

# THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN GOSPORT



Saint Mary's High Street  
Saint Columba's Nobes Avenue



22nd/23rd SEPTEMBER 2018

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday Readings: Year 2 (B); Weekdays: Year II; Prayer of the Church: Week I

SAT 22	Twenty-Fifth Sunday	St Columba's	6pm	
SUN 23	“ “ Latin Mass	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's	9.15am 11am 5pm	People of the Parish Paul & Joseph Apap & Family RIP
Mon 24	Latin Mass	St Columba's	10am	Kateena O'Gorman (Thanksgiving)
Tue 25	Feria	St Mary's	12 noon	
Wed 26	Ss Cosmas & Damian	St Mary's	7pm	
Thu 27	St Vincent de Paul	St Columba's	10am	Helena Turner (Birthday Intentions)
Fri 28	St Wenceslaus	St Mary's	12 noon	Taboni & Turner Families RIP
Sat 29	Latin Mass Twenty-Sixth Sunday	St Mary's St Columba's	9.30am 6pm	Paul & Joseph Apap & Family RIP
Sun 30	“ “ Latin Mass	St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's	9.15am 11am 5pm	People of the Parish  Paul & Joseph Apap & Family RIP

Priest-in-Charge: Fr Serafino M. Lanzetta  
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Mass at 7pm on Wednesday is preceded by the Holy Rosary at 6.30pm.

In addition to the Masses listed above, Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form will usually be celebrated in St Mary's Church at 7am, Monday to Friday.

# PARISH NOTICES

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## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:**

in St Mary's Church on Saturdays from 12 noon until 1pm, or by appointment.

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## **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

on Thursdays in St Mary's from 8am, concluding with Pro-Life Holy Hour at 7pm. Also in St Columba's on Thursdays after the 10am Mass until 12 noon. **In addition, Adoration will now take place at St Mary's every weekday morning, from 9am until 12 noon in the Holy Cross Chapel, for the needs of Holy Mother Church in these times of great turbulence.**

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## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED:**

Please pray for those who have died recently, and for those we are remembering at this time.

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## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL:**

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## **ST MARY'S RENOVATIONS:**

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to the St Mary's Beautification Fund, which so far stands at just over **£20,000**. If you have not yet made a donation, please consider doing so, as we are still a long way from reaching our fundraising goal. Cheques should be made payable to "PRCDTR-Gosport".

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## **A DAY WITH MARY:**

is coming to St John's Cathedral, led by Father Serafino and Father Pio, on Saturday 13th October, from 9.45am to 5.15pm. A Day With Mary emphasises worship of the Blessed Sacrament and devotion to Our Lady. It includes Mass, the Rosary, Adoration and Benediction, Acts of Consecration, Confession, Enrolments in the Brown Scapular and the Miraculous Medal, and much more.

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## **ISLE OF WIGHT RETREAT:**

Father Serafino will be leading a three-day retreat at the Verbum Dei Centre (PO30 1YR) on the Isle of Wight from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th November. The price per person, which includes two nights in shared accommodation and all meals, is £116. Alternatively, if you would prefer to attend only the Saturday (7am to 6pm), the price is £60, which includes three meals but no overnight accommodation. To register, please email [infantjesus.retreats@gmail.com](mailto:infantjesus.retreats@gmail.com). The deadline for bookings is Sunday 30th September.

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## **NEW PAINTING IN ST MARY'S HALL:**

Our parish is blessed to have among its members a very gifted artist in Clare Fox, who has recently produced a truly magnificent painting of Our Lady with the Child Jesus. The image, entitled 'Mary, Mother of the Infant Saviour', which Clare has so kindly donated to the parish, is now on display in St Mary's Hall. Parishioners are warmly invited to come and view it for themselves, and it is hoped that all who see it will be inspired to a greater love for and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We are very grateful to Clare for this beautiful gift.



### **PRO-LIFE APOSTOLATE:**

Two things of note. First up, Sunday 7th October is the Annual Parish Pro-Life Pilgrimage to Walsingham, which, as usual, will depart at 6am from outside St Mary's Hall. Second, a big thankyou to all those who got involved in the SPUC Postcard Appeal and wrote to the Home Secretary, Sajid Javid, who has since announced before Parliament: "Having considered the evidence... I have reached the conclusion that introducing national buffer zones [around abortion clinics] would not be a proportionate response [to pro-life prayer vigils], considering the experiences of the majority of hospitals and clinics, and considering that the majority of [pro-life] activities are more passive in nature." This is a great victory for the pro-life movement and freedom of expression in this country. Thanks be to God.

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### **ADORATION OUTREACH:**

Every Thursday, between 1pm and 3pm, a group of parishioners go out onto the high street to invite passers-by into St Mary's to light a candle and spend some time in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. If you are available on Thursday afternoons, if only for half an hour or so, why not come along and take part?

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### **DAY FOR CATECHISTS:**

Led by the Diocesan Formation for Mission Team, the Day for Catechists takes place on Saturday 20th October in St John's Cathedral, from 10am to 4pm. Bishop Philip will celebrate the Mass, and lunch will be provided. Everyone involved or interested in catechesis and/or children's liturgy is welcome. To book your place, visit [portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists](http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists) or call the Formation for Mission Team on 01590 681874.

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### **SAFEGUARDING COURSES:**

Everyone in the parish who works with children and/or vulnerable adults, including all Eucharistic Ministers and Children's Catechists, **must** take the full Child Protection Course and/or the Vulnerable Adults Course every five years. These courses will be delivered in St Mary's Hall, from 7pm to 9pm, on Thursday 8th November (Child Protection) and Thursday 15th November (Vulnerable Adults). If you work with children and/or vulnerable adults, please call Barbara Davies on 02392 521686 to register your attendance at one or both of these training sessions.

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### **FATHER SERAFINO'S NEW BOOK:**

The official launch of Father Serafino's latest book, *Fatima at the Heart of the Church: God's Vision of History and Oblative Spirituality*, will be held in St Mary's Hall on Friday 26th October at 7pm. All parishioners are warmly invited.

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### **PARISH FILM NIGHT:**

The next parish film will be *Je M'appelle Bernadette* ("My Name Is Bernadette"), a French biopic about St Bernadette Soubirous, the seer of Lourdes. The screening will take place in St Mary's Hall on Friday 5th October at 7.30pm.

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### **FESTIVAL OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM:**

takes place at St Agatha's Church in Portsmouth (PO1 4AD) on Saturday 29th September. Solemn High Mass will be celebrated according to the Ordinariate Use of the Roman Rite at 11am, followed by a buffet lunch. The Mass setting will be Mozart's Sparrow Mass, and the sermon will be preached by Fr Anthony Glaysher of St Joseph's Church in Aldershot.

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### **CHILDREN'S CATECHISM:**

Catechism classes for the children of our parish will begin again on Saturday 13th October. If you would like your child to take part in these, please fill out one of the parental consent forms available at the back of the church. These classes are for children ages four and up.

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### **NEW COUNTERS' ROTA:**

for October-December has now been published. If you are a counting volunteer, you will find your copy in an envelope addressed to you at the back of St Mary's Church.

# "Friends Of The Cross"

by Fr George M. Roth



Today's scriptures, like last Sunday's, highlight the idea of the importance of suffering for Christ. In today's Gospel, Jesus again tells His disciples that He will suffer: **"The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise again the third day."** (Mk 9:30) In the First Reading, from the Book of Wisdom, we hear of all that the good Jews in Egypt would suffer at the hands of apostate Jews. These evildoers say, **"Let us examine him by outrages and tortures, that we may know his meekness and try his patience."** (Wis 2:19)

As we all know, there is much suffering in the world. God allows it for our purification. He also allows it because He has given man free will, and He will not oppose this. So, if some men wish to do evil, God will allow it for a time, but He will bring an even greater good from this evil. St James, in today's Second Reading, speaks of true wisdom, from which the value of suffering comes: **"But the wisdom, that is from above, first indeed is chaste, then peaceable, modest, easy to be persuaded, consenting to the good, full of mercy and good fruits, without judging, without dissimulation."** (Jas 3:17) Those who endure sufferings will be given the fruits of the Holy Ghost: **"But the fruit of the Spirit is, charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity. Against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's, have crucified their flesh, with the vices and concupiscences."** (Gal 5:22-24)

For those who endure suffering and carry their crosses as Jesus taught His followers, they will enjoy these fruits of the Holy Ghost here on earth. These fruits are a foretaste of eternal glory for those who follow Christ and carry their crosses: **"If any man will follow me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."** (Mk 8:34)

Today, there are so many people who do not realise the great value of suffering in this life. People today try at all costs to get rid of their suffering and crosses. They fail to realise that God gives these crosses to His friends to purify them; He also give them a chance to prove their love for Him by carrying their crosses. Crosses and suffering are, in reality, God's greatest gift to a soul. St Padre Pio said, **"If we knew the value of suffering, we would beg for it."** The saints all wanted to suffer for Christ to prove their love for Him. When we carry our cross, we help Jesus and prove our love for Him.

St Louis de Montfort wrote a treatise, *Friends of the Cross*, in which he showed the value of suffering and carrying one's cross each day: **"Let him take up his cross, the one that is his. Let this man or this woman, rarely to be found and worth more than the entire world (Prov 31:10-31), take up with joy, fervently clasp in his arms and bravely set upon his shoulders this cross that is his own and not that of another; his own cross, the one that My Wisdom designed for him in every detail of number, weight and measurement; his own cross whose four dimensions, its length, breadth, thickness and height (Eph 3:18), I very accurately gauged with My own hands; his own cross which all out of love for him I carved from a section of the very Cross I bore on Calvary; his cross, the grandest of all the gifts I have for My chosen ones on earth; his Cross, made up in its thickness of temporal loss, humiliation, disdain, sorrow, illness and spiritual trial which My Providence will not fail to supply him with every day of his life; his cross, made up in its length of a definite period of days or months when he will have to bear with slander or be helplessly stretched out on a bed of pain, or forced to beg, or else a prey to temptation, dryness, desolation and many another mental anguish; his cross, made up in its breadth of hard and bitter situations stirred up for him by his relatives, friends or servants; his cross, finally, made up in its depth of secret sufferings which I will have him endure nor will I allow him any comfort from created beings, for by My order they will turn from him too and even join Me in making him suffer... Let him place it on his forehead and say with St Paul: 'God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ.' (Gal 6:14)"**

St Louis de Montfort continues to celebrate the value of the cross: **"Let him carry it on his shoulders, after the example of Jesus Christ, and make it his weapon to victory and the sceptre of his empire (Is 9:16)... The cross: it is the cross he must carry for there is nothing more necessary, more useful, more agreeable and more glorious than suffering for Jesus Christ... Be glad, therefore, and rejoice when God favours you with one of His choicest crosses, for without realising it you are being blessed with the greatest gift that Heaven has, the greatest gift of God."** Our Blessed Lord, in His Sermon on the Mount, blessed those who suffer in this life, for they will receive a very great reward in heaven: **"Blessed are ye when they shall revile you, and persecute you, and speak all that is evil against you, untruly, for my sake: Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is very great in heaven."** (Mt 5:11-12)