

# CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Also known as Candlemas, completing 40 days since the Nativity, as the infant Christ, in accordance with Mosaic requirements, is presented in the Temple. Older calendars mark today as The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary – not that she needed purifying, any more than her Son needed a baptism of repentance in the Jordan, but she participates in His redemptive work, coming under the law, in solidarity with sinful humanity, as the knot of our first parents' disobedience is untied.

In the Temple are two senior citizens: Anna and Simeon, both rejoicing that they have seen the Messiah. Simeon can depart in peace, his *Nunc Dimittis* entering our evening prayers, as he has seen the light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of God's people Israel. Christ is blessed, but the message is bitter-sweet, as He is "a sign to be rejected", with a sword piercing Mary's soul. Our attention turns from Christmas joys to His coming Passion and death. For some He will be a cause of offence, a stumbling block, and they will "fall" over Him. For others He will be a mounting block, a cause of rising up, as long as there is that preparedness to be pierced ourselves, stand by the Cross, embrace adversity, and share His sufferings.

Christ is presented "in his Father's house", the Temple in which he is discovered missing at the age of 12. Indeed, Christ himself is the Temple: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (*John 2:19*, speaking of his body). We, His body on earth, continuing, in a sense, the Incarnation, likewise become the temple, indwelt by God's Spirit, Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. As living stones, we are invited, illumined by His light, to present ourselves as living offerings to God (*Rom 12:1*).

Fr Jonathan

Response to the Psalm: ***The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!***

### 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

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Clergy

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**READINGS FOR SUNDAYS IN YEAR C**

*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

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time* – Jer 17:5-8; 1Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26.

**VOCATIONS** World Day for Consecrated Life “When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.” God invites us to dedicate ourselves fully to His will. Could He be asking you to present your life to Him in a special way? Trust in God’s plan for you. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

**HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTION – FEBRUARY** Pope Francis invites us to pray **For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.** Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ’s mission in the priesthood and religious life

**FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD** *For Catholics, the month of February is especially dedicated to the Passion of Our Lord, probably because Lent usually begins in this month. Throughout the centuries, many devotions have developed to help us focus on the Passion of Christ. These help to lead us from sorrow to wonder; sorrow for our sins, wonder at the unbounded love of Christ for us.*

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.

**CHANGES TO ISLE OF WIGHT PASTORAL AREA** Thank you to those who responded to the invitation and submitted suggestions for the name of the new single Island parish. Following the Island Pastoral Council meeting on Tuesday 21 January seven options were presented to Bishop Philip. He has accepted one of those offered and the name of the new parish will be Holy Spirit, Isle of Wight

**KEEP IN TOUCH** To receive the Island newsletter by email please send a blank email to [iowadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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.

**FAMILY SESSIONS** Next gathering in Newport on Saturday 8 February 1500-1700. Family friendly faith activities, time to socialise and time of prayer. All ages and stages welcome!



### THANK YOU

The collection held before Christmas raised just under £3,000 and Fr Steven agreed that we make it up to a round £3k from parish funds.

On Tuesday he presented a cheque to Nigel Hartley, the Mountbatten CEO. This was a pleasing result and thank you to everyone who contributed. We will try to make it an annual event.

**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 [jlewy@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewy@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](mailto: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 [jlewy@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewy@cafod.org.uk)

**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

**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](#)

**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](mailto:safeguarding.ryd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Vince Grant 07958 491023 [safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.totnew@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
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**CONFESSION TIMES**

Ventnor: Wednesday 100-1030 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 half-an-hour or so, without the Rosary, at SDE and STC.

**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 Living 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 Mary Leo RIP  
 1700 TCN  
 1730 STC (Not Ordinariate)

**Monday 3 February** *feria*

1000 STC No Mass today  
 1200 OLR William Sibert **P**  
 1200(\*) TCN Elizabeth Heneage & relations **P**

**Tuesday 4 February** *feria*

1000 SMB Deceased relatives of the Cooper family  
 1200 STC  
 1200(\*) TCN  
 1200 SPS John Liddle **P**

**Wednesday 5 February** *St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr, memorial*

0945(\*) SDE  
 1100(\*) OLW Krystyna Madzia RIP and all family members living and dead  
 1200 OLR Simon, Maggie & children  
 1800(\*) STC

**Thursday 6 February** *St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs, memorial*

1100(\*) SST  
 1200(\*) STC (Latin) Michael O'Meara RIP

**Friday 7 February** *feria*

1030 SHS Funeral Mass of Ann Seely RIP  
 1200(\*) STC  
 1200 OLR Charlotte Elliot **P**  
 1200(\*) TCN William Prentice

**Saturday 8 February** *The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C*

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead  
 1800 OLR People of the Parish

**Sunday 9 February** *The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C*

0900 SMB Mark Robiolie **P**  
 0900 SPS Robert & Beryl McConkey  
 0900 STC Stephen Clare Physick RIP  
 0945 TCN  
 1100 OLR Canon Nicholas France RIP  
 1100 SDE David Cover RIP  
 1100 SHS Zdzislawa Twardus RIP  
 1200 SST  
 1700 TCN  
 1730 STC (Ordinariate Liturgy) Pro Populo