

CATHOLIC WIGHT

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE ST. BONIFACE DEANERY ISLE OF WIGHT

“LISTENING”

'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening'

In the first reading the Lord is calling Samuel, but he did not recognise his voice. Eli guides Samuel, then Samuel recognises the voice and says; *Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.*” He listened to the Lord and followed Him so that Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground. How many of us are ready to listen to the Lord? The Lord’s voice is like tuning the radio to listen. The Lord is always calling us but we need to tune ourselves and listen to Him. While we tune the radio, there are lots of noises, and unwanted stations will come on the way. In the same manner, when we call somebody on our mobile phone, we will look for a good signal to speak. In a similar way if we want to listen to the Lord’s word then we have to go through obstacles, challenges, and temptations but we have to come out from it and prepare ourselves for the Lord’s call. Like Samuel we have to listen and say, *“Speak Lord, your servant is listening”*.

In the second reading, St Paul says our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. We prepare our heart, mind, soul, and body to invite the Lord to stay with us. Once he stays with us, he will not let our word of prayers fall to the ground. The Psalm today speaks to us about God’s blessings. As we enter into the New Year, we should reflect on our own blessings and thank God. In the Gospel reading, John introduced Jesus to Andrew and Peter. They all prepared themselves to see Jesus. As soon as they recognised Him they followed Christ.

We are liturgically in ordinary time. Also, after all the celebration of Christmas and New Year, we are back to normal life. How is our day-to-day life? Is our heart pure? Are we holy enough to receive God in our heart and mind? Are we ready to say, *'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening'?*

Fr Nishan

SUNDAY, 14TH JAN, IS “PEACE SUNDAY” – A DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE, IN THE CHURCH, IN THE WORLD, IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES, HOUSEHOLDS, AND OUR OWN HEARTS – WE ARE INVITED TO PRAY, ESPECIALLY, FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC PEACE MOVEMENT PAX CHRISTI.

PARISH OFFICES

Cowes & East Cowes The Presbytery, 22 Terminus Road, Cowes PO31 7TJ
01983 292739 jredversharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Ryde & Bembridge Presentation House, 55 High Street Ryde, PO33 2RE
01983 812127 stmarysryde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

South Wight 7 Atherley Road, Shanklin PO37 7AT
01983 867610 southwight@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Totland/Newport The Catholic Presbytery, 96 Pyle Street, Newport, PO30 1EU
01983 522027 stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Schools: Primary: Holy Cross • St Mary’s • St Thomas of Canterbury • St Saviour’s • Secondary: Christ the King
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 1199568

Clergy

Fr Jonathan Redvers Harris - jredversharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Steven Restori - srestori@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Nishan Edward - medward@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fr Stephen Vooght - svooght@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Rev. Gary May - stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

READINGS FOR SUNDAYS in Year B

Second Sunday In Ordinary Time Year B – 1Sam 3:3-10.19; 1Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Dt 18:15-20; 1Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2024 Sunday, 14th January, both St David’s East Cowes and St Thomas’s Cowes are supporting the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children’s White Flower Appeal, encouraging parishioners to send postcards to the Health Secretary calling for an end to the deadly pills-by-post DIY abortion policy, and providing an opportunity, for any who wish, to make a financial donation to the work of SPUC.

FILIPINO SPONSORED MASS – FEAST OF ST NINO Sunday 14 January, St Mary’s, Ryde, 1100 followed by reception and food sharing in parish hall. ‘The Feast of St Nino has a special significance in Cebu because of its historical background. Cebu marks the birth of Christianity in the Philippines. The original statue of St Nino was given in April 1521 by the Portuguese explorer, Ferdinand Magellan to Hara Amihan (Queen Juana) as a baptismal gift. It was a similar statue to the Infant Jesus of Prague. This event was quickly acknowledged as miraculous, and a church was later built on the purported site of the discovery.’

CLOSER TO CHRIST - Thank you for your support! We are delighted to announce that due to the tremendous efforts of all churches in the Catholic Community on the Isle of Wight we have now secured £300,038 in pledges for the Closer to Christ Campaign, surpassing our combined target of £295,000. Our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. Please pray for the continued success of the Closer to Christ Campaign in our parishes and across our Diocese.

Parish	Pledged	% of goal	# of pledges	Gift Aided	% Gift Aided
Ryde/Bembridge	£103,400	148%	45	33	73%
Cowes/East Cowes	£65,738	110%	27	23	85%
Newport/Totland	£47,925	60%	15	12	80%
South Wight	£82,975	98%	20	17	85%

HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTION – JANUARY Pope Francis invites us to pray **for the gift of diversity in the Church**. We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

ISLE OF WIGHT CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE The next meeting Saturday, 13th January, 12pm at the Sacred Heart Hall, Atherley Road, Shanklin, PO37 7AT. New members most welcome. Please feel free to bring a light lunch, due to the time of the meeting (tea and coffee provided), we usually close around 1.30pm. Catholic women with a Catholic voice, Caring with love

VOCATIONS Samuel learns to hear the voice of the Lord, responding, “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.” Are you wondering how to respond to God’s call? Talk to your priest or contact Canon John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318869.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL Next weekend 20/21 we take the annual second collection in support of your Cathedral in Portsmouth. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family. Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible. <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal> Message from Father James McAuley, Cathedral Dean, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia:

“I became Dean of our Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist in September 2022. Since then, the parish has paid for emergency repairs of serious leaks in the Blessed Sacrament and St Patrick chapels, and in the Discovery Centre, which cost £23,060 in total. The cost of these repairs was paid for by parishioners, who responded generously to an appeal for contributions. In January 2023, the 120-year-old West Window began to collapse because of deterioration in the lead work. Its restoration was completed in December 2023 at an estimated final cost of more than £100,000. So far, we have raised almost £38,000 towards the cost of restoration of the West Window. These projects have used up virtually all the Cathedral’s available funds. The heating and electrical systems are in urgent need of upgrading. One of the three boilers, which heat the Cathedral and Cathedral House, has been broken since spring 2022. The money I had allocated to replace it had to be diverted to pay for the repairs to the West Window. The two remaining boilers both failed in late November 2023. After a week of no central heating, the two boilers were repaired, but we have been advised that all three boilers have come to the end of their useful life, having been installed about 25 years ago. We have no money to replace the boilers, never mind upgrade the heating system to a more energy efficient, “greener” system. In the summer of 2023, the quinquennial architectural survey was completed and the report we received in September outlined work required over the next five years to the roof, windows, heating, and electrical systems at an estimated cost of more than £1 million. I fully appreciate the financial pressures being felt by you and by your parishioners but would appeal to you to promote and support the Second Collection for the Cathedral on 21st January. Never has this annual collection by parishes for the Mother Church of the Diocese been more critical or needed. Your support is vitally important to us.”

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18-25 JANUARY The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2024 has been prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community (CCN). The chosen theme is ‘You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself’ (Lk 10:27). Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant Churches, ecumenical bodies and the CCN in Burkina Faso collaborated generously in drafting the prayers and reflections. They experienced their work together as a real path of ecumenical conversion. In choosing this passage, the churches of Burkina Faso have invited us to join with them in a process of self-reflection as they consider what it means to love our neighbour in the midst of a security crisis. <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024/>

All are cordially invited to the Bembridge Churches Together Social on Saturday 27 Jan in the Methodist Church Hall starting at 6.00pm. The evening will include quizzes, entertainment, a raffle and food. The theme is SPUDS R US. Tickets on sale from Rob Hudson at the bargain price of £5.00.

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

Dee Becker 01983 812127 safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Vince Grant 07958 491023 safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Mike Green 07761 122382 safeguarding.newp@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Angela Hewkin 01983 867610 safeguarding.iowsw@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Liz Hopkins 07714 675756 safeguarding.easc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Peter Ricks 01983 292782 safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

MASS TIMES

P: Perpetual **F:** Foundation

Saturday 13 January *The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW Barbara Drabik
1800 OLR People of the Parish
1800 SST Fr Clement Marshall RIP

Sunday 14 January *The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Goodin Cotter
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
0900 STC Pro Populo
1000 STN Denisse & Grace
1100 OLR Filipino Community IOW
1100 SDE
1100 SHS Sr Constance
1700 STN People of the Parish
1730 STC (Ordinariate)

Monday 15 January *feria*

1200 OLR Elizabeth Anstruther (P)
1000 STC
1200 STN No Mass today

Tuesday 16 January *feria*

1000 SMB Elizabeth Colson (P)
1200(*) SHS Deceased members Trench & Jones family
1200(*) STN No Mass today

Wednesday 17 January *St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot, memorial*

0945(*) SDE
1100(*) OLW Mary D (P)
1200 OLR Funeral of Desmond Webb RIP

1800(*) STC

Thursday 18 January *feria*

1100 (*)SPS Henry family (P)
1100 (*)SST No Mass today
1200(*) STC (Latin)

Friday 19 January *feria*

1200(*) STC Gudrun Gilson RIP
1200(*) OLR Georgina Randolph (P)
1200(*) STN No Mass today
1200(*) SHS Ansel Trench RIP

Saturday 20 January *The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW John Dines
1800 OLR People of the Parish
1800 SST Philip Bovil

Sunday 21 January *The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Christian Unity
0900 SPS Holy Souls
0900 STC Joanna Pryce & Tony Ricks RIP
1000 STN Conor Riordan RIP
1100 OLR Mary Low (F)
1100 SDE Pro Populo
1100 SHS All Parishioners Living and Dead
1700 STN Joanna Catharina Warden (F)
1730 STC (Ordinariate)

(*) Eucharistic Adoration starting one hour before Mass followed by Holy Rosary at SHS, SPS & OLW

CHURCHES ACROSS THE ISLAND

OLR St Mary's, Ryde PO33 2RE	OLW Our Lady & St Wilfrid, Ventnor PO38 1NL
SDE St David's, East Cowes PO32 6DP	SMB St Michael's, Bembridge PO35 5RA
SHS Sacred Heart, Shanklin PO37 7AT	SPS St Patrick's, Sandown PO36 8NE
SST St Saviour's, Totland PO39 0HE	STC St Thomas of Canterbury, Cowes PO31 7TJ
STN St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH	