took place in Asia Minor in the year 325AD, the first time that the whole Church was summoned in consultation. It produced the creed which has become the distinctive expression of the Church's faith in Jesus Christ. Led by Br Simon Hill OSB, a monk of Douai Abbey. **10.30am to 4pm**, with arrivals and coffee from 10am. Please bring own lunch. For bookings and further enquiries, email pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk or visit the Abbey website. A contribution of £20 is payable on the day. Coffee and tea are provided.

BAMENDA UPDATE: For the Autumn Update on Parishioner-Funded projects in Bamenda, please go to <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Bamenda-quaterly-update-Sept-2025.pdf>

CSSA PUBLIC CALL FOR INFORMATION: The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) is inviting everyone engaged with the Catholic Church to contribute their experiences of how the Catholic Church engages with Survivors. Please go to portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/cssa-public-call-for-information to complete a survey. The survey is anonymous unless you choose to provide your name or a contact number.

A FLAG TO REPRESENT OUR HOME NATIONS: A display has been created in St Joseph's Chapel to illustrate the many home nations from which our parish members originate. Contributions of a small flag (maximum size A4) from your home nation to form part of the display can still be added. Please hand in to Maureen Smith or Fr Michael.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL: Please allow priority for parking for older parishioners, the disabled and families with young children. N.B. If parking in Hawthorn Road, opposite the church, you may be subject to parking fines (please check parking signage carefully).

Contactless Donations: Please use your debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate your chosen amount on our digital collection pads for Sunday collections. Gift Aid details need only be entered once and will be retained for future donations.

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email each week, please contact the parish office.

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: It is a salutary fact that human beings are the only creatures on earth that allow their children to come back home!