

# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

19<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*“This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.” John 2,11*



**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](mailto: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:** Cecilia Kovacs (023 8055 5470)  
**Confessions:** After 10 am Mass on Saturdays  
**Hall Bookings:** contact the parish secretary

**PARISH OFFICE OPEN NEXT WEEK: Tuesday/Friday 10:00 5 pm, Wednesday/Thursday 1-5pm**

**ALL MASSES ADVERTISED BELOW ARE AVAILABLE TO JOIN LIVE, ONLINE AT  
[www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur](http://www.churchservices.tv/portswoodchur)**

Date	Solemnities & Feast days	Times & Liturgies		Mass Intentions
Sun 19 January	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Steve Ayoka Deceased members of Gobbi & O'Brien families RIP
Mon 20 January	St Fabian, Pope, Martyr		NO MASS	
Tue 21 January	St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr	9.00 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Mass	Trevor Newell
Wed 22 January	St Vincent, Deacon, Martyr	10.00 am 6pm	Mass Eucharistic Adoration	Veronica Keeney RIP
Thu 23 January	Feria	10.00 am	Mass	Joanne Keall RIP
Fri 24 January	St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Eucharistic adoration Rosary Mass	
Sat 25 January	The Conversion of St Paul	10.00am	Mass	Corrine Woodcock RIP
Sun 26 January	<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	8.30 am 10.30 am	Mass Mass	Dan and Maureen McCarthy RIP Elonor Sonte RIP

### READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY



**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 62:1-5  
**Psalm:** Ps 96(95):1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 9-10ac. R3  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-11  
**Gospel:** John 2:1-11

### SECOND COLLECTIONS:

19<sup>th</sup> January – no second collection  
 26<sup>th</sup> January - Portsmouth Cathedral

### NEXT WEEK IN THE PARISH

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup>** Tea & Coffee after 10 am service – parish hall  
**RCIA Course** – 7.30-9 pm in the parish hall  
**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup>** Adoration for students and anyone else who would like to join us – 6-7 pm in the Lady Chapel  
**Thur 23<sup>rd</sup>** Caritas activity group– 10.30am  
 Lunar New Year Preparations  
**Sat 25<sup>th</sup>** FHC – Reconciliation in the Church as booked  
**Sun 26<sup>th</sup>** Refreshments after mass - Extended Tea and Coffee plus bring your own lunch!  
**Choir Practice** - 11.30 am in the church. All welcome to join.

### THE BOOK OF SIGNS

*“Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.” John 2:11*

John’s Gospel is commonly divided into four sections: the Prologue, the Book of Signs, the Book of Glory and the Epilogue (which contains the resurrection appearance in Galilee). Today’s Gospel comes from the beginning of the Book of Signs, which begins at Chapter 1:19 and continues through Chapter 12. In this section, the Apostle John presents us with seven “signs,” which are seven miracles Jesus performed. Each sign has a deeper spiritual meaning that reveals Jesus’ divinity and

mission. In many ways, the entire Book of Signs prepares us for the Book of Glory in which Jesus' "hour" of glory is identified with Him taking up His glorious throne of the Cross, fulfilling His mission as the "Lamb of God" Who offers His life for the salvation of all, and pouring forth His grace and mercy from His wounded side.

The first of seven signs Jesus performs in John's Gospel is the changing of water into wine at the Wedding of Cana, which was done in superabundance! The six stone jars, filled to the brim with water, were transformed into as much as 180 gallons of the finest wine. The changing of water into wine was done at the request of Jesus' mother, who told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do.

There is certainly much to ponder in this incredible miracle. One specific thing to consider, as we begin reading the first of these signs, is that Jesus uses His miracles to prepare His disciples for the "hour" of grace and glory that is to come. And though the hour of Jesus has already taken place in time, it's important to understand that each one of us needs to go through the process of preparing for that hour in our own lives. We must let Christ continuously prepare us for the hour of glory by which we receive Him and all the grace He won for us on the Cross. This preparation will take place in our lives, just as it was presented in John's Gospel. Jesus' seven signs, His miraculous actions, were performed to prepare His disciples to receive all that He bestowed on the Cross. We must not only prayerfully reflect upon these signs as recorded by John throughout the year, we must also look for the many personal signs that our Lord gives to each one of us.

Just as the participants at the Wedding of Cana were left in amazement at the miracle of Jesus, so we must allow ourselves to become continuously amazed at His action in our lives. The seven signs that are recorded in Scripture, as well as the effect of our spiritual pondering of them, must become beacons of light that prepare us to come to know our Lord more fully and to receive the grace won by His Cross of glory.

Reflect, today, upon this, the first of Jesus' signs. Try to meditate upon this story as a way of preparing yourself to receive His grace more fully in your life. Think of the superabundance of the miracle and ponder the fact that it points to the superabundance of grace God wants to give you. Reflect, also, upon the fact that it took place by the intercession of Jesus' dear mother. She also will anticipate your needs and pray for you with her motherly heart. Ponder the beautiful meaning and symbolism in this passage so that you will more fully share in God's abundant glory.

*A reflection for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)*  
[www.mycatholic.life](http://www.mycatholic.life)

## PARISH NOTICES

### PEACE SUNDAY



This Sunday, 19th January, the Second Sunday of the Year, is also designated as Peace Sunday. Each year, Peace Sunday gives every parish the chance to pray and reflect on the Pope's Message for the annual World Day of Peace. The message can be accessed here:  
<https://paxchristi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.pdf>

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

This is a course for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith.

To join, just turn up at the next meeting on

**14th January at 7.30 in the parish hall. All welcome!**



### OCTAVE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY

18-26 January is the Octave, also known as Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. As a parish, we are committed to work with other Christian communities and take part in joint services and mission to the wider local community through Churches Together.

**We will be having a shared service at Swaythling Baptist Church at 6.30pm on 26 January (Sunday Evening).**

As we commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in 325AD, the service led by Peter Dockree focuses on the Nicene Creed, which was agreed there by the early Church Fathers, **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

### BAPTISMS

The next baptism preparation course is on:  
**Tuesday 11th March 2025.**

If you would like to have your child baptised and have not completed this course in the last three years, please register your interest in the parish office.



### Vocations Prayer Newsletter January 2024

<https://portsmouthvocations.org/so/obPGSvPm6?languageTag=en&cid=8eeb309f-dcf5-4938-a4a3-1108ca4991af>

## FUNERAL SERVICE OF ANN DUNKLEY (1931-2024)



Ann's funeral service will be held at Immaculate Conception Church on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 12 pm, followed by a buffet in the parish hall. The family kindly requests attendees to wear colourful clothing to honour Ann's vibrant spirit and celebrate her life.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to breast cancer charities in memory of Ann.

### BIDDING PRAYER VOLUNTEER

Our bidding prayer writing team is looking for a new volunteer who can prepare the bidding prayer for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Guidance and templates will be given.

Please contact Cecilia at the office if you can offer help.

[office@immaculateconception.church](mailto:office@immaculateconception.church)

### MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

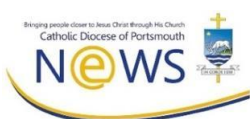
Mass intention requests can be submitted via email, over the phone or using the pre-printed envelopes on the porch. The information we require:

- Name of the person the intention is for (please mark with RIP if the person is deceased)
- Name and contact details of the person making the request
- A few dates when the mass can be said.

Intention request envelopes should be handed in at the parish office or posted through the presbytery letterbox.

**If you have booked a Sunday mass intention and you will be in church for that service, please make yourself known at 1030 to the welcomers for the purposes of the offertory procession, which can be taken up if you wish.**

If you requested a mass for Therese Jurie RIP, Godwin Philips RIP and Murtal Francke RIP on an orange prayer request form, please get in touch with the parish office.



### PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS & JOB VACANCIES

Activities, events, news and job vacancies from around the Diocese.

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue474?e=34c55ac6ce>

### PRAYER REQUEST

Please support with your prayers our parishioner, Celine Zepler who has been diagnosed with cancer. May God's loving presence manifest in her life at this time of adversity.

## INVITATION TO ALL ENGAGED COUPLES

Are you getting married sometime in 2025 - either in a church in our diocese or in a church elsewhere, maybe even abroad? If you are, Bishop Philip would like to invite you for a special blessing and **St. Valentine's Day Breakfast** at the **Cathedral in Portsmouth.**

**When:** Saturday 8th February 2025 at 9.15 am-11.45 (prompt)

**Where:** Cathedral Centre (Catholic Cathedral, Bishop Crispian Way, PO1 3HG).

After breakfast and a chance to meet, a newly-married couple will tell us about their experience. We'll then go into the Cathedral for a short Service of Blessing, in which each couple will be blessed, individually and I'll also bless your engagement rings. (It doesn't matter whether you are a Catholic or not: everyone is welcome).

## UNCOLLECTED CHRISTMAS CARDS

Please collect your cards from the porch, they are placed in alphabetical order by first names in a plastic basket. (Sorry for any mistakes, some are difficult to read):

Adeline & Emmanuel	Mary Gobbi
Andrew Ackeroyd	Milly, Vincent, Carlota etc.
Andrew & Marta Elsdon	Moira
Dominic	Paul
Frank Campbell	Resti
Helen & John Wellicome	Rita & Anne
James & Hannah	Rosa Torres
Jenny McCarthy/Dunn	Rosemary Woodrow
John & Shenaz	Sarita? & T... ???
Jonathan	Sheila & John
Uncle Justin	Trevor & Christine
Liz Bellamy	Val Laurent
Maria Monteiro	Veronica White
Marie	Wikita & Anton



### A YEAR OF HOPE

#### An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with CAFOD

2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more for a lively start to the Jubilee.

With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse.

**Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-12pm, online. All welcome.**

Register here for free: [www.cafod.org.uk/jubilee](http://www.cafod.org.uk/jubilee)



## ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL – 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY



Please join us for a mini-retreat morning of spiritual renewal on Zoom. Through our worship at Mass, Adoration, Prophetic reflection, Praise, Testimony and inspiring Talk, we will travel together as Pilgrims, moving forward with expectant hope in the providence of God; a firm trust in the victory of Christ; and joy in the blessings and gifts of the Holy Spirit for revitalising the Church.

This month's guest speaker is Daniella Stephens, a young and dynamic Catholic Evangelist and founder of Parrhesia Ministries, who travels the UK and abroad speaking at churches, schools, conferences, retreats, prayer groups, youth groups and more.

### Timetable for 25<sup>th</sup> January (approx.. timings):

- 10.00am Mass & Adoration
- 10.50am Prophetic Sharing
- 11.10am Break
- 11.20am Praise & Worship, Testimony
- 11.55am Main Talk and Prayer
- 12.30pm Q & A on Talk
- 1.00pm End of Zoom meeting
- 1.30-5.00 Telephone Prayer Ministry



Please register in advance at [bit.ly/ADOREJAN2025](https://bit.ly/ADOREJAN2025) or scan the QR code above, complete the form and we will send you the Zoom link for the meeting.

### TWO CONCERT OFFERS

The first one features some of our parishioners in the choir, tickets available with discount from Mags!

# **Back to Baroque!**

## **VIVALDI Gloria**

## **BACH Magnificat**



**SATURDAY**  
**22 MARCH 2025**

**O<sub>2</sub> Guildhall**  
**Southampton**  
[o2guildhallsouthampton.co.uk](https://o2guildhallsouthampton.co.uk)

**SOUTHAMPTON**  
**PHILHARMONIC**  
**CHOIR** [southamptonphil.org](https://southamptonphil.org)  
registered charity 11921107

with  
Southampton University  
Philharmonic Choir


David Gibson (conductor)



Conchord Singers  
with  
Southampton Choral  
Society  
present

# **THE CREATION**

**Joseph Haydn**





**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February**  
**2025, 7.30 pm**  
**Chandler's Ford Methodist**  
**Church, Winchester Road,**  
**SO53 2GJ**

Craig Lawton - Conductor  
Lucy Braga - Soprano  
Adrian Green - Tenor  
Alex Wallace - Bass

Tickets £15, payable on the door (cash or card)  
or via [www.ticketsource.co.uk/conchordsingers](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/conchordsingers)  
Under 21's and students free

Retiring collection in aid of Yellow Door  
Registered charity 1111753



[www.conchordsingers.co.uk](https://www.conchordsingers.co.uk)

