

CATHOLIC WIGHT

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

AM I A SERVANT AND A VIRTUOUS MAN?



One day, a shepherd lost a sheep and had been searching and praying for it. An angel appeared to him and gave him two options. The first was: "Do you want your sheep back?" The second was: "Do you want to know who stole it?" The shepherd chose the latter, saying, "I want to see who took my sheep." The angel brought a lion before the shepherd, and the lion killed the shepherd as well. This Sunday's reading speaks to us about what happens to a virtuous man, why we need to be servants to all, and why sometimes, when we pray, our prayers are not answered.

The Book of Wisdom teaches us about what the godless say about a virtuous man. In our day-to-day life, we often judge others immediately before getting to know them or their background. Sometimes, we focus on what others are doing rather than reflecting on ourselves. As Scripture says, "Hypocrite! First, take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother's eye." (Mt 7:5). The Book of Wisdom reminds us that if we are God's sons and daughters, He will take care of us.

In the second reading, St. James writes about our "intentions" and how we reap what we sow. If we find disharmony in our hearts, it is because there is jealousy present. When we pray and do not receive what we ask for, it may be due to our intentions, as God has His own plans for us. St. James says, "It is because you have not prayed properly, but have prayed for something to indulge your own desires." Last week, we reflected on how Jesus rebuked St. Peter, saying, "Get behind me, Satan." Peter's thoughts were not aligned with God's way, but with man's way.

Therefore, before asking God for something, we must reflect on how we are living our lives. If our lives are aligned with God's ways, then Psalm 37:5 reminds us: "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act." The Gospel reading echoes last week's message: "Suffering leads to exaltation." Jesus reveals His Passion to His disciples for the second time, showing us that His suffering serves as an example for our lives. He calls us to be servants to all and to come to Him like children – that is, with innocence and humility of heart. Are we ready to purify our intentions and become servants to all?

Fr Nishan

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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-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.

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Gen 2:18-24; Hb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16.

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 "The Lord upholds my life." He indeed is our strength and foundation. Pray and ask him sincerely if he could be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke email vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

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.

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 in 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 second station of the novena is at St Saviour's, Totland on Thursday 26 September 1800, prayer with Eucharistic Adoration.

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.

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).

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.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK On Saturday 28th September, the Vigil of the Feast of St Michael, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. "And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least... God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it." (Jonah 3:5,10) Please Invite others to join the day on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/158416877229831/>

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

RUTH CONNELL RIP died on Thursday 29th August peacefully at home. May she rest in peace. Graveside service with burial on Friday 11 October 1330 in Springwood Woodland.

ISLAND PASTORAL COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER The matters discussed were: finalisation of plans for the nine-week exploration of prayer which started 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.

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

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>

SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS

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Peter Ricks 01983 292782 safeguarding.cow@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

CONFESSION TIMES

Ventnor: Wednesday 1000-1030 Shanklin: no confessions on the 27 September due to Funeral Mass
 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 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 Late Vicente family members
 1100 OLR Mrs Hicks (P)
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Ben's Birthday
 1200 SST Francis & Winifred Tinsley RIP
 1700 STN
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)

Monday 23 September *St Pio of Pietrelcina, Religious, memorial*

1000 STC No Mass Today
 1200 OLR No Mass Today
 1200 STN

Tuesday 24 September *Our Lady of Walsingham, feast*

1000 SMB No Mass Today
 1200 STC No Mass Today
 1200(*)STN Robin Lang RIP
 1200 SPS Good Estate of Mother Gertrude (P)

Wednesday 25 September *feria*

0945(*) SDE No Mass Today
 1100(*) OLW Members of South Wight SVP
 1200 OLR No Mass Today
 1800(*)STC No Mass Today

Thursday 26 September *feria*

1100(*) SST
 1200(*) STC No Mass Today

Friday 27 September *St Vincent de Paul, Founder, memorial*

1200(*)STC No Mass Today
 1200(*)STN
 1200 OLR No Mass Today
 1200(*)SHS Funeral Mass of Michael O'Driscoll RIP

Saturday 28 September *Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

1700 OLW All Parishioners Living and Dead
 1800 OLR Nina & Bart Intention for Marriage

Sunday 29 September *Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

0900 SMB Josie Lillywhite RIP
 0900 SPS Anna Ward - Birthday
 0900 STC Intentions of Joshi family
 0945 STN
 1100 OLR Mary Porter RIP (F)
 1100 SDE Pro Populo
 1100 SHS Mary, Steven and Jacob Royal
 1200 SST
 1700 STN
 1730 STC (Ordinariate liturgy)