



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 – 12pm

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Hynes SDB

Parish Deacon: Rev. Paul Page-Tickell

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Website: www.olhcarnborough.org.uk

FaceBook: Our Lady Help of Christians RC Church Farnborough

Parish Safeguarding Contact: safeguarding.FARNH@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

11th May 2025 - 4th Sunday of Easter

Habemus Papam!

We keep Pope Leo XIV, the successor of St Peter, in our prayers. We pray that he will be strengthened in his ministry of Shepherd of the Church and be guided by the Holy Spirit. We pray that he will continue to build bridges and reach out to those who feel marginalised so that we will be in name and practice an inclusive Church.

Dear friends,

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians. Everyone is welcome, no matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey.

This weekend, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is Good Shepherd Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We are encouraged to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for all vocations to all states of life and ministry in the Church.

While the emphasis this Sunday is on vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious life, it is also an opportunity for us as individuals and as a community to reflect on our relationship with Jesus and His personal invitation and call to be a disciple. Where and how does God ask me to serve him?

Our primary vocation is to Love – to love God and those around us perfectly. From that start point, each one of us has a unique vocation from God; each of us is called to proclaim the Good News and carry God's love to all those we encounter in the wider community. Vocations to marriage, to ordained ministries and to the religious life are all necessary to the mission of God's Church. Through our Baptism we are called to serve. How do I respond to that call?

This weekend there is the annual collection for the Clergy Training Fund. The Fund looks after the training of students for the priesthood in our Diocese. The Fund also supports the ongoing formation of our ordained priests.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

We pray for all who are ill, 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.

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Sat 10 th May	10.00 10.30	Mass <i>Reconciliation</i>
Vigil Mass 4th Sunday of Easter	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 11 th May 4th Sunday of Easter	9.30	Mass
Mon 12 th May	9.30	John Joe Doherty RIP
Tue 13 th May	9.30	Bridie Potter Int
Wed 14 th May	9.30	Richard Miles RIP
Thu 15 th May	9.30 7.30pm	Mass <i>Adoration</i>
Fri 16 th May	9.30	Mass
Sat 17 th May	10.00 10.30	Mass <i>Reconciliation</i>
Vigil Mass 5th Sunday of Easter	17.00	People of the Parish
Sun 18 th May 5th Sunday of Easter	9.30	Mass

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Eight young members of our Parish community will be celebrating their First Holy Communion on Sunday, 15th June at 11.00am. We keep them, their families and their catechists in our prayers.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME

Antonia 'Toni' Mann, Greta Williams, Millicent Dooner, John Murray, Margaret Sinclair, Patrick Sheehy, James Morgan, Lewis Burke, Mary O'Farrell and Nora Mullins. May they rest in peace.

DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The next meeting of the Discussion and Fellowship Groups will be on Tuesday, 27 May. Come and share your reflections, questions, and insights on our Catholic faith and values.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARY MASS

Any couples celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years are welcome to join Bishop Philip at a Mass of celebration at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke on Saturday 21st June at 11am. Mass will be followed by a buffet lunch. Please email anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to request a form for you to complete and return.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025

The pilgrimage will be from Monday 7th July until Friday 11th July. Flights from Heathrow. Further details can be on the poster and booking form in the Narthex. Contact details: email Lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk telephone 07780221686, or write to Canon PJ Smith at St Edmund's House, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth PO1 3QA

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We are looking for volunteers to join our team of Eucharistic Minister who assist in the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass. We would also like to establish a pool of Ministers who would be prepared to take Holy Communion to those members of the Community who are unable to attend Mass.

Please speak to Fr Michael if you feel called to this important Ministry.

Training will be provided.

ASSISTED SUICIDE LEGISLATION

The Report stage of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) will take place on 16th May. We need you to contact your MP now, even if we have done so in the past, to voice your opposition to this Bill.

The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to input your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law. Click

<https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote> to contact your MP via the Right to Life UK website.

THE PARISH BIG CLEAN - Saturday, 31st May!!!

Would you be prepared to spend an hour or so on Saturday, 31 May helping tidy up the grounds and give the Church and Hall a 'Spring Clean' in preparation for Pentecost and our celebration of First Holy Communion?

The more members of the Parish Family who can join us, the easier the task and we can make the time we spend together fun and enjoyable. We can offer a cup of tea, coffee, or juice and a biscuit to keep you going and the satisfaction of working as a Parish Team.

JOURNEY TO PENTECOST

The Diocesan Formation for Mission Team are offering various events in preparation for the great Feast of Pentecost.

Holy Spirit Novena - Friday, 30th May to Saturday, 7th June
The Novena will run daily from 8:00pm - 8:30pm and will be held via Zoom.

There will also be 2 short talks:

Saturday, 31st May - 8.30pm - 9.00pm

The Sacrament of Confession: A Sacrament of Hope

Wednesday, 4th June 8.30pm - 9.00pm

The Sacrament of the Eucharist: Strength and Comfort for Pilgrims

Holy Spirit Day - Saturday, 7th June 9.30am-1.30pm

This is an in-person event held at English Martyrs Church (64 Liebenrood Road, Reading, RG31 2EB) with Charis Portsmouth. Please bring your own packed lunch to eat, tea and coffee will be provided.

To register for the Novena or the Holy Spirit Day please go to www.tinyurl.com/FFMNovena or email ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

RED MISSIO BOXES

Please bring your Red Missio Boxes to Church so that it can be emptied and your donation counted. This is a tangible way of uniting with the Missionary Church. Please speak to Kate Boardman if you would like a Red Box.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial contributions to the Parish may be made by placing a donation in the collection basket, 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.

Gift Aid Declaration Forms are available in the Narthex, or you can download the form off the Website

NEWS

For news and events around the Diocese please visit Bishop Philip's E-News at

<https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/communications/news/enews/>

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

20th May	CWL Meeting
27th May	Discussion and Fellowship Meeting
29th May	Feast of the Ascension (A Holy Day of Obligation)
31st May	Parish Big Clean
8th June	Feast of Pentecost (Parish Brunch)
15th June	Celebration of First Holy Communion