



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

17th November 2024 - 33rd 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.

As we approach the end of the Church's Liturgical Year, our readings this Sunday invite us to reflect on the "end times", the second coming of Jesus.

On one level the readings are not very reassuring or encouraging. Daniel talks of 'a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence'. Jesus also describes a time when the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, stars will fall from the sky, and the heavens shaken. Despite this bleak picture there is hope.

Things will change but we should not be afraid of changes. We are challenged to believe in the Resurrection. Every time we recite the Creed, we profess our belief that Jesus Christ 'will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end'.

Paul tells us in his letter to the Hebrews, that Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins, and took his seat forever at the right hand of God. Jesus has saved us. As Jesus promised his followers: 'The Son of Man coming in the clouds will send his angels to gather his chosen from the ends of the world'.

It is not for us to attempt to predict when the Second Coming will happen. That is a futile exercise. We live in the present, not the future. The decisions we make today, the way we respond to God's love for us and the way we express our love for our neighbour that will determine our place in God's kingdom.

Despite any anxiety we may have, the end of the Liturgical Year is a time to trust in God's word and to look forward to the joy of Advent and Christmas.

WORLD YOUTH DAY Next week we will celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, which is also celebrated as World Youth Day. It is a day, promoted by Pope Francis, to encourage every Catholic faith community around the world to celebrate and reflect on youth and young adults annually on the Feast of Christ the King.

Mass Times, Intentions and Events for the Week

Sat 16 th November St Edmund of Abingdon, Patron of the Diocese	10.00	
Vigil Mass 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.00pm	
Sun 17 th November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish
Mon 18 th November	9.30	
Tue 19 th November	9.30	
Wed 20 th November	9.30	
Thu 21 st November	9.30 7.30pm	Adoration
Fri 22 nd November	9.30	Julie Humphrey RIP
Sat 23 rd November	10.00	Grefa & Clifford Fernandez (WA)
Vigil Mass Feast of Christ the King	5.00pm	Henrietta Owen RIP
Sun 24 th November Feast of Christ the King	9.30	People of the Parish

Confessions: Saturday after 10.00 am Mass

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: Kate Fletcher, Violet Cairns, Angela Veal, 'Peggy' Wintermyer, Sean Whittle, Margaret Waite, Clara Noyce, James Taylor, Blanche Darwen, Ann Walker, Jean McKelvey, Lydia Clarkson, Harley Anthony, Fr Thomas O'Flynn SDB, Eileen Westby, Maurice Cockrem, Fr Joseph McVeigh SDB, Maria Marshal-Deane, Maureen Judge, Louise Harding, and Sarah Ogden. May they rest in peace.

REMEMBRANCE BOOK In November we remember in a particular way, deceased family member, friends, members of our Parish community. The Book of Remembrance for you to write their names is available in the Narthex. Those whose names are entered in the Book will be remembered at all Masses celebrated during November.

COLETTE ASTILL RIP Colette's Funeral Mass will take place at Our Lady and St Dominic's Church, Cove at 10.00 on Friday, 6 December.

BISHOPS' STATEMENT ON ASSISTED SUICIDE. The Catholic Bishops of England, Wales and Scotland have issued a statement on Assisted Suicide ahead of the Second Reading of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. In it, the bishops explain exactly what 'compassion' means at the end of life – caring for and accompanying people, particularly during times of suffering. The statement also strongly defends the vulnerable in society who are at risk through this proposed legislation, and the bishops advocate for better funded palliative care to be consistently available to everyone in need. Their statement can be found at:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-statement-assisted-suicide-nov24/>

There is still time to write to your member of Parliament asking them to oppose assisted suicide becoming law. We should not overlook the impact a personal letter can have.

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

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE The next meeting of the CWL will be on **Tuesday, 19th November**. New members are always welcome.

CHRISTMAS FAIR, Saturday, 7th December from 11.00am. We need items for the Tombola, Bottle, Fancy Goods, Christmas Gifts, Toys and Games, Cake stalls and Raffle Prizes. We also need Plant Holders and Vases for floral displays for sale.

Help on setting up the Stalls on Friday 6th December or the morning of 7th December. Items for the fair may be left in the box in the Narthex.

NEXT WEEK: Please bring your donations of Plant Holders and Vases, Bottle and Fancy Goods. Thank you. If you would like to help in any way, please talk to Helen Priestley, Cathy Munns or David May.

PARISH BRUNCH, Sunday 24th November. We will celebrate the Feast of Christ the King and mark the end of the Liturgical year with a brunch after the 9.30 Mass. Please bring along a plate or dish of food to share. We are a multi-cultural parish, and this is a chance for you to show off your national cuisine to fellow members of the parish in a shared meal.

ADVENT GROUPS Advent is a time for reflection and preparation. As part of that process, you are invited to join a weekly Lectio Divina hour led by Brother Martin SDB. The sessions are informal and are based on the traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's Word. It is about making the Word of God a living Word in our lives. The sessions will be held on Fridays during Advent starting on 29th November and then on 6th, 13th and 20th December 7pm-8pm. Please speak to Anne-Marie Maher-Williams if you have any questions. Do join us. You would be very welcome.

MINCE PIES AND COFFEE Wednesday, 11th December. The CWL invite you to enjoy a mince Pie and cup of coffee or tea after the morning Mass. Proceeds to Charity.

THE NEW LECTIONARY The Bishops' Conference is recommending 3 videos provided by the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh on the new Lectionary.

Fr Paul Denny on "Why is the new lectionary is important?"

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lectionary-video-importance/>

Bishop Hugh Gilbert on "Introducing the English Standard Version"

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lectionary-video-esv/>

Fr Adrian Porter SJ on "Proclaiming the Word"

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lectionary-video-readers/>

If you are wishing to gain an insight as the new Lectionary, these are the resources for you!

There is a meeting for our Parish readers on Tuesday, 19th November, between 7pm - 8pm.

CHRISTMAS CARDS There is a selection of Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars, Candles, Cribs etc for sale at the Repository counter after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning

CAFOD'S WORLD GIFTS World Gifts are CAFOD's alternative charity gifts that transform lives. Perfect for Christmas, you can choose a unique, virtual gift that will make a real difference to a family living in poverty. Copies of the catalogue are available in the Narthex or visit the World Gifts Website at: worldgifts.cafod.org.uk

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

19th November	Meeting of the Catholic Women's League
19th November	Session preparing for the new Lectionary
24th November	World Youth Sunday
24th November	Parish Brunch - Feast of Christ the King
29th November	Advent - Lectio Divina
7th December	Christmas Fair
11th December	CWL - Mince Pies and Hot Drinks

