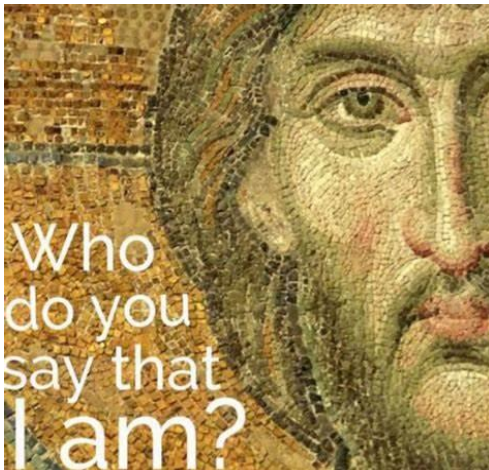


CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

THE CALL TO FOLLOW THE ONE WHO IS THE CHRIST



A pivotal point in the three synoptic Gospels is Peter's declaration that Jesus is the Christ, followed by the Lord's foretelling his death and resurrection, and then the foretaste of glory at the Transfiguration – before his journey of the Passion.

The key question is: "Who is he?" C S Lewis, the great Christian apologist, memorably said, "You must make your choice – either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman" – "on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell". The option of regarding Jesus as "a great moral teacher", while denying his divinity, is simply not open to us, said Lewis.

Although Simon makes this dramatic profession of faith, and in Matthew's version is named Peter, the rock on which Christ will build his Church, he immediately proves to be a somewhat wobbly rock. Peter, remonstrating with Jesus' foretelling his suffering and death, is thinking in a human fashion, not God's, and is rebuked: "Get thee behind me, Satan!"

Instead, says Christ, disciples must follow the path of self-renunciation, taking up our cross – embracing the wood and nails of the circumstances of our lives. This "losing of our lives for Christ's sake" entails faith evidenced by good works, as St James stresses. Martin Luther, the Protestant reformer, didn't like that letter, calling it "a right strawy epistle", because it offended Luther's idea of faith alone justifying us. But St James is quite clear: faith without works is dead.

May we too confess him as the Christ, taking up our cross (Holy Cross Day yesterday), with faith evidenced in deeds, and on this *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday may we all become more mission-focused, proclaiming the Gospel that brings joy to the heart.

Fr Jonathan

PARISH OFFICES

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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-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.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Nb 11:25-29; Jam 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43.45.47-48.

SECOND COLLECTION this Sunday is *Evangelii Gaudium Sunday* – formerly Home Mission Sunday – with a second collection for the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate to support the work of encounter and evangelisation. The donation page can be found at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/home-mission-sunday-second-collection-1>

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>

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) The RCIA is a process for those seeking to join the Catholic Church. For non-baptised men and women, it consists of a number of sessions of learning about the Catholic Church's teaching on matters of doctrinal faith, prayer, liturgy and sacraments. Those already *baptised in another Christian church*, are also invited to join the RCIA programme for instruction, guidance, and support. Both adult baptisms and receptions into the Church will normally take place at the Easter Vigil. For further information email: iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or tel: 01983 522027

VOCATIONS "Who do you say that I am?" The One who calls is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Are you called to follow Him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke email vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER The matters discussed were: finalisation of plans for the nine-week exploration of prayer starting on September 16 (leaflets giving details are available at the back of the church); further preparations for the all-island celebration Mass of the Feast of Christ the King 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.

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, and for the souls of 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.

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 on 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 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.

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.

A RACE NIGHT, organised by the Catholic Women's League, will take place on Friday 20th September at the Sacred Heart Church Hall, Atherley Road, Shanklin from 1900. £3 admission to include refreshments raising money for good causes. All are welcome to attend

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

PARISH LADIES will next meet on Wednesday 25 September, at 1400 in Holyrood Hall, Newport. This month's speaker is Paul Bradley slide show on 12 Snowmen of Christmas and Old and New Isle of Wight. Cost of afternoon is £3 including Tea/Coffee and cake. All are welcome so please bring your family and friends. For more info ring/text Eileen 523901/07738300981

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.

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY GROUP & SVP TEA PARTY The next tea party is on Monday 7 October 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

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

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

Dee Becker 01983 812127 safeguarding.ryd@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 & OLW, and for half an hour or so, without the Rosary, at SDE and STC.

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 Fr Michael Walsh RIP
1100 OLR Pamela Fraser Cox GE
1100 SDE
1100 SHS Ron Schwark RIP
1200 SST Francis & Winifred Tinsley RIP
1700 STN Patrick Quinn RIP
1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)

Monday 16 September *feria*

1000 STC
1200 OLR Emma Baker (P)
1200 STN Fr Michael D'Arcy Walsh RIP

Tuesday 17 September *feria*

1000 SMB Fr William Cotter (P)
1200 STC
1200(*)STN Allen John Blakemore RIP
1200 SPS Mr Thomas (P)
1800 Requiem at Carisbrooke Priory

Wednesday 18 September *feria*

0945(*)SDE Pauline Ward RIP
1100(*) OLW Canon A McDonald (P)
1200 OLR Robert Cooney RIP (F)
1800(*)STC

Thursday 19 September *feria*

1100(*) SST
1200(*) STC (Latin)

Friday 20 September *St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasan & companions, martyrs, memorial*

1200(*)STC
1200(*)STN John & Marolyne Delany RIP
1200 OLR Rev. Canon Michael Cooley RIP
1200(*)SHS Good Estate of Mother Gertrude (P)

Saturday 21 September *Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead
1800 OLR Trish & Shaun Winning

Sunday 22 September *Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB People of the Parish
0900 SPS Nora Jackson (P)
0900 STC Joan Mulhearn RIP
0945 STN
1100 OLR Mrs Hicks (P)
1100 SDE Pro Populo
1100 SHS Ben's Birthday
1200 SST
1700 STN
1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)