

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

23rd June 2024

TWELVETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?.”

Mark 4:41

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

Address: 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB

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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 23 June | TWELVETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 8.30 am 10.30 am | Mass Mass | Margaret Davis RIP Sabina Ayoka |
| Mon 24 June | The Nativity of St John the Baptist | - | No Mass | |
| Tues 25 June | Feria | 9.00 am 10.00 am | Eucharistic adoration Mass | Bridget Moffat RIP |
| Weds 26 June | Feria | 10.00 am 6.00 pm | Mass Eucharistic adoration | - |
| Thurs 27 June | St Cyril of Alexandria | 10.00 am | Mass | - |
| Fri 28 June | St Irenaeus | 9.00 9.30 am 10.00 am | Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass | - |
| Sat 29 June | Our Lady on Saturday | 10.00 am | Mass | Hugh Slevin RIP |
| 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 |



READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1st Reading: Job 38:1,8-11

Psalm: 107:23-31

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthinans 5:14-17

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

SUNDAY 23rd JUNE – No second collection

SUNDAY 30th JUNE – Peter’s Pence

NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH:

Tues 25th - Coffee morning after 10.00 am Mass

Weds 26th - Adoration, 6.00 pm, Lady Chapel

Thurs 27th - Choir Practice 7.30 pm in the church. Anyone welcome to join.

Sat 22nd - First Holy Communion 2025 Intro session – 11.00 am in the church – further info below

TODAY’S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

God is Speaking

Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Quiet! Be still!” The wind ceased and there was great calm. Mark 4:38–39

Do you desire to hear God speak to you? The most common way this happens is through prayerful meditation on the Gospels. Over the centuries, the saints have prayerfully pondered the Gospels and have offered various insights on the stories and our Lord’s actions. Their insights are not primarily an intellectual exercise. Rather, they are first an exercise of prayer and meditation, revealing that the Scriptures have various layers of depth and meaning.

One Church Father, Saint Bede, explains from his prayerful pondering of today’s Gospel passage that the boat in which Jesus crossed the sea represents the Cross by which safe passage is obtained to arrive at the shores of Heaven. The

other boats that followed represent those who have faith in the Cross of Christ and follow. Though they suffer the waves of temptation and hardship, they press on, relying upon the saving power of the Cross. Jesus being asleep represents His sleep of death, and His waking represents His resurrection. The pleas of the disciples represent our need to turn to Jesus during the storms and temptations of life. The rebuke of the waves and the ensuing calm reveal the grace won by His death and resurrection, which is able to silence the demons and disordered passions. The fear that the disciples encountered points to our own fear that results from a lack of faith and trust in God.

God is able to speak these and many other truths to us through His actions and words contained in the Scriptures. There is no limit to the depth and meaning we can receive through His holy Word. Therefore, though it is useful to reflect upon the saints' various interpretations of the Gospels, it is also very important to reflect upon these passages ourselves, so as to allow our Lord to reveal to us the message we need to hear.

Reflect, today, upon this Gospel scene. Try to find time to slowly read today's Gospel from beginning to end. Read a sentence and then close your eyes and try to imagine it. See Jesus entering the boat. Ponder the boat being an image of the Cross. See the sea as the many evils within this world. Consider the fear the disciples encountered during the storm. See yourself in that boat, waking our Lord. Listen to Him silence the waves and restore peace. Hear Him say to you about your own struggles in life: "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" As you prayerfully meditate upon this and other Gospel passages, know that God will speak to you and reveal to you the meaning that He wishes to communicate to you today.

A reflection for the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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.

PARISH SUMMER FAIR


Saturday 13th July

Still collecting donations for a raffle, tombola, plants, cakes etc. If you have any donations you would like to offer, please bring them to the hall after Masses. If anyone would like to organise a stall or help in any way, please talk to Anastasia after 10.30 am Mass.

FUNERAL – Kevin O'Shea RIP

Kevin's funeral will be at Immaculate Conception Church on **Monday 1st July, 2 pm**, followed by a gathering in the hall for anyone who knew him.

 **PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE
E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES**
Activities, events, news and job vacancies from around the Diocese.
<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue449?e=34c55ac6ce>

 **TODAY**
Sunday 23rd June
SOUTHAMPTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS
invite you to join them on a
Walk for Peace
12.30 Starting at the Queens Peace Fountain in East Park
13.00 Vedic Temple (presentation and lunch) leave 14.30
14.45 Tegh Bahadur Gurdwara leave 15.30
15.45 St Nicholas leave 16.15
16.30 St Michaels
17.00 finish
Everyone is welcome

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 or in year 4 or above at school 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.

****INTRODUCTORY SESSION****

FOR OUR NEXT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME
**** NEXT SATURDAY 29TH JUNE, 11 AM IN THE CHURCH ****
For parents and children starting the next programme. You can register at the session if you have not already done so.

NEXT POST CONFIRMATION MEETING

Tuesday 2nd July, 6 pm in the parish hall

For all young people who were confirmed in April this year

CARITAS PORTSMOUTH -HOLIDAY CLUBS Q&A

Holiday clubs can make a huge difference to some families during the summer holidays, giving much needed fun, escapism and social activity. Join our Q&A on Tuesday 25th June 12:30-1pm if you would like to find out how you or your parish can get started. Register [here](#).

BAMENDA/PORTSMOUTH TWINNING CELEBRATIONS

Dear parishioners

It has been 50 years since the twinning of the archdiocese of Bamenda and the diocese of Portsmouth and this partnership has been a source of incredible exchange and support, with Portsmouth sending priests to Bamenda and vice versa.

To celebrate this momentous occasion, a delegation of about 15 people from Bamenda will be visiting the diocese next month. During their stay, they will have the opportunity to learn more about our twinning through meetings, visits, and seminars.

Our parish has been chosen as the base for this visit due to its central location. We are honored to be hosting 10 of these delegates, and some of our generous parishioners have already offered to accommodate them. We are grateful for their kindness.

There will be several celebrations and gatherings. The main ones are as follows but more details/ dates will be available in next week's newsletter:

2nd – 12th July 2024 – visit dates

Friday 5th July, 8.45 am

Mass with the delegates, at Immaculate Conception Church

Saturday 6th July, 1 pm

The highlight of the celebration will be held at St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth. We invite all of you to join us for this special occasion.

Saturday 6th July, 5.30 pm

Following the cathedral service, **we will continue the festivities with a BBQ at 5pm in our parish.** It will be a time of joy and fellowship.

Monday 8th July, Time TBC

The bishop will hold a meeting in our hall to explore ways of further improving the link between our dioceses. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to contribute to the growth and development of this partnership.

We encourage all of you to attend these events - Let us come together as a community and warmly welcome our guests, making them feel the love and hospitality that our parish is known for.

Thank you for your support and participation. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with all of you.

Fr Anthony

