

# CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

The Wedding at Cana was the first of the miracles/signs that Jesus performed. It foreshadows and points ahead to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:7-9), the heavenly banquet that will take place at the end of time. It reflects the covenantal marriage union between Christ and the Church. The bride is the Church, and the bridegroom is Christ. It's a story of abundance and of surpassed expectations. When the guests were expecting the poorer wine, they got wine better than they had. Wine was a sign of God's abundance, of joy and gladness and hospitality. To run short on wine was to run short on God's blessing.



The “six stone water jars” were for the “Jewish rites of purification.” Before eating, the wedding guests would wash their hands in order to be spiritually “pure”. By transforming the water in these jugs into wine, it was a sign that Jesus was the fulfilment of all the Old Testament laws. Through his life, death and resurrection, he would accomplish for us what the Law was unable to accomplish. That is he cleanses us from our sins which the Old Law could not do.

In this gospel story, where Jesus addresses his mother as ‘woman’, he does this so as to identify her as being the ‘woman’ who is spoken of in the Protoevangelium in Genesis 3:15. From this we are able to understand more clearly the crucial part the Blessed Virgin Mary plays in the whole history of salvation, from the Protoevangelium, after the fall of our first parents, to the announcement of the incarnation of the Word (Lk 1:26ff.), from the beginning of the public mission of Jesus at Cana (Jn 2:1-11), to his redemptive sacrifice consummated on the Cross (in 19:25-27), up to the accomplishment of the very last detail in the universal salvific plan (Rev 12). She is the "woman" always present with her Son, never alone, to fulfil her role of "generous companion and humble handmaid of the Lord".

**Fr Stephen Vooght**

Response to the Psalm: **Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.**

## PARISH OFFICES

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**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

**Parishes:** Cowes • East Cowes • Newport & Totland • Ryde & Bembridge • South Wight  
**Schools:** Holy Cross • St Francis • St Mary's • St Thomas of Canterbury • St Saviour's • Christ the King

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**READINGS FOR SUNDAYS IN YEAR C**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** - Is 49:3,5-6; 1Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34.

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

**The Presentation of the Lord** – Mal 3:1-4; Hb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

**VOCATIONS** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor." Are you being called to share Christ's message of hope through a life of service in the Church? Explore your vocation with openness. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

**SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL** Next weekend 25/26 January 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, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible (details to follow next week).

**ST PATRICK'S SANDOWN** The car park at St Patrick's church will be closed w/c 27 January for 5 days to allow repair and resurfacing works. To help facilitate this there will be no weekday Mass on Tuesday 26 January.

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – JANUARY** Pope Francis invites us to pray **For the right to an education.** Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

**JANUARY IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY NAME** Throughout the month of January, we give special honour to the name of Jesus. St Paul wrote to the Philippians: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil 2:10-11). We hold the name of Jesus in special reverence. The very name of Jesus is a prayer.

Please pray for everyone who is sick, for the protection of the elderly and the vulnerable, for all who are suffering anxiety and worry, for the NHS medical staff and all who care for the sick. Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish communities. For those who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Please remember to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**KEEP IN TOUCH** To receive the Island newsletter by email please send a blank email to [iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) putting 'email newsletter' in the subject line.

**USED CHRISTMAS CARDS** (and other used greetings cards throughout the year) are very gratefully received by St. Cecilia's Abbey, Ryde. Thank you.

**SUNDAY ORGANIST** St Mary's is looking for a volunteer to play the organ for masses at St Mary's on a Sunday and a few other times in the year. If you can help or offer assistance please contact Fr Steven or St Mary's Office.

**ST CECILIA'S ABBEY – HELP WANTED** Can anyone assist the nuns at St. Cecilia's? They are looking for someone to employ, to assist in the Vegetable Garden and the Altar Bread Bakery for a minimum of three days a week. Preferred hours are 0800-1600; but these are negotiable. If you can help or if you would like to have any further information, contact Sister Gertrude by email only please: [secretary@stceciliasabbey.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stceciliasabbey.org.uk)

**CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? Supported by CAFOD with training and all resources provided please consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Jo Lewry [jl Lewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jl Lewry@cafod.org.uk) or phone 07710 094447

**LENT RETREAT DAY** "Jesus loved them to the end" 15 March 1030 – 1630 at Verbum Dei Retreat Centre, Nunnery Lane, Carisbrooke, Newport PO30 1YR A light lunch is provided. The cost for the day is a suggested donation on £20. For more information contact Patricia Yandell on 07835948435 or email [patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk)

**QUARR ABBEY 100 ANNIVERSARY 1925-2025** Last Wednesday, 15 January, the Community at Quarr Abbey discreetly celebrated one hundred years of its existence.

The new abbey of Quarr was built between 1907 and 1914 as a refuge house for the French monks of Solesmes. When the Community eventually went back to France in 1922, they left a group of around 25 monks to keep the house going. The future remained uncertain. It was not clear whether the anti-clerical legislation would not again be enforced in France, leading to a new exile. On the other hand, the monks living at Quarr needed to be in a position to allow them to assure candidates to monastic life that they had a future as an English house.

It was therefore decided to make Quarr a Priory. Whilst remaining dependant on Solesmes and under the leadership of its abbot, it had its own superior, a proper novitiate (albeit associated with Solesmes), and its own administration. This decision transformed the group of exiled monks into founders of a new monastic establishment.

Please pray for the community and its many benefactors that the Lord may continue to bless this monastery and make of it a living sign of His presence and love for all men and women.

**QUARR ABBEY - ARCHITECTURE OF BEAUTY EXHIBITION** Thursday 16 January to Tuesday 25 February, daily 1000 to 1600 in the art gallery. Free entry. 'To innovate within tradition: The architecture of modern and medieval Quarr under the theme of beauty.'

**THE TEA AND CHAT CLUB** will be meeting again in St Saviour's Holy Family Centre, Totland every Monday 1400-1600. Please come and join us, bring a friend if possible and enjoy a lovely cuppa with a biscuit, friendly chat and a game of bingo or HOY!, all for the bargain price of £1. For more information please contact Ita Malia 756017. We're looking forward to seeing you.

**ST MARY'S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY** The next tea party is on Monday 3 February 2025 1400-1600, St Therese Hall, Presentation House, High Street, Ryde. Come for tea and a chat. Car parking available at the back of the church. If any homebound parishioner needs transport, contact the Parish Office 01983 812127

#### **SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS**

Dee Becker 01983 812127 [safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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**CONFESSION TIMES**

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130 Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800 Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000-1030 Newport: Sunday 0900-0930 & 1600-1630 Totland & Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration. Any by request

**KEY TO CHURCHES ACROSS THE ISLAND FOR MASS TIMES**

**P:** Perpetual **F:** Foundation

**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  
**TCN** St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH

(\*) Eucharistic Adoration starting one hour before Mass and opportunity for Confessions followed by Holy Rosary at SHS & OLW, and for half-an-hour or so, without the Rosary, at SDE and STC.

**Saturday 18 January** *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C*

1700 OLW Luisa Arcari RIP  
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

**Sunday 19 January** *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C*

0900 SMB Fr Donald Clements RIP  
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead  
 0900 STC Pro Populo  
 0945 TCN Joanna Catharina Warden RIP **F**  
 1100 OLR Bronia Mac & Stanislaw Wojciechowski RIP  
 1100 SDE  
 1100 SHS Sr Rachel RIP  
 1200 SST All Parishioners Living and Dead  
 1700 TCN Miss Dorothy Norman **F**  
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)

**Monday 20 January** *feria*

1000 STC Gudrun Gilson RIP  
 1200 OLR Charles Salter **P**  
 1200(\*)TCN Elizabeth Heneage & relations **P**

**Tuesday 21 January** *St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, memorial*

1000 SMB Elizabeth Anstruther **P**  
 1200 STC No Mass Today  
 1200(\*)TCN  
 1200 SPS Holy Souls **P**

**Wednesday 22 January** *feria*

0930 OLW Harriet Clara Guppy **P**  
 0945(\*)SDE  
 1200 OLR Elizabeth Colson  
 1800(\*)STC

**Thursday 23 January** *feria*

1100(\*) SST The Ward family **P**  
 1200(\*) STC (Latin)

**Friday 24 January** *St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial*

1200(\*) STC Stella Muriel Spokes RIP  
 1200 OLR Guy Fison **F**  
 1200(\*)TCN  
 1200(\*)SHS Sister Constance

**Saturday 25 January** *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C*

1700 OLW Anthony Minghella RIP  
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

**Sunday 26 January** *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C*

0900 SMB Fr Eric Spencer RIP  
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead  
 0900 STC Fr Michael Brazil RIP  
 0945 TCN  
 1100 OLR The Cashin families GE  
 1100 SDE Pro Populo  
 1100 SHS Mrs Anne Meagher RIP  
 1200 SST  
 1700 TCN  
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)