

25 DECEMBER 2016  
& 1 JANUARY 2017

**THE NATIVITY  
OF THE LORD  
& MARY, THE  
HOLY MOTHER  
OF GOD**



**ST JOSEPH'S &  
ST EDMUND'S  
CITY CENTRE  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
SOUTHAMPTON**

STELLA MARIS DEANERY ALSO  
INCLUDES:

- ST. BONIFACE, SHIRLEY
- HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL,  
LORDSWOOD
- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
PORTSWOOD
- CHRIST THE KING &  
ST. COLMAN'S, BITTERNE
- OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION,  
HEDGE END
- ST BRIGID, WEST END
- ST. PATRICK'S, WOOLSTON
- THE ANNUNCIATION,  
NETLEY ABBEY



## TOWARD THE ETERNAL EUCHARIST

We have looked for you, Lord Jesus,  
we have waited long for you,  
we have hungered for your face:  
O only longing of our faith,  
may we gaze on you.

Like a spring gushing forth,  
filling the night with its music,  
you reveal to us the name of the Father:  
Revelation of this Love  
which possessed you since the first day.

What begins there in silence,  
the oblation of grain for the fruit,  
who among us can understand?  
Behold the bread, behold the wine  
already placed in our hands.

Toward what joy do you lead us,  
other than the appearance of the Son  
on the nights of Christmas and Easter?  
Toward the eternal Eucharist  
celebrated in the presence of the God of life.

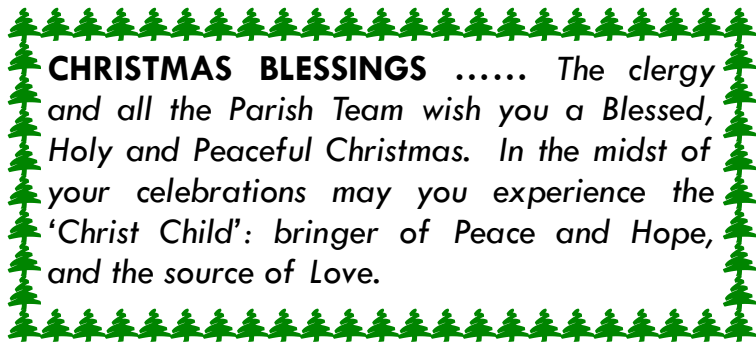
*Commission Francophone Cistercienne, La nuit, le jour 1973*

### THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:

1. The angels told the shepherds of the Holy Birth. Who told you? Who taught you to believe? Who handed on faith to you? Thank God for them.
2. At Christmas we celebrate the incarnation: God taking on Godself our human nature, our sometimes messy human nature! How do you 'incarnate' God for others? Where? When?
3. God gives generously. How generous is your giving? To family? To friends? To the Parish Community? To the wider community?
4. Mary 'praised God' for choosing her. As we close 2016 and open up into 2017 for what do you praise God for? How do you express your sense of gratitude?

*Vincent Harvey*

## TODAY SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER 2016



**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS** ..... *The clergy and all the Parish Team wish you a Blessed, Holy and Peaceful Christmas. In the midst of your celebrations may you experience the 'Christ Child': bringer of Peace and Hope, and the source of Love.*

**CRIB COLLECTION** for this year to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre towards their work in the Holy Land.

### PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

*Living Lord, ignite in us a passion for justice  
And a yearning to right all wrong  
Strengthen us to work for peace in the land we call Holy  
For peace among Jew, Christian and Muslim  
For reconciliation between communities  
For harmony among faiths  
Inspire us to act with the urgency of your quickening fire  
For blessed are the peacemakers  
They shall be called the children of God. Amen.*

### FOR BETHLEHEM THIS CHRISTMAS

*We pray for Bethlehem:  
May the town where the Prince of Peace was born know peace this Christmas.  
May mothers in the refugee camps not weep for their children, as Rachel wept, but see a future for them free from fear and oppression.  
May the people of Bethlehem experience the good news the angels promised and hope be rekindled in a community that sees so few signs of hope.  
May the leaders of Israel and Palestine know that their fates are intertwined and pursue the difficult steps toward a just peace.  
And may we be resolute in our support for all those who seek to bring peace, justice and reconciliation in a land we long to call Holy.  
Amen.*

### PRAYER FOR BAMENDA

*Archbishop Cornelius recently wrote to Bishop Philip expressing his horror and distress over a recent outbreak of violence and unrest in the City of Bamenda - our twin diocese of which he is Archbishop.  
As a result of confrontation between youths and the law, many innocent lives have been lost, many people injured and property destroyed.  
Bamenda's pain is our pain - please pray the Memorare to Our Lady daily for the intentions of Archbishop Cornelius and the people of Bamenda: Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.*

**YEAR OF CARITAS: LOVE IN ACTION** will be the theme for our Parish for 2016/17. There is no universal or diocesan theme for the next 12 months so the Liturgy Team and CCPG have decided that all that we do this coming 12 months will reflect 'Year of Caritas: Love in action' ... watch this space ... watch the Parish ... watch each other!!

**POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR JANUARY:** That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity. *(There used to be two intentions but Pope Francis will add a second prayer intention each month related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The urgent prayer request will help mobilise prayer and action related to the urgent situation.)*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO TINA QUINN** (our Pastoral Assistant) for achieving her Master of Arts in Theology (Portsmouth) (Merit). Well done Tina!

### **RECENTLY DIED:**



**Josephine Leigh RIP** late of Homespinney House, Southampton. A parishioner of St Joseph's for over 50 years. Requiem Mass 12noon Wednesday 28 December in St Joseph's Church followed by cremation at East Chapel, Southampton Crematorium. May her dear soul rest in peace. Please keep her family in your prayers.

**Rosina Johnson RIP** late of Wilton Manor Nursing Home, Southampton. Funeral 2:30pm Friday 6 January 2017 at Wessex Vale Crematorium. May her dear soul rest in peace. Our sympathy to her family.

### **THIS WEEK**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED UNTIL TUESDAY 3 JANUARY 2017.** Please contact our priests at The Presbytery in an emergency. Adoration recommences Tuesday 3 January.

**ST STEPHEN'S FEAST DAY** Monday 26 December, **Altar Servers Mass at 11:00am** in St Edmund's Church.

**SILENT RETREAT** 29 December to 1 January 2017 with Verbum Dei Community on the Isle of Wight. Email [verbumdei.iow@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdei.iow@gmail.com) to book. See noticeboards.

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** Friday 30 December, Mass 7pm in St Edmund's Church.

### **NEXT WEEKEND:**

**SYRO MALABAR MASS** 8:30pm Saturday 31 December in St Edmund's Church followed by refreshments in St Edmund's Hall.

**FEAST OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD** Sunday 1 January 2017.

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 2 JANUARY 2017** church closed.

**ECUMENICAL FAMILY RAMBLE 2pm Monday 2 January 2017** at Hamble, starting point Car Park in Copse Lane, Hamble. Phone 023 8044 2403. See noticeboards.

## **NEXT TWO WEEKS**

**FEAST OF EPIPHANY** Sunday 8 January 2017.

**WELCOME RITES** 9am, 10am and 11am Masses.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAMME** for all candidates continues at 2pm Sunday 8 January in St Boniface Church Hall. Theme 'Why the World Is Broken'.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION** 7pm Monday 9 January in St Edmund's Hall for parents who have registered to have their children baptised.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** 7:30pm Tuesdays 10, 17, 24, 31 January 2017 for couples who have registered. Course fully booked.

**CCPG** 7:45pm Wednesday 5 January in St Edmund's Presbytery.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA)** meet 7:30pm Thursdays in St Edmund's Hall, Rockstone Place, SO15 2EQ for those interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith.

**PILATES WITH HILARY** recommences Friday 13 January 10am in St Edmund's Hall. *Text Hilary on 07786 617302 if you are interested in joining this class.*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION** for parents and candidates 10:30am Saturday 14 January at St Anne's School.

**HEALING DAY** with Little Way Healing Ministries **Sat 14 Jan 10am—4:30pm** at the Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr Laurence Brassill OSA, Pauline Edwards and team offer a day of healing. *There will be a time of praise, worship, teaching and healing prayer. Do you suffer from fear, sickness, loneliness, abuse, rejection, depression or is 'something' holding you back? Jesus said: "Lay your hands on the sick and they will recover".* Come and see. Booking not required!

## **GENERAL ITEMS**

**SOUP LUNCH** 1:05pm Thursday 19 January in St Michael's Church. £3 per person. All proceeds to Christian Aid and CAFOD. All welcome!

**POETRY SHARE, WIT AND HUMOUR** 7pm Thurs 19 Jan at St Joseph's Church. *Laughter, from a little chuckle to a good belly laugh, is good for the soul.* Many well-known poets have used wit and humour to communicate, from Ogden Nash to Edward Lear and from Spike Milligan to Pam Ayres. Spot them in the montage on the poster together with Roald Dahl, Jenny Joseph, Carol Ann Duffy, John Cooper Clark and Hilaire Belloc. **Come and share the fun of poetry. Please bring a poem you have enjoyed over the years, or one you have written.**

**CAFOD Portsmouth Supporters' Meeting Saturday 4 February 2017** from 10am—1:30pm at St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. There will be a special talk on our livelihoods work in Zambia (our Lenten focus) by Mark Chamberlain and a chance to hear an update on all our exciting campaigns from Dan Hale.

**PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOUR VALUABLES WHILST AT MASS** handbags have been stolen in the past.

**YEMEN CRISIS:** CAFOD is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) – a coalition of leading aid agencies which has launched an appeal to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen.

*The civil war between the Houthi ethnic group and supporters of Yemen's government is now into its second year. The UN estimates that the conflict has killed more than 10,000 people, with 6,000 people killed this year alone. The resulting humanitarian crisis is significant. More than 7 million in Yemen do not know where their next meal will come from. CAFOD's partner in Yemen is providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, medical care and shelter. To donate go to their website at <http://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/yemen-crisis-appeal>*

**'UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF THE BIBLE'** a DVD course by Jeff Cavins ..... to be run at St Edmund's Hall during Lent. The course commences at 7:30pm on Tuesday 14 February. Email the Parish Office if you would like your name added to the list.

**CHRISTMAS EDITION OF PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE** has info about **Stephen Walford's new book Communion of Saints.** All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to Aid to the Church in Need for the persecuted Christians of the Middle East. The book has Bishop Philip's Imprimatur and a foreword by the Cardinal Archbishop of Quebec.

### **THANK YOU:**

- to all who enabled us to celebrate worthily the Birth of the Lord: cleaners, stewards, decorators, choirs & musicians, ministers, staplers, Parish Office volunteers, counters, bankers ... the list is endless ...
- to all who volunteer for programmes, activities, ministries and practical work in so many ways. Your help and commitment is much appreciated. We couldn't manage without your support.

**ST ANNE'S CONSULTATION ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS—SEPTEMBER 2018.** As required by regulations, the governing body of St Anne's will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2018—2019 from 16/12/16 to 27/1/2017. See noticeboard for the proposed changes. Copies can be obtained online at [www.st-annes.uk.com](http://www.st-annes.uk.com) or email [flangford@st-annes.uk.com](mailto:flangford@st-annes.uk.com)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Mary Berridge, Joachim Rodrigues, Ken Rouse, Robert Rymill, Tony McCall, Donna Madden, Joyce Mguni, Caroline Gailor, Rosa Santos, Fr David Hutton, Lucky & Sujata, Mano, Nelum, Felicity Singleton, Sheila & Clare Morris, Morris Penny, John Redhead, Jackie Duggan, Esther Pananwela, Noreen Kealy, Kay Kelly, Colm O'Riordan, Valerie Summerton, Simon Parry, Sue Tutton, Alex Boyle, Janette Brookes, Joy Grant, Joanne Cunio, Ludwig Basisty, Irene Green, JL, Malcolm Cross, Teresa Adams, Judy Brown, O'Hanlon family, John Morris, Paul Sassu, Moyra Clearkin, Peter Scott, Phyllis Grattan, HE, Virginia Monteiro, Maria Annunziata, Jean Kaye, Vera Morris, Perry Cunio, Mike Mantle, Maria Farrao, NW, Bosco and Myra Andrade, Joe Sculley, Josie Franklin, John O'Reilly, Bridget Busk, Pam Bennett, Pauldia Grant and all parishioners who are ill, having surgery or on our prayer list.

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEKS BEGINNING SUNDAYS 25 DECEMBER 2016 & 1 JANUARY 2017

\*(Key to City Centre Catholic Masses below are SJ = St Joseph's Church, Bugle Street, SO14 2AH and SE = St Edmund's Church, The Avenue, SO17 1XJ)

SAT	24 DECEMBER 2016	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>	6:00PM *SE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH 9:00PM SE MASS IN POLISH 11:30PM SJ PEOPLE OF THE PARISH 11:30PM SE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
SUN	25 DEC	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	9:00AM SE MARGARET SINCLAIR RIP (MY) 10:00AM SJ JANUSZ EUGENIUSZ KOBYLINSKI RIP (DN) 11:00AM SE ERIC CLARKE RIP (MC)
MON	26 DEC	<b>ST STEPHEN</b>	11:00AM SE CHEVALIER MB DISSANAYAKE RIP (ANUSHKA & FRANCIS)
TUES	27 DEC	<b>ST JOHN</b>	10:00AM SE PATRIK & FAMILY—GOD'S BLESSINGS (RK)
WED	28 DEC	<b>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</b>	12 NOON SJ REQUIEM MASS: JOSEPHINE LEIGH RIP 7:00PM SE PARISH OFFICE & PRIESTS—GOD'S BLESSINGS (RK)
THURS	29 DEC	<b>ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY</b>	12:15PM SJ SOULS IN PURGATORY (RK)
FRI	30 DEC	<b>THE HOLY FAMILY</b>	7:00PM SE MAREK & MALGORZATA—GOD'S BLESSINGS, CONVERSION & DELIVERANCE (RK)
SAT	31 DEC	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	11:00AM SE EWELINA—GOD'S BLESSINGS & CONVERSION (RK) 6:15PM SJ JOAN HALL RIP (MY) 7:00PM SE MASS IN POLISH
SUN	1 JANUARY 2017	<b>MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD</b>	9:00AM SE PHYLLIS GRATTAN—GOD'S BLESSINGS, HEALING, THANKSGIVING & WELLBEING (NW&AW) 10:00AM SJ KATIE & WILLY COADY RIP (COADY FAMILY) 11:00AM SE GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS FOR A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR FOR THE WHOLE UNIVERSE (ANUSHKA & FRANCIS) 7:00PM SE MICHAEL FINNIGAN RIP (DB&EB)
TUES	3 JAN	<b>THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS</b>	10:00AM SE MICHAEL BROPHY RIP & DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS (F)
WED	4 JAN	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	7:00PM SE PETER CARNEY RIP (F)
THURS	5 JAN	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	12:15PM SJ DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE EDGE & WHITE FAMILIES (F)
FRI	6 JAN	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	7:00PM SE ROBERT & FAMILY—PAST & PRESENT GOD'S BLESSINGS (RK)
SAT	7 JAN	<b>LITURGY OF THE DAY</b>	11:00AM SE JOSEPHINE AWOTINDE—THANKSGIVING & GOD'S MERCY (JA) 6:15PM SJ SEÁN, KATHLEEN & STEWART ADAMSON RIP (DC) 7:00PM SE MASS IN POLISH
SUN	8 JAN	<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>	9AM SE LEO STOY—THANKSGIVING (JS) 10AM SJ IAN MORLEY RIP (FM) 11AM SE MARY O'SULLIVAN'S INTENTIONS (DS) 7PM SE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

## SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER 2016—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

### Psalms Response:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth. Alleluia!

## SUNDAY 1 JANUARY 2017—MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

### Psalms Response: O God, be gracious and bless us.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son. Alleluia!

## READINGS SUNDAY 1 JANUARY 2017

### MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

First Reading: Numbers 6:22—27  
Second Reading: Galatians 4:4—7  
Gospel Reading: Luke 2:16—21

## READINGS SUNDAY 8 JANUARY 2017

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1—6  
Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2—3, 5—6  
Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1—12

## ALL CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS (24/25 DECEMBER):

### FOR OUR PRIESTS

### 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK:

### CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND

### SECOND COLLECTION 8 JANUARY 2017: HCPT

Collections 18.12.16

1st

2nd CATHOLIC  
HOME CARE

Total

£2,436.35

£432.00

Cash

865.59

268.87

S / O

1,256.61

130.50

Gift Aid Tax

314.15

32.63

Thank you for your generous contributions. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.

## CONFESSION TIMES

**St Edmund's:** Saturdays 11:30am  
**St Joseph's:** Thursdays 11:45am  
Saturdays 5:45pm

### Contact Details:

**Parish Priest:** Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey  
E-mail address: vharvey@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
**Assistant Priest:** Father Ross Bullock  
E-mail address: rbullock@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
**Assistant Priest:** Father Tomy Chirackalmanavalan  
E-mail address: fathertomy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Presbytery Tel. No: 023 8033 4891  
Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ