



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

30th June 2024 - THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL

7th July – FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother’s womb,
called me through his grace”

Galations 1:15

**Our Parish vision is to bring people closer to Christ
by inviting, welcoming, nurturing and nourishing everyone**

Address: 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB
Tel: (023) 8055 5470
Website: www.immaculateconception.church
Email: office@immaculateconception.church
Facebook: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, (Reg Charity No: 1199568)
Bank details: CDP, Immaculate Conception Church
Sort Code: 30-93-04
Account No: 00887995

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Chiatu
Parish Deacon: Dcn Gerard Dailly
Hospital Chaplaincy: (023 8120 8517)
University Chaplain: Sr Emelliana Silva (07426 000213)
Safeguarding Officer: Laura Sparmann
(safeguarding@immaculateconception.church)
Parish Secretary: Rachel Brady (023 8055 5470)
Confessions: After 10 am Mass on Saturdays
Hall Bookings: contact the parish secretary

PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Friday, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm

**ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT
www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 30 June	THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OT Ss PETER & PAUL	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Vocations, Martin Plunket intention Brian Physick, 97 th Birthday
Mon 01 July	St Oliver Plunkett	2.00 pm	Funeral Service	Kevin O’Shea RIP
Tues 02 July	Feria	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Mass	
Weds 03 July	St Thomas	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Mass Eucharistic adoration	
Thurs 04 July	St Elizabeth of Portugal	10.00 am	Mass	Margaret Davis RIP
Fri 05 July	St Anthony Zaccaria	9.00 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass	Lawrence & Luigiana Clegg RIP
Sat 05 July	St Maria Goretti		No Mass	
Sun 07 July	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Coyle family – living and died
Mon 08 July	Feria	-	No Mass	
Tues 09 July	St Augustine Zhao Rong	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Mass	
Weds 10 July	Feria	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Mass Eucharistic adoration	
Thurs 11 July	St Benedict	10.00 am	Mass	
Fri 12 July	Feria	9.00 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass	Maureen Howard RIP
Sat 13 July	St Henry	10.00 am	Mass	
Sun 14 July	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Maureen Slevin RIP

NEXT 2 WEEKS IN THE PARISH:

Mon 1st - Funeral Kevin O’Shea RIP, 2 pm
Tues 2nd - Tea & Coffee after 10 am Mass – church hall
Weds 3rd - Adoration, 6.00 pm, Lady Chapel
Thurs 4th - Choir Practice 7.30 pm in the church. Anyone welcome to join.
Sat 6th - Bamenda Twinning Celebration Mass
11 am St Johns Cathedral Portsmouth, followed by BBQ at Immaculate Conception, 5 pm

Tues 9th - Tea & Coffee after 10 am Mass – church hall
Weds 10th - Adoration, 6.00 pm, Lady Chapel
Thurs 11th - Choir Practice 7.30 pm in the church. Anyone welcome to join.
Sat 13th - Summer Fair – 2 pm, bring your friends & family
Sun 14th - Summer Fair continued – after both Masses

**READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY****1st Reading:** Acts 12:1-11**Psalm:** 33:2-9**2nd Reading:** 2 Timothy 4:6-8,17-18**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-19**READINGS FOR SUNDAY 7TH JULY****1st Reading:** Ezekiel 2:2-5**Psalm:** 123: 1-2,2,3-4**2nd Reading:** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10**Gospel:** Mark 6:1-6**SECOND COLLECTIONS:**SUNDAY 30th JUNE – Peter’s Pence (Non GA)SUNDAY 7th JULY – No second collectionSUNDAY 14th JULY – Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris) (Non GA)**TODAY’S GOSPEL REFLECTION:****Pillars of the Church**

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” [Matthew 16:17–19](#)

Saints Peter and Paul are often referred to as two of the great “Pillars of the Church.” They each played an incredibly essential role in the establishment of the early Church. And though each of their roles was essential and foundational, their roles were as different as they were different as persons.

Peter was a family man, a local fisherman, uneducated and quite ordinary. From what we know about him prior to being called by Jesus, there was nothing that made him uniquely qualified to become one of the pillars of the new Church to be established by the Son of God. Jesus simply called him, and he responded. Jesus got into Peter’s boat, ordered him to lower the nets, and produced a huge catch of fish. When Peter saw this miracle, he fell down at Jesus’ feet and acknowledged that he was “a sinful man” who was unworthy of being in Jesus’ presence (See [Luke 5:8](#)). But Jesus informed Peter that he would from now on be catching men. Peter immediately left everything behind and followed Jesus.

Paul describes himself as “a Jew, born at Tarsus in Cili’cia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gama’li-el, educated according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as you all are this day” ([Acts 22:3](#)). Paul was well educated in the strictest interpretation of the Jewish law, understood philosophy and was quite zealous as a young man. Recall, also, that prior to becoming a convert to Christianity, he “persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it” ([Galatians 1:13](#)). In many ways, Paul would have been seen as the most unlikely person to be chosen to be a pillar of the Church, because he so vigorously opposed it at first. He even supported the killing of Saint Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

Though each of these men would have been considered by many as very unlikely founders of the Christian Church, this is exactly what they became. Paul, after his conversion, traveled far and wide to preach the Gospel, founding several new Churches throughout Asia Minor and Europe. Eventually he was arrested in Jerusalem, brought to Rome for trial and was beheaded. Over half of the New Testament books are attributed to Paul and half of the Acts of the Apostles detail Paul’s missionary journeys. Paul is especially known for his missionary activity to the Gentiles, those who were not Jews.

Peter’s role was truly a unique one. His name was changed from “Simon” to “Peter” by Jesus. Recall Jesus saying, “And I tell you, you are Peter (*Petros*), and on this rock (*petra*) I will build my church... ([Matthew 16:18](#)). “Peter” in Greek is *Petros*, meaning a single stone that is movable. However, the Greek word *petra* means a rock as a solid formation that is fixed, immovable, and enduring. Therefore, Jesus chose to make Peter, this single stone, into a solid foundation of immovable rock on which the Church was to be built.

You, too, have been called by our Lord to a unique mission within the Church that has not been entrusted to another. In your own way, God wants to use you to reach certain people with the Gospel as He did with Saint Paul. And like Saint Peter, God wants to continue to establish His Church upon you and your faith.

Reflect, today, upon these two holy and unique pillars of our Church. As you do, ponder how God may want to use you to continue their mission in this world. Though Saints Peter and Paul are among the greatest and most consequential Christians within our world, their mission must continue, and you are among the instruments that God wants to use. Commit yourself to this mission so that the preaching of the Gospel and the rock foundation of our Church will remain strong within our day and age just as it was of old.

A reflection for the Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul, Yr B
www.mycatholic.life

PARISH NOTICES

TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 10.30 AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for the usual refreshments after Mass today.



Saturday 13th July, 2 – 4 pm

Only two weeks to go! We are still looking for lots more donations:

- Prizes for the raffle
- Good alcoholic bottles for the bottle stall
- Good quality toys and teddies
- Good quality items to sell on the gift stall
- Bric-a-brac – only good quality please!

Please bring any donations you are able to give, to the hall after Masses this weekend and next. If anyone would be willing to help in any way, please talk to Anastasia after 10.30 am Mass.

Please also bring back your raffle ticket stubs and money, as well as any unsold books as soon as possible.

FUNERAL – Kevin O’Shea RIP

Kevin’s funeral will be at Immaculate Conception Church on **Monday 1st July, 2 pm**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025 REGISTRATION

The registration dates for the future FHC programmes are now being aligned with rest of the Southampton Deanery. Registration for FHC in 2025 is now open and will close at the start of September in all the local parishes. The programme will start in Autumn 2024.

If you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion, they should be over the age of 8 and they should register for the programme taking place at the parish in which they would normally attend Mass. They should be attending Mass with their family as regularly as possible. Registration forms for the programme at Immaculate Conception are available from the parish office by email, from the parish website or from the church porch. Completed forms should be returned to the parish office.

THANK YOU FROM ‘FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND’

We would like to thank all parishioners for the Crib offerings £99.06, for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donations will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.

NEXT POST CONFIRMATION MEETING

Tuesday 2nd July, 6 pm in the parish hall

For all young people who were confirmed in April this year

BAMENDA/PORTSMOUTH TWINNING CELEBRATIONS

Over the next fortnight there are various events taking place to celebrate 50 years of our partnership with the Diocese of Bamenda. The Bishop of Bamenda will be here and the Bamenda priests in our parishes will be very much involved in these celebrations.

In particular, you are invited to a Celebration afternoon **Portsmouth Cathedral on Saturday 6th July starting with Mass at 11 am.**

**Celebrations will continue later with a
BARBEQUE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Starting at 5 pm

Everyone is invited to join this special day.

JOB VACANCY: CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH Caritas Project Development Officer

Based in Southampton and Havant

fixed term contract until June 2025

Can be either full or part time

We are looking for someone who is passionate about supporting people in local communities. You will be helping to set-up of projects that assist people who are struggling because of financial insecurity, social isolation, refugees or victims of Modern Slavery. As Christians we are called to help those in need, and this is an ideal role for someone who is keen to make a tangible difference to people’s lives. Full details can be found at <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/>

NEW SEAFARERS CENTRE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Stella Maris are continuing to build a team of volunteers from the parishes in the Southampton Deanery, to act as welcomers in the new Seafarers Club at St Joseph’s Church in St Michael’s Square, Southampton. If you would like to volunteer or learn more please pick up a leaflet at the back of the church or contact Stella Maris Port Chaplain: Charles Stuart, 07843 739 570 charles.stuart@stellamarismail.org

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Saturday 7th, September At 2pm

St Bede’s Church In Basingstoke

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage.

If you would like to attend, please email:

anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



WEEK SILENT RETREAT Pilgrims of Hope

finding hope in times of trouble

23 - 30 AUG. 2024

For more info: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com



PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING

Friday 12th July, 7.30 pm

St Philip Howard Church

Bishopsfield Rd, Fareham PO14 1ND

Theme

“The Greatness of God”

Come and join us for an evening of scripture, a reflection, adoration, silence, prayer and worship. Sit, stand, kneel, sing or don't sing... just come and be. Followed by fellowship and seasonal light refreshments in the hall. Bring your friends. For more details, please contact us at: 01329 318869 or email:

farehamportchester@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The diocese has just published its Annual Report for 2022 – 2023, as well as one for its predecessor entity, the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, and a special supplement showcasing the Catholic Mission in the Channel Islands.

The Reports detail a year of purpose and achievement across the Diocese following final publication and implementation of the Ten-Year Mission Plan, You Will Be My Witnesses, and the establishment of 24 new or amended Pastoral Areas, highlighting uplifting examples of how parishes across the Diocese have responded to the Mission Plan's threefold call for deeper faith, for works of mission and service, and for wise stewardship. Read the Reports at the following link:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/documents/annual-reports-and-finances/>

PUBLIC SPEAKING - ONLINE TRAINING, LEARN TIPS AND BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE



CAFOD are offering 1-hour training sessions on Zoom for anyone interested in building their confidence for public speaking. Designed for beginners and anyone who needs to make announcements, ask for

volunteers or speak on behalf of a charity or a parish appeal at Mass. Come along to learn new skills, practise, and discover how you can inspire our congregation. [Register here](#) to receive the link or use the QR code to the right with your mobile phone camera. Date and time: Saturday 13 July, 11am-12pm and Tuesday 16 July, 7pm-8pm.



ST ANNE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL INSPECTION 2024

We were delighted to welcome the Catholic School Inspectorate to St Anne's before half term. The school

was described as a 'deeply loving community' with an outstanding culture of prayer and liturgy. Our young people enjoyed showing off the school and what they do and we were thrilled to be graded outstanding in the majority of judgements. The full inspection report is [here](#). For those new to the area, we are a state comprehensive school in the city centre for girls in years 7 to 11 and we have a mixed gender Sixth Form College. We have Open Mornings for Year 5 girls coming up in July and Open Evenings in October. Details of lower school events are [here](#) and the Sixth Form Open Evening details are [here](#).

LOURDES



PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024

22 JULY 2024 | 4 Nights
£859 per person sharing

For information and bookings, please contact:

Portsmouth Diocese

Email: Lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Tel: 07780 221686

Or

Joe Walsh Tours

Email: info@joewalshstours.co.uk

Tel 0808 1890468