



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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16th June 2024 - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear friends,

A very warm welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY We remember the influence of fathers in our lives, our parish and community.

We also thank God for the gift of our priests. They lead our Eucharistic community and through them we experience God's presence in the sacraments.

There is a horticultural theme to our readings today. The first reading from the Prophet Ezekiel and the Gospel both speak about starting a new plant, about sowing seed, about making something grow. Ezekiel takes the image of a tender shoot planted on a high mountain to describe how God will take something very small and make it grow into something that is strong, durable, and fruitful, that offers shelter and protection.

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus uses planting seeds to illustrate the power of God's word: once planted it must bear fruit. In the parable of the mustard seeds, the tiniest of seeds, it grows to become a large plant with branches so strong that the birds of the air can rest in them.

Paul reminds us that we are on a journey and our home is with the Lord in Heaven but while on this journey we must live by Faith. It is our Faith that guides our steps on the journey.

Like the seeds and new plants, the kingdom of heaven is about something new growing, in us and in the world around us. God is at work. Trust Him!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS All those who are sick, those who are mentioned in our Parish Book of Prayer Intentions, those sitting exams, and for all who have asked for our prayers.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME: Kevin Hoyle, Mary Mulligan, Cyril Bilyard, Fr Joseph Merriman SDB, Fr Des O'Riordan SDB, Kathleen Barnard, Eileen Cookson, Mary Venancia (Venie) Fernandes, Fr Betram Netto SDB, Veronica Goble, and Dolores Worlock. May they rest in peace.

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.

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Sat 15 th June	10.00	
Vigil Mass 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17.00	People of the Parish
Sun 16 th June 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	
Mon 17 th	9.30	
Tue 18 th	9.30	
Wed 19 th	9.30	
Thu 20 th	9.30	
Fri 21 st	9.30	
Sat 22 nd June Saints John Fisher and Thomas More	10.00	
Vigil Mass 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	17.00	Ken Edwards RIP
Sun 23 rd June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30	People of the Parish

Confessions: Saturday after 10:00 a.m. Mass.

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

PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE: We pray with Pope Francis for migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

DAY FOR LIFE is celebrated today. This year the theme is 'The Lord is my Shepherd - Compassion and Hope at the end of Life'. Our Bishops are us asking to promote the Catholic view of life as a gift and the importance of care at the end of life. You can read the full message on the Bishops' Conference website:

www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/

There is a **second collection**; the funds collected will support the work of protecting life in its most vulnerable stages.

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.

CAKE SALE 22/23 June raising funds for the new Lectionaries Donation of cakes very welcome. An opportunity to exercise those baking skills. No restriction on calorie count!!

DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP The next meeting will be on Tuesday 25 June. As start point for discussion, we will be looking at how we as individuals and as a Parish can contribute to three objectives for the Diocese for the next decade: to be a Christ-centred Church; to be a missionary community; to be prudent stewards of Christ's Church.

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/you-will-be-my-witnesses/>

Come and share your reflections, questions, and insights. A very warm welcome awaits you and we look forward to seeing you.

BINGO NIGHT Saturday 29 June 'Eyes down' Following the success of our Bingo Night in May, we are hoping to repeat the experience on Saturday, 29 June after the evening Mass Put the date in your diary. Again, all are welcome.

GENERAL ELECTION The Bishops' Conference have created a webpage about the issues important to Catholics:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD in a joint initiative have also produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates. Please check out their websites: svp.org.uk/encounter or cafod.org.uk/encounter for helpful information.

NEW LECTIONARIES Parishes will need to change over to the new edition of the Lectionary on 1 December. The changes provide a text which is intended for public proclamation and reflects up to date biblical scholarship. The cost of the four Volume Lectionary is approximately £695 and the Book of the Gospels £275. Would anyone, family or group like to sponsor a volume or part of a lectionary?

MRS PAULA DIX is retiring as Executive Headteacher of St Patrick's and St Bernadette's schools in the summer. There is an online message board for you to post your memories and thanks. Please add your message by 1st July. Here is the link: <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/1QGWYJ08>

LIFTING THE 50% CAP ON CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS The Government has opened a consultation on lifting the cap that for the last 14 years has limited the number of Catholic children that can be admitted into any new Catholic school. The consultation closes on 20 June. It is important that there is a strong response to the consultation. Please open the link and respond to the consultation. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/>

A SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS on Saturday 7th September at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke at 2pm. This is an opportunity to celebrate the gift of marriage and renew your commitment. Any couples celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years are welcome to attend. Please email anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for an application form.

MAINTENANCE The Maintenance Group would welcome volunteers. If you would like to help or notice areas around the Church and Hall that require work, please speak to Joe DeBono.

NEW MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY. If you have recently moved into the area and are joining us at Our Lady Help of Christians, please fill in a Parish Registration Form which you can find in the Narthex. This is important for us to know who you are and help you when the occasion arises.

RED MISSIO BOXES Please collect your Summer magazine and please bring your Red Box to Church to allow your donations to be counted.

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.

Please use the Parish Sort Code: 30-93-04 and Account Number: 00877868

Name: CDP Our Lady help Of Christians.

Queries please email: accounts@olhcfarnborough.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.

DATES FOR YOUR DARY

22th/23th June	Cake Sale
25th June	Discussion and Fellowship Group
29th June	Bingo Night
30th June	Feast of SS Peter & Paul (Transferred) - Second Collection - Peter's Pence
30th June	Celebration after Mass with our First Holy Communicants
7th July	Second Collection - Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)
15th August	Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady - Holy Day of Obligation
7th September	Special Anniversary Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke

THE NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU! We are happy to share news and information about our Parish in the Newsletter, but we need one key ingredient – your input! Please contact David May if there is any news and information you would like to share.