



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

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

1a Sherborne Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6JS Tel: 01252 545364

Office Hours: 10am – 12pm

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Hynes SDB

Parish Deacon: Rev. Paul Page-Tickell

E-mail: olhc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk OR The Parish Office: office@olhcfarnborough.org.uk

Website: www.olhcfarnborough.org.uk

Facebook: Our Lady Help of Christians RC Church Farnborough

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

27th October 2024 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

In the passage from Mark's Gospel, we hear how the blind beggar, Bartimaeus, calls out to Jesus to save and heal him. Bartimaeus is sitting by the wayside, relying on others for help. He is blind but he has the eyes of faith: he recognises Jesus and Jesus responds.

Jesus' compassion in responding to Bartimaeus, contrasts with that of his disciples and followers. One of the features in the story is the way that some of those accompanying Jesus, were prepared to ignore Bartimaeus and walk by. To them, Bartimaeus was a distraction from their journey with Jesus. When people try to shut him up, Bartimaeus cries all the louder. It is Jesus who stops, hears Bartimaeus' call for help, and invites him to come forward.

How often do we in our journey with the Lord, ignore the concerns, the struggles, the interests of others, their call for help, healing, and forgiveness? How often are we more focused on our schedule and overlook that of others? How can we show the same compassion and understanding that Jesus had for Bartimaeus?

In reflecting on this passage from the Gospel, Pope Francis commented: 'Jesus' disciples are called to this, even today, especially today: to bring people into contact with the compassionate Mercy that saves. When humanity's cry, like Bartimaeus', becomes stronger still, there is no other response than to make Jesus' words our own and, above all, imitate his heart. Moments of suffering and conflict are for God occasions of mercy. Today is a time of mercy!

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS, Friday, 1st November is a Holyday of Obligation. Mass will be at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

THE FEAST OF ALL SOULS, Saturday, 2nd November Mass is at 10.00am during which the names of those whose funerals have taken place in this parish during the last past 12 months will be read out. A Remembrance Book will be available from next weekend in the Narthex for you to write the names of deceased family and friends.

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Sat 26 th October	10.00	
Vigil Mass 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.00pm	
Sun 27 th October 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish
Mon 28 th October Saints Simon and Jude	9.30	
Tue 29 th October	9.30	
Wed 30 th October	9.30	Grace & Frederick May RIP
Thu 31 st October	9.30	
Fri 1 st November Feast of All Saints	9.30am 7.30pm	A Holy Day of Obligation
Sat 2 nd November Feast of All Souls	10.00	
Vigil Mass 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 3 rd November 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	

Confessions: Saturday after 10.00 am Mass

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

ADORATION - Thursday 7.30-8.30pm A time for silent reflection before the Blessed Sacrament. You are welcome to attend all or part of Adoration.

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.

For an end to violence and war in the Middle East, the release of all hostages and a peaceful and just settlement of the causes of the conflict.

ROSARY FOR PEACE The Farnborough Knights of St Columba next Rosary for Peace is on Thursday, 31 October at Our Lady's, Kings Road, Fleet at 7.30pm. The Rosary will be followed by Benediction. All are welcome.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME: Seán Power, Kathleen Brennan, Maureen Bailey, Fr John Dawson SDB, Maureen Soulsby, Nora Burke, Ellen Curry, Thomas Connelly, Leslie Curry, George Still, Phillip Cantwell, Grace May, Eileen Hack, Freddie Hughes, Frank Young, Christine Duguid, Kevin McGrath, George Pearce and John Loader. May they rest in peace.

'ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL' As a Catholic community who believes in the sanctity of all human life, it is incumbent on us to engage in the debate surrounding the 'Assisted Suicide Bill' which has been introduced before Parliament. The Bill has its Second Reading on Friday, 29 November. The Bishops' Conference has produced some helpful information resources to help us understand the issues and concerns we should share. It is to be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/> Cardinal Vincent Nicholls, the Archbishop of Westminster has produced a very helpful Pastoral letter which is available at <https://rcdow.org.uk/cardinal/homilies/pastoral-letter-on-assisted-suicide/>

We should not overlook the impact a personal letter can have on the understanding and attitude of members of Parliament. We encourage you to contact your MP to ask them to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law.

DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP, Tuesday, 29th October at 7.30 pm Do you want to understand more fully the structure of the Mass and how the Mass makes Jesus present to us? Come and join us on as we continue to deepen our understanding with the help of the programme 'Understanding the Mass', presented by Fr Francis Cole OFM. If you are unable to join us or wish to see what we have been discussing, the video can be seen on You Tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7fix1hIJB0&t=34s> A very warm welcome awaits you and we look forward to seeing you.

CHRISTMAS FAIR, Saturday, 7th December. 6 weeks to go!!!! Now is the time to put aside the bottles, fancy goods etc. We need volunteers for the Tombola, Toys, Christmas Gifts and Cake Stalls. If you are interested in helping, please speak to a member of the Parish Council. Your ideas and input are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION The sessions begin on Thursday, 14th November. There will be an introductory Meeting for the parents on Tuesday 12th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Narthex.

If your child is in year 3 or over this September and would like to make their First Holy Communion next year, please complete the application form online as soon as possible at.

https://forms.office.com/e/_PpQkDMUWse The form can also be accessed on the Parish Website.

COFFEE & CHAT: Everyone is welcome in the Hall after the Mass on a Saturday evening, Sunday morning and the 9.30 Mass on a Wednesday for tea and coffee. It is a great opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners.

CALLING ALL READERS On the First Sunday of Advent - 1st December, the New Lectionary will be introduced. It is important that all Readers become familiar with the Lectionary to proclaim the Word effectively - clearly and with faith. We will be holding a couple of sessions for current, new readers and anyone drawn to this important Ministry. Please make it a priority to attend one of these sessions.

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.

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

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS 12th to 18th October

Envelopes	£135.00
Loose Plate	£381.53
S/O Gift Aid	£132.00
S/O Non-Gift Aid	£10.00
CAFOD	£156.40

Total **£814.93**

Thank you

NEWSLETTER 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

29th October	Fellowship and Discussion Group
31st November	KSC Rosary for Peace - Our Lady's, Kings Road, Fleet
1st November	Feast of All Saints - Holy Day of Obligation
12th November	Meeting with Parents of the First Holy Communion Group
14th November	FHC First Session
24th November	Parish Brunch - Feast of Christ the King
7th December	Christmas Fair