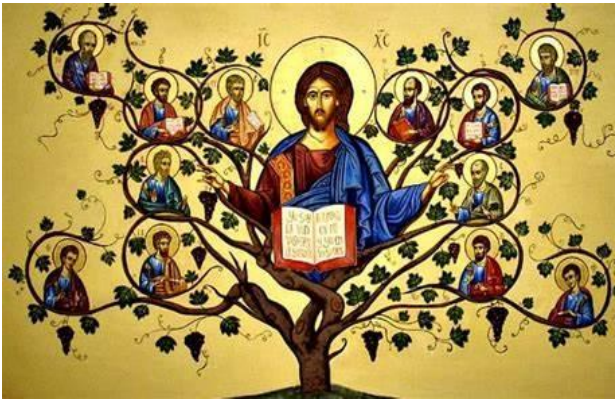


CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

CHRIST, THE TRUE VINE – AND PRUNING FOR FRUITFULNESS



As we reflect on Christ the True Vine, and our being organically united to Him and His apostolic branches by virtue of our baptism, we recall that at times in Church history there have been “prunings”. Sometimes pruning occurs through adversity. This Sunday’s first reading tells of a time of peace and growth, between periods of persecution, in the churches of Judaea, Galilee and Samaria. Pruning too may follow reactions to corruption within the Church, the scandal of appalling abuse by clerics in our own time immediately springing to mind. Also the forces of secularism, materialism and individualism, especially in the West, can result in cutting back growth, with fewer vocations to the priesthood and religious life, fewer lay volunteers, declining Mass attendances, stretched finances and crumbling buildings.

Back in 1969, one Father Ratzinger predicted that the Church of the future would be smaller, purer, “more spiritualised and simplified”, not inhabiting all her large edifices, relying on new forms of ministry, with some of the ordained also serving in professions and not full-time. And when he became Benedict XVI, a year into his papacy, he spoke of the decline in the Church in Europe, and the particular gifts being brought from the Church in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Pope Francis in 2022 hailed his predecessor as a “prophet” in his forecast for the Church.

Rather than withering on the vine, or “managing decline”, maybe we are living in a period of pruning? Relying on a smaller but more dynamic and initiative-filled laity, with fewer clergy, and freed from some of our more burdensome buildings, the Church may become leaner, trimmer, more mission-focused and able to grow in a more fruitful, humble, and authentic way. Able to become, indeed, the “well-stewarded missionary community centred on Christ” at the heart of Bishop Philip’s vision for the Diocese.

Fr Jonathan

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

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

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Acts 9:26-31; 1Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8.

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17.

COMMEMORATION OF ORP BLYSKAWICA AND COWES & EAST COWES BLITZ Recalling the Blitz of 4th/5th May 1942 (when St David's, East Cowes, was destroyed) and the part played by the Polish destroyer in defending these towns, there will be a brief Act of Commemoration, with wreath-laying, on Saturday 4th May, 1400, in King's Square, East Cowes (outside Waitrose), and the more substantial annual Commemoration, with brass band, on Sunday 5th May, 1400, on Cowes Parade, both led by Fr Jonathan.

COLLECTION: CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK A retiring collection will be taken after all Masses the weekend 11/12 May. Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day 2024 follows the theme 'Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication'. He asks how we can remain fully human and guide this cultural transformation to serve a good purpose? Full message here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd24-papal-message/> Online donations: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/world-communications-day-second-collection-2024>

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY The next tea party is on Monday 13 May 2024, 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



PENTECOST SUNDAY ONE ISLAND CELEBRATION The feast of Pentecost this year will be marked with a one Island celebration at Christ the King College on Sunday 19 May 2024 with Mass at 1100 followed by a shared lunch (details to follow). To facilitate this all the principal Sunday Masses across the Island parishes will be cancelled, so that everyone can come together for one joyful celebration. Please note that there will be Saturday evening Mass in Bembridge, Totland and Ventnor at 1700; and the Ordinariate Rite Mass in Cowes on Sunday evening at 1730.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION – MAY Pope Francis invites us to pray **For the Formation of Religious and Seminarians.** We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

VOCATIONS “Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Love demands truth and action. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

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.

IOW CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY You can keep up to date with the Island's Catholic history by visiting their website and downloading their recent newsletter. <http://www.iow-chs.org>

FAMILY FAITH SESSIONS & ADORATION Starting Saturday 11th May 1500-1700 at St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport. A session to meet other families, to socialize & take part in faith based activities with your children ending with a short time of adoration together.

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.

LEAVE YOUR MARK – DO SOMETHING AMAZING TODAY BY SUPPORTING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & FAITH WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth has partnered with market-leading solicitors and will-writing providers to offer anyone over 18 easily to write or update a basic simple or mirror Will for free. Whether you would like to write your Will in person, online or over the 'phone you will be expertly supported through the process. You are under no obligation to leave the Diocese a gift in your Will, but a gift of this kind is an opportunity to make a lasting gift to God and His Church. Making or updating a Will is an expression of profound confidence that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life; it is a mature and thoughtful way of acknowledging our own mortality. Making provision for the Church in our Will is a continuation and crown of the service we ourselves may have offered over many years, in terms of our time, our talents and our treasure. It is following in the footsteps of all those whose generosity in generations past has bequeathed us the Church we know and love today. It reminds us that through baptism we belong to the great communion of saints, united with the Lord as a member of His Church both on earth and in heaven. Once you have considered your loved ones, you may choose to leave a legacy to a specific cause, Pastoral Area or parish in the Diocese; or, as good stewards, we will apply any gift given for the Diocese's general charitable purposes where there is the greatest need. More information can be found at: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work/make-your-free-will/>

REGINA CAELI During Eastertide the Regina Caeli replaces the Angelus.

One version:

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, Alleluia!

R. For he whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia!

V. Has risen, as He said, Alleluia!

R. Pray for us to God, Alleluia!

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!

R. For the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia!

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL If anyone wishes to provide feedback, offer reflections or suggestions for the way forward as we engage in the process of becoming one Island parish, or 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.

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



CONFESSION TIMES

Newport: during Eucharistic Adoration, Sunday 0900-0930 & 1615-1645 Totland: Thursday 1000-1030
 Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Sandown: Thursday 1000-1030 Shanklin: Friday 1100-1130
 Ryde: Saturday 1730-1800 Cowes: during Eucharistic Adoration. Quarr Abbey: Saturdays 1000
 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 half hour or so, without Rosary, at SDE & STC.

Saturday 27 April Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B

1700 OLW George Cole RIP
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 28 April Fourth Sunday of Easter Year B

0900 SMB Mary Harbour's Intentions
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
 0900 STC Sheila Bloxham RIP
 0945 STN Sr Leonard RIP
 1100 OLR St Mary's Primary School
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Philip Park RIP
 1200 SST Jimmy Malia
 1700 STN John Smallwood RIP
 1730 STC (Ordinariate)

Monday 29 April St Catherine of Siena, Religious & Doctor of the Church, feast

1000 STC
 1200 OLR Angela & Paul Doyne GE
 1200 STN Flora Carwarden & relations (P)

Tuesday 30 April of the 5th Week of Easter

1000 SMB Countess of Clare (P)
 1200 STC No Mass Today
 1200(*)STN Maria Borys Sakowicz RIP
 1800 SHS Magdalena, Hanna & family

Wednesday 1 May of the 5th Week of Easter

0945(*)SDE
 1100(*)OLW David Croucher

1200 OLR Fr John Molloy & Mrs Molloy (P)
 1800(*)STC

Thursday 2 May of the 5th Week of Easter

1100(*)SST Jimmy Malia
 1100(*)SPS Elizabeth Brodie (P)
 1200(*)STC (Latin) Sr Margaret Ross GE

Friday 3 May Ss Philip & James, Apostles, feast

1200(*)STC
 1200(*)STN Elizabeth Heneage & relations (P)
 1200 OLR Philip Holbrook RIP (F)
 1800 SHS David Hewkin
 followed by First Friday devotions

Saturday 4 May Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

1100(*)SHS Conversion of Sinners (P)
 1700 OLW Canon PJ Smith
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 5 May Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

0900 SMB Priest's Intentions
 0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
 0900 STC Mary Frances Preston RIP
 0945 STN Portuito family
 1100 OLR Tom & Suzanne Skyrme RIP (F)
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Rachel Russell
 1200 SST
 1700 STN Anne & Peter Quinn RIP
 1730 STC (Not Ordinariate)