



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

A PARISH OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH IN THE CARE OF THE SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

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Office Hours: 10am – 12am

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21st July 2024 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear friends,

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians. A warm welcome to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors.

The Book of Genesis tells us that God ‘rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing’. That sends a powerful message. All of us need to regularly be able to step back from the routine, from our normal work patterns, to take and make the time and space to rest, to recharge the batteries, to recuperate, to re-create.

Last week we heard Jesus send out Apostles in pairs to minister to the people., and from Mark’s account, they had a busy time, preaching, casting out devils, and healing the sick. This week they report back, and Jesus tells them to take some time to rest. No doubt the apostles were looking forward for the time they could be alone with the Jesus, to rest and relax, to reflect on their recent experiences and to tell their stories.

Their rest is short-lived. As we hear in today’s Gospel, the crowds will not let them rest. Not only that, but they second guess where Jesus is going and arrive before him. Mark tells us that when Jesus saw the crowd “he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them.” A true shepherd looking after his flock.

This role of the shepherd to gather and lead the people is highlighted in our first Reading where God promises to shepherd his people, Israel. “The Lord is God; we are his people, the sheep of his flock.” This sense of belonging is continued by Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, where he teaches us that Christ has reconciled us with God and united us in peace - we are one body, irrespective of background, united together in Christ. Like the Good Shepherd, we are also called to put ourselves at the service of others.

The school year is almost over and soon some families will be going away for a summer break. This is an opportunity to say a big ‘thank you’ to all our teachers who work so hard to do their best for all our children and their families. We wish all our parents, teachers, ancillary staff and pupils, a very refreshing summer holiday.

Whenever and wherever you take your rest, keep safe.

ANNUAL LEAVE Fr Michael is away on holiday until Wednesday, 31st July. There will be no weekday Masses, Monday to Friday and Saturday mornings, during this period.

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Sat 20 th July Vigil Mass 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17.00	Eileen Brown Int
Sun 21 st July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish
There are no weekday Masses or Adoration this week.		
Sat 27 th July Vigil Mass 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17.00	Patricia Sinclair RIP
Sun 28 th July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish

READINGS AT MASS You can view the readings for the masses at <https://universalis.com/mass.htm>

This Monday we will welcome the whole St Patrick’s School community to Church for their Leaver’s Mass. An opportunity for the school to celebrate with and say farewell to Class 6, as they look forward to new and exciting challenges.

MRS PAULA DIX We offer our prayers and thanks in particular to Mrs Paula Dix, the retiring Executive Headteacher of St Patrick’s and St Bernadette’s Schools who will be retiring at the end of this term. We are so very grateful for the commitment and dedication she has shown in the 31 years she has been working at St Patricks and St Bernadette’s. In that time, she has touched the lives of countless children and their families. At a Celebration Mass last Friday, attended by both schools, her family, and guests, Mrs Dix was awarded the Diocesan Medal in recognition of her major contribution to the catholic education of our children. Thank you, Paula.

BAPTISM: We welcome into the family of the Church Lila Eva Margaret Paice, who was baptised last Sunday Please pray for her, her brother, parents, and godparents. May she grow to know the love and care of the Lord and her belonging in the family of the Church.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS All those who are sick, those who are housebound, those who are unable to join us in person at our celebration of the Eucharist, those who are mentioned in our Parish Book of Prayer Intentions and all who have asked for our prayers.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME: Innocenza Sebastian, Joan Carter, Wilfred Page, Mary Whittle, Kathleen Bowen, Jane Rodgers, Catherine Young, Fr Alfred Pilbeam SDB, John Wiffen, Dorothy Morley, Antony Rawlins, Bruce Sinclair, Derek Arthy, Regina Wilkin, Albert (Wilky) Wilkinson, Thomas and Angela Alexander, James Flay, Grace Carver, Maria Lukaszewicz, Patricia Wentwood, Mary Thompson, Paul Johnson, and Megan Wall. May they rest in peace.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY: During July, Pope Francis is encouraging us to pray for the pastoral care of the sick. *We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.*

THE ROSARY is prayed after Sunday morning mass at Our Lady's statue in the Church. This is an opportunity for parishioners to participate in this great prayer tradition of the Church and to meditate on the life of Christ.

NEW SUNDAY MISSALS With the introduction of the new Lectionary in Advent, new Sunday Missals with the updated texts will also be available. If you are thinking of purchasing your own copy of the Sunday Missal, these links may be of interest:

Redemptorist Publications:

<https://mailchi.mp/aef69947c3e0/yournewsundaymissal>

The Catholic Truth Society:

<https://www.ctsbooks.org/product/sunday-missal-2025>

Other outlets may become available as we move closer to Advent.

THE NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU! We are happy to share news and information about our Parish in the Newsletter Please contact David May if there is any news and information you would like to share. 'No News! Is not Good News!!'

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS 21st June to 18th July

Envelopes	£60.00
Loose Plate	£257.65
S/O Gift Aid	£1735.30
S/O Non-Gift Aid	£76.00

Total £2128.95

Thank you.

DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP We meet on the fourth Tuesday in each month at 7.30 pm. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 30 July. Come and share your reflections, questions, and insights on our Catholic faith and values. A very warm welcome awaits.

SOCIAL GROUP We have recently held two very enjoyable social events. We would like to build on their success by holding more events. To that end, we are looking to form a Social Group to plan and organise future activities. Would you be a member of such a group? Please speak to Helen Priestley, Anne-Marie Maher-Williams or David May.

HALL HIRINGS We are hoping to open the Hall for parties, functions etc. To make it possible, we need an individual or group of people prepared to take Hall bookings, and manage the use of the Hall, including opening and closing after use. Again, please speak to a member of the Parish Council.

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH Financial contributions to the Parish may be made by placing a donation in the collection, by standing Order or BACS transfer. Please use the Parish Sort Code: 30-93-04 and Account Number: 00877868

Name: CDP Our Lady Help of Christians.

Queries please email: accounts@olhcarnborough.org.uk.

If you are a UK Taxpayer please ensure your donations are covered by a Gift Aid Declaration. Forms are available in the Narthex, or you can download the form off the Website.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like a Mass offered for your intentions, please write your intention and date you would like on an envelope, enclose your donation and either give it to Fr Michael or put it through the door of the Parish House. Please write your telephone number on the envelope so we can call you if your requested date is already booked. You can also email your Mass intention to olhc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

28th July	World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly
30th July	Discussion and Fellowship Group
15th August	Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady - Holy Day of Obligation
7th September	Special Anniversary Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke
7th September	March for Life, London
14th September	Parish 'Big Clean'
15th September	'Adoremus', the National Eucharistic Congress
21st September	Bingo
22nd September	Parish Brunch (24 th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Church)

