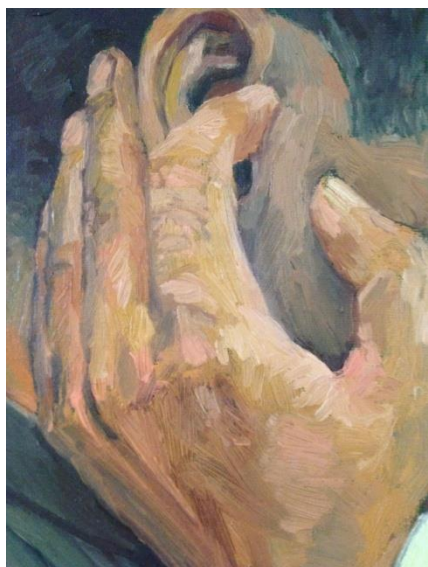


CATHOLIC WIGHT

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



In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs.

Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea.

Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."

Father Steven

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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 B

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Is 35:4-7; Jam 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Is 50:5-9; Jam 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Wis 2:12,17-20; Jam 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2025 Registration is now available for the next First Communion programme. Eligible children should be in Primary school year 3 and above, born on or before 31 August 2017. This will be a joint pastoral area course following the same programme but held in various locations across the Island and at different times depending on the number of children who register. Parental engagement with the classes will also be required. Please complete the following online form. The closing date for applications is Sunday 15 September 2024.
<https://forms.gle/jp7L39tVv2UEgZ1p7>

VOCATIONS “Be strong, do not fear!” With every true vocation comes the strength and courage of the One who calls. If the Holy Spirit is prompting you to follow Christ as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

EDUCATION SUNDAY – 8 SEPTEMBER This year marks the 176th celebration of Education Sunday for the Church in England and Wales. As we commence the beginning of a new academic year, let us entrust to Almighty God all who are involved in the provision of Catholic education in our schools, colleges and universities. We pray that Christ the Teacher will strengthen their faith and fill their hearts with courage and hope.

ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER The Council met this past week and among the matters discussed were: finalisation of plans for the nine-week exploration of prayer starting on 16 September (leaflets giving details will be available at Mass this weekend): further preparations for the all-island celebration Mass on the Feast of Christ the King (Sunday 24 November at 1100) at CtK college which will replace most daytime Masses that day and discussion of Sacramental programmes together with the need for more catechists and helpers. We also thought about further tasks, both in terms of events and wider ranging opportunities such as utilising the talents available in our communities to support the clergy better. The next meeting will be in late October. If anyone wishes to raise an item for discussion at the next IPC meeting, please email iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or post a notice via your local (parish) office.

YEAR OF PRAYER - PILGRIMS OF HOPE - ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT An invitation to all to participate in a Novena as a response to Pope Francis call to dedicate this year to grow in different aspects of prayer and to our love for God. On the Isle of Wight, we've prepared a Novena, 9 days spaced over 9 weeks, one day per week, and in a different church, starting on the 16 September. We hope this will also allow and encourage everyone to be exposed to the different churches on the IoW, on our journey towards becoming a single Parish of several Communities. Please, see the church board for more details in a poster, or speak to your priest. The first station of the novena is at St Mary's Ryde on Monday 16 September 1730 with a guided meditation of the Lord's Prayer.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – SEPTEMBER Pope Francis invites us to pray **For the cry of the earth.** We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS *This month is a good time to draw closer to Mary by meditating on the great hymns to the Mother of Sorrows, Stabat Mater, or "At the Cross her Station Keeping." In this beautiful prayer, we ask for the grace to feel with Mary, to share her sorrow. Let us bring to Mary all our sorrows, knowing that she understands what it is to suffer: Holy Mother! Pierce me through, in my heart each wound renew of my Saviour crucified: let me share with thee his pain, who for all my sins was slain, who for me in torments died.*

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.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE The next meeting will be on Saturday, 14 September at 1100 at the Sacred Heart Hall, Atherley Road, Shanklin, PO37 7AT. New members are most welcome. Feel free to bring lunch for after the meeting. Catholic women with a Catholic voice, Caring with love

ST DOMINIC'S PRIORY The annual Mass at St. Dominic's Priory, Carisbrooke, is on Tuesday 17 September 1800. This was the first religious institution to be established on the Island after the Reformation. Everyone welcome at the Mass. Refreshments afterwards.

QUIET RETREAT DAY "Leading Strings of Love" Saturday 21 September from 1030 (for coffee) until 1630. Verbum Dei Nunnery Lane, Newport, PO30 1YR A light lunch will be provided. Cost: £20
Facilitator: Patricia Yandell, lay missionary with the Verbum Dei Family. For more information please contact Patricia: patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk or mobile 07835948435

CATHOLIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION An IoW Catholic Teachers Association is being inaugurated on Tuesday 24 September 1630 at the Priory School, Whippingham, with the aim of giving spiritual and professional support to the Island's Catholic Teachers and catechists.

NEW STANDING ORDER & GIFT-AID FORMS As of 1 September 2024, the parishes of Ryde, South Wight and Totland/Newport are using a single bank account. To assist in the changeover process all those who contribute to offertory giving by standing order are invited to complete a new form. Those who Gift-Aid their contribution are also invited to complete a new declaration. Standing Order forms and Gift-Aid forms are available for collection

CONTACTLESS GIVING It is now possible to contribute to Offertory giving via Contactless Payments or Chip 'n' Pin using the electronic pad at the back of church (not St David's nor St Thomas's Cowes) by touching the screen and following the simple instructions. There is also an option to Gift Aid contributions. Alternatively, use the myDona link: <https://donate.mydona.com/cdp-catholic-wight> or the QR Code



SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

- Dee Becker 01983 812127 safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
- Vince Grant 07958 491023 safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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- Liz Hopkins 07714 675756 safeguarding.easc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
- Peter Ricks 01983 292782 safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CONFESSION TIMES

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 17150-1745 Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800 Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000 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
STN St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport PO30 1UH

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

Saturday 7 September *Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1000(*)SHS Conversion of Sinners (P)
 1700 OLW Brian Lucas
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 8 September *Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Priest's Intention
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
 0900 STC Christine Ann Ash RIP
 0945 STN Peter & Anne Quinn RIP
 1100 OLR Yvonne Rampton RIP (F)
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Lawrence Maher RIP
 1200 SST
 1700 STN Sasha Adams RIP
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)

Monday 9 September *feria*

1000 STC
 1200 OLR Kevin John Grant Doran (F)
 1200 STN

Tuesday 10 September *feria*

1000 SMB Rev . Philip Dyson RIP
 1200 STC No Mass Today
 1200(*)STN John Brown (P)
 1200 SPS Bobbie & Tom McGlinchey Thanksgiving

Wednesday 11 September *feria*

0945(*)SDE
 1100(*) OLW Good Estate of Mother Gertrude (P)
 1200 OLR Funeral of Francis Ward RIP
 1800(*)STC

Thursday 12 September *feria*

1100(*) SST
 1200(*) STC No Mass Today

Friday 13 September *St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial*

0915 (at Holy Cross Primary School)
 1200(*)STC
 1200(*)STN Robin Lang RIP
 1200 OLR Funeral of Pat Sinclair RIP
 1200(*)SHS Angela Hewkin

Saturday 14 September *Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW Kitty O'Mullane RIP
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 15 September *Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Edmund & Georgina Randolph (P)
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
 0900 STC Pro Populo
 0945 STN
 1100 OLR Pamela Fraser Cox GE
 1100 SDE
 1100 SHS Ron Schwark RIP
 1200 SST
 1700 STN Patrick Quinn RIP
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)