

CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

THE FALSE PIETY OF THE PHARISEES



This Sunday we return to Mark's gospel. We pick it up from chapter 7, which follows on from Jesus performing a whole series of miracles, including the multiplication of loaves, walking on the water and healings of many who were sick. These miracles not only further inspire his close disciples, but also cause great enthusiasm among the witnessing crowds who are clamouring after him "so that they might touch only the tassel of his cloak" and thus receive his healing power. However, Jesus is now confronted by

certain Pharisees who are intent on challenging his authenticity and his faithfulness to the Mosaic Laws and traditions. They demand to know why he and his disciples are eating food with unclean hands and failing to observe the tradition of the elders? This custom was concerned not with hygiene but with ritual purity. However, Jesus accuses them of hypocrisy. He sees how they are guilty of the same false piety that the prophet Isaiah described when he said: "these people honour me with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me." The real problem is not dirty hands but a polluted heart, which no amount of washing can clean. Jesus exposes their wrong thinking. It is not clean hands but a clean heart that matters.

The biblical scholar, William Barclay, offers us the following apt summary of this particular gospel message: "There is no greater religious peril than that of identifying religion with outward observance. There is no commoner religious mistake than to identify goodness with certain so called religious acts. Church-going, bible-reading, careful financial giving, even time-tabled prayer do not make a person a good person. The fundamental question is, how is a person's heart towards God and towards his fellow neighbours? And if in his heart there are enmities, bitterness, grudges, pride, not all the outward observances in the world will make him anything but a hypocrite."

Fr Stephen Vooght

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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-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Jam 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

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

VOCATIONS “Choose this day whom you will serve.” Consider as well how you are being called to serve the Lord! If you are drawn to follow Him into a life of service to others as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke email vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

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.

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>

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 16th 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.

KEEP IN TOUCH To receive the Island newsletter by email please send a blank email to iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk putting ‘email newsletter’ in the subject line.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE There will be a coffee morning on Saturday 7th September at 1145 following Mass at the Sacred Heart Shanklin. All are welcome.

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" on Saturday 21st September from 1030 (for coffee) until 1630. Verbum Dei Nunnery Land, 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 From 1 September 2024, the parishes of Ryde, South Wight and Totland/Newport will be 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



ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL The Council met at the end of July and among the matters discussed were: Preparations for the nine week exploration of prayer starting in September and marking the end of the Holy Father's Year of Prayer: Preparations for the All Island celebration of the Feast of Christ the King at CtK college which follows on from the prayer course: plans for Sacramental programmes (first Holy Communion and Confirmation) and a report on the recent successful ecumenical trip to Taizé with students from CtK and the Bay school. 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.

FLAME 2025 A call for young people to join FLAME 2025. Registration is open, with discount tickets. An opportunity for young people to join with other young Catholics across England to enjoy modern inspirational faith filled music, to hear motivational speakers, share faith and prayer. For more information please talk to your priest. Registration form: <https://forms.gle/DRBHRffwh4KKcX2z6>

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR OUR VOLUNTARY MINISTERS: Julie Minaj (of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team) will be leading sessions in Newport on the 14 September. She will cover Child Protection in the morning and Working with Vulnerable Adults in the afternoon. You can attend both sessions or select the one which is the most relevant to your Ministry if you prefer.

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

Dee Becker 01983 812127 safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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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 so, without the Rosary, at SDE and STC.

Saturday 31 August *Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW Michael McFagan
1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 1 September *Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Vocations
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
0900 STC Joseph Desmond Physick RIP
0945 STN
1100 OLR Island Catholic Schools
1100 SDE Pro Populo
1100 SHS Greyson – 5th Birthday
1200 SST
1700 STN The Suffering Souls in Purgatory
1730 STC (Not Ordinariate liturgy)

Monday 2 September *feria*

1000 STC No Mass Today
1200 OLR M J Read (P)
1200 STN Thanksgiving

Tuesday 3 September *St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church, feast*

1000 SMB Fr John Baptist Cahill (P)
1200 STC No Mass Today
1200(*)STN The Suffering Souls in Purgatory
1330 SPS Funeral Mass for Jacqueline Colley RIP

Wednesday 4 September *feria*

0945(*)SDE Margaret Chong GE
1100(*)OLW Eileen Jones RIP
1200 OLR Charlotte Elliot (P)
1800(*)STC

Thursday 5 September *feria*

1100(*)SST Margaret Lyons RIP
1200(*)STC (Latin) May Agnes Clarke RIP

Friday 6 September *feria*

1200(*)STC
1200(*)STN Elizabeth Heneage & relations (P)
1200 OLR No Mass Today
1800 SHS Michael McFagan followed by First Friday Devotions

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
1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)