

CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

Today's Gospel reading combines two separate passages taken from the Gospel of Luke. First, we hear the opening verses where Luke establishes the purpose of his Gospel. In this passage, we learn that Luke may have written to a specific person, Theophilus; but the word Theophilus may also be a general reference, functioning as the phrase "Dear Reader" might in contemporary writing. In Greek, the word Theophilus translates as "lover of God."



The Gospel reading then skips several chapters to chapter four of Luke's Gospel, where we hear that Jesus is in his hometown of Nazareth, attending the synagogue on the Sabbath, which is said to be his custom. As Jesus stands in the synagogue, he reads from the scroll handed to him; it contains the words of the prophet Isaiah. At this early moment in his ministry, Jesus announces his mission in continuity with Israel's prophetic tradition. This reading from Isaiah defines Jesus' ministry. Jesus' ministry will include bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord.

Through this text from Isaiah, Jesus announces God's salvation. The "year of favour" is a reference to the Jewish tradition of Sabbath years and jubilee. The Sabbath year was observed every seventh year. It was a year of rest when land was left fallow, and food stores were to be shared equally with all. A year of Jubilee was celebrated every fiftieth year, the conclusion of seven cycles of Sabbath years. It was a year of renewal in which debts were forgiven, and slaves were freed.

This tradition of Jubilee is the framework for God's promise of salvation. And yet in Jesus, something new begins. Jesus not only announces God's salvation, but he also brings this salvation about in his person. Jesus is God's Anointed One, filled with the Spirit of God. The Kingdom of God is now at hand. It is made present in Jesus, in his life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus will send the Holy Spirit so that the Kingdom of God can be fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit is Jesus' gift to the Church. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to continue the mission of Jesus. When we do what Jesus did—bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed—we serve the Kingdom of God.

Father Steven

Response to the Psalm: Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

PARISH OFFICES

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Ryde & Bembridge Presentation House, 55 High Street Ryde, PO33 2RE
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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

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Clergy

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Deacon Gary May - stsandstc@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

READINGS FOR SUNDAYS IN YEAR C

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Neh 8:2-6, 8-10; 1Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21.

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Is 6:1-2, 3-8; 1Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

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 or call 01329 318 869

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL This 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. Online donations for the Second Collection can be made at the following link: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/st-johns-cathedral-second-collection-2025>

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 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@stceciliabbey.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 jlewry@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 of £20. For more information contact Patricia Yandell on 07835948435 or email patriciam-c@hotmail.co.uk

CAFOD meeting on Saturday 15 February from 1030 to 1330 at St Margaret Mary Church Hall Middle Road Park Gate SO31 7GH Please join us to find out how your donations to CAFOD are making a difference to communities in Kenya. Everyone is welcome and please book your place so that we have an idea of numbers as a simple lunch will be provided by emailing Jo on jlewry@cafod.org.uk

QUARR ABBEY Lots of activities / events will be taking place in the coming weeks. You will see a very comprehensive list in their website. More info: [Events - Quarr Abbey](#)

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

CATHOLICS GOING INTO HOSPITAL It is always an issue, but **it is crucially important** that when a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given. As access to the hospital may be restricted, one suggestion is that the patient carries a note to give to hospital staff on admission notifying staff that they are Catholic and that they would really appreciate the Catholic chaplaincy service (Bishop Philip).

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

Shanklin: Saturday 1000-1030 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 about half-an-hour or so, without the Rosary, at SDE and STC.

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 People of the Parish
1100 OLR The Cashin families GE
1100 SDE Pro Populo
1100 SHS Mrs Anne Meagher RIP
1200 SST
1700 TCN Watts family P
1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)

Monday 27 January *feria*

1000 STC
1200 OLR Georgina Randolph P
1200(*) TCN

Tuesday 28 January *St Thomas Aquinas, Religious, Doctor of the Church, memorial*

1000 SMB Fr Thomas Cahill P
1200 STC
1200(*) TCN Funeral Mass Barbara Rose Hayter RIP
1200 SPS No Mass Today

Wednesday 29 January *feria*

0945(*) SDE
1100 OLW No Mass Today
1200 OLR Canon Nicholas France RIP
1800(*) STC

Thursday 30 January *feria*

1100(*) SST Thomas and Anne Cokes P
1200(*) STC No Mass Today

Friday 31 January *St John Bosco, memorial*

1200(*) STC
1200 OLR Beryl Restori RIP
1200(*) TCN William Prentice
1200(*) SHS No Mass Today

Saturday 1 February *The Presentation of the Lord, feast*

1100(*) SHS Conversion of Sinners P
1700 OLW Joseph O'Hara and the O'Hara Family Loving and Dead P
1800 OLR People of the Parish

Sunday 2 February *The Presentation of the Lord, feast*

0900 SMB Mrs Hicks P
0900 SPS All Parishioners Living and Dead
0900 STC Canon Tim Healy RIP
0945 TCN
1100 OLR Alan Johnson RIP
1100 SDE Pro Populo
1100 SHS Fr Marcin Drabik
1200 SST
1700 TCN
1730 STC (Not Ordinariate)