



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

Deacon: Rev. Paul Page-Tickell

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24th August 2025 - 21st 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 Gospel today, Jesus uses the image of a door to remind us that we are called to participate in his mission and that we should not be complacent or take the promise of salvation for granted. To claim to be a follower of Jesus is not enough by itself to open the door. We must demonstrate by the way we live our lives, in our relationship to God and those around us that we are his followers. Only then, will we be able to pass through the door.

God wants us all to be in his Kingdom, to share in his salvation and eternal life with him. Salvation is a free gift from God. God does not close the door: we do that by the choices we make. Jesus is the narrow gate and to be saved we must be Christ like in the way we live our lives, to act and love like Jesus - to take our cross and live to die to oneself and to live for others. We must remain focused on Jesus

We are all invited to the Wedding Feast. How we respond to that invitation determines whether we are worthy to attend the Feast he has prepared for us. Doing nothing is not an option.

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Saturday 23rd August	10.00 10.30	Gevia Sizal Fernandes RIP <i>Reconciliation</i>
Vigil Mass 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.00pm	Maureen Panther RIP Tea/Coffee available after Mass
Sunday 24th August 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish Tea/Coffee available after Mass
Monday 25th August	There is no Weekday Mass	
Tuesday 26th August	9.30	Mass
Wednesday 27th August	9.30	Andrew Hall RIP Tea/Coffee available after Mass
Thursday 28th August	9.30	Mass
Friday 29th August	9.30 1.00pm	Mass Wedding
Saturday 30th August	10.00 10.30	Mass <i>Reconciliation</i>
Vigil Mass 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.00pm	Sean Panther RIP Tea/Coffee available after Mass
Sunday 31st August 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish Tea/Coffee available after Mass

Please note there is no Exposition on a Thursday evening during August

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.

ANNIVERSARIES Paul Sheridan, Christopher Gregory, Andrew Hall, Dora Yates, William Smith, John Bartlett and all with anniversaries at this time. May they rest in peace.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

THE ROSARY The Rota for the Living Rosary to pray for Peace is displayed on the Notice Board in the Narthex. If you would like to join, please speak to Kate Boardman.

All parishioners are welcome to join in praying the Rosary after Sunday morning mass at Our Lady's statue in the Church, to pray for Peace in the world and any special intentions.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS We are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the dedication of the Church of Our Lady Help of Christians here in Farnborough with two major events in September. So let us join together to thank God for the 25 years we have worshipped God in our 'new' Church, for the Salesian ministry, to rededicate our Parish, to renew our commitment to our Mission, to build our Faith, to build our Parish Family.

Sunday, 21 September 10.00 Mass at 10.30, followed by a Parish Reception

Tuesday, 23 September 7.30pm Mass and Rededication of our Parish to Our Lady Help of Christians.

There is a basket in the Narthex and we now have Card Readers for donations to cover the cost of those celebrations.

We invited you to dig out photographs you may have recording the rich variety of experiences and blessings, we have shared at Our Lady Help of Christians - Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Weddings, Processions, Parties etc. It would be helpful if you could leave any photographs we could display to record that history in the Sacristy as soon as possible, and no later than 13 September, to allow us to prepare and mount the photographic exhibition. It is important that you mark the back of each photograph with your name and to ensure we return the photographs to the correct home. Please let David or Fr Michael know if you would like to help mount the exhibition. Volunteers as always, welcome!

'DEEP CLEAN' Saturday 13 September. The more members of the Parish Family who can join us for the Autumn Deep Clean, the easier the task and we can make the time we spend together fun and enjoyable. There is a role for everyone! Tea, coffee, squash, and biscuits will be provided to keep you going.

FLOWERS Could you join a team willing to help arrange the floral displays in the Church. Please speak to Christine Wilson or Fr Michael.

MASS INTENTIONS The Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest possible prayer of intercession. To request a Mass to be offered within the parish, please speak to Fr Michael, or post a written request with an offering through the Office letterbox, with details of the proposed date and time of the Mass.

INCOME FIGURES 9th August to 22nd August 2025 Offertory Collection: Loose Plate £278.05; Envelopes £30.00; Contactless £44.25; S/O Gift Aid £504.00; S/O Non Gift Aid £16.00; 25th Anniversary Fund £197.67. Thank you.

SUPPORT YOUR PARISH Parishioners who wish to contribute to the financial support of the Parish can do so by placing a donation in the collection or by standing Order or BACS transfer.

Queries please email: accounts@olhcfarnborough.org.uk

If you are a UK Taxpayer please ensure your donations are covered by a Gift Aid Declaration Form. Unless you have completed the Form, we will not be able to claim Gift Aid on your donations. Forms are available in the Narthex, or you can download the form off the Website.

HALL HIRE The hall is available for Hire for parties, celebrations and special events. For details and availability, please contact Olein Webster at: olhchallhire@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13th September	Parish 'Big Clean'
14th September	Education Sunday
20th/ 21st September	Second Collection for Home Missions
21st September	25th Anniversary Celebrations: 10.30 Mass followed by Parish Lunch
23rd September	25th Anniversary Celebrations: Rededication of the Parish to Our Lady Help of Christians
6th December	Christmas Fayre

A FINAL THOUGHT

In the sense that to be saved, one must love God and one's neighbour, and this is not, comfortable! It is a 'narrow door' because it is demanding, it requires commitment, indeed, 'effort', that is to say, a determined and persevering will to live according to the Gospel. **Pope Francis' Angelus Address 25 August 2019: On Striving to Enter the Narrow Door to Paradise**