

PARISH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE, WESTBOURNE

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth: registered charity 246871
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WELCOME: And thank you to Fr Andrzej together with Deacon Barry who will be offering 9am Mass for us, and Fr Brian Copus who will be saying 11am Mass today.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY on 8th Dec. What is the Immaculate Conception? Few doctrines of the Catholic Church are as misunderstood as the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which we celebrate every year on December 8. Many people, including many Catholics, think that the Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That event, though, is celebrated at the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25, nine months before Christmas). However, the Immaculate Conception refers to the condition that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. We celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary—her birth—on September 8; nine months before that is December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

http://catholicism.about.com/od/beliefsteachings/f/Imm_Concept_FAQ.htm

FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS: This **Thursday, 8th December**, is our parish Feast Day - **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, celebrating God's action in



CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE

Children's Crib Service—3.00pm
Carols—7.30pm
Mass During the Night—8.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass—9.00am and 11.00am

creating Mary free from Original Sin. We are having a special **Mass at 6pm**, followed by a shared supper in the hall. There is a sign-up sheet on the notice board to indicate what kind of savoury or sweet food you are bringing along to share. All offers are greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate together the life of our wonderful parish community.

A SPECIAL WELCOME: To members of Teams of Our Lady, which is an organisation for Christian married couples, numbering 12000 worldwide. The Southern Regional Couple are Bernard and Susan Kelly, who have invited them to celebrate with us on our parish Feast Day because it is also the international birthday celebration day of Teams of Our Lady!

CRAFT SALE: by the Sisterhood of St. Elizabeth, Belarus, after 11am **Mass on Wednesday, 7th December.** A selection of beautiful ceramics, artefacts and icons - of which our own Our Lady of Perpetual Succour is one! - will be on sale. All contributions will go towards an orphanage and a psychiatric hospital for children in Belarus. Please come along and support the Sisters of St Elizabeth and hear about the remarkable work they do within and beyond their community. We keep them all in our prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Are you in year 3 or above? Would you like to receive Holy Communion next year? The preparation will begin in February and will take place most Saturday mornings until June. You will need to get your parent(s) to complete an application form for you. They are available at the back of the church.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Cycle of Prayer: For a deeper love of Holy Scripture

SUNDAY 4TH DEC	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A	9.00AM 11.00AM	People of the Parish Thomas Bonaventure Quinn
Mon 5th	of the 2nd Week of Advent	<i>No service</i>	
Tues 6th	of the 2nd Week of Advent	11.00am	Derek Ward
Wed 7th	St Ambrose	11.00am	No Special Intention
Thurs 8th	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6.00pm	Fr Bill - Thanksgiving
Fri 9th	of the 2nd Week of Advent	11.00am	Mary Majella Badon
Sat 10th	of the 2nd Week of Advent	<i>No service</i>	
SUNDAY 11TH DEC	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A	9.00AM 11.00AM	People of the Parish Goggin and Wilson Families

PRAYER CORNER

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Joy Chiari, John Grady, John & Dee McGuire, Rosemary Baker, Win Sheridan, Christopher Browne, Felicity Whitehead, Naiada Blunden, Margaret Barkway, John Leebody, Christopher Fordham-Hall, Louise Borber, Ian Dolman, Alan Franklin Barnes, Joan Guyomars, James Richards, Patricia Plumb and Dorothy Matthews.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: All mentioned in our Book of Remembrance.

REQUESTS: in our visitor's book.

PARISH CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Sun	4	9.00am	Fr Andrzej to offer Mass	OLI Church
		11.00am	Fr Brian Copus to offer Mass	OLI Church
Mon	5	2.00pm	Bridge Club	OLI Hall
Wed	7	11.30am	Craft Sale by the Sisterhood of St Elizabeth, Belarus	OLI Hall
Thurs	8	2.00pm	Craft Club (Last session before Christmas)	OLI Hall
		6.00pm	Festive Mass for Immaculate Conception offered by Fr Bernadine	OLI Church & Hall
Sun	11	9.00am	Fr Andrzej to offer Mass	OLI Church
		11.00am	Fr Brian Copus to offer Mass	OLI Church
Mon	12	2.00pm	Bridge Club (Last session before Christmas)	OLI Hall
Tues	13	2.00pm	SVP Christmas Tea	OLI Hall

FOOD BANK: Now that the weather is getting colder again, don't forget to do all that you can to help keep our own food bank box topped up, as demand is sure to increase over the winter months. The basic staple requirements are as previously advertised and indicated on the box: thanks.

SECOND COLLECTION: No collection this week. Next week - Christmas flowers.

LUNCH ON CHRISTMAS DAY AT OLI: Is definitely going ahead, even though there are still lots of places available. So if you still haven't decided what you are doing on Christmas day yet, why not consider coming along? £18 per person. **12.30 for 1pm start.** Sign up sheet with menu is in the foyer.

CHRISTMAS AT THE MIRAMAR: 17th December, 1pm. Please make sure you have paid your £22.75. This can be left in the office post box. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: If you are able to donate any prizes for the Christmas raffle, please hand them to Pam O'Neill or Suzanne during office hours (see right hand margin →).

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CLEAN: Will be on **December 19th at 2pm.** All volunteers welcome!

FILM CLUB: There will be no Film Club in December.

ST. PAUL'S MISSALS 2017: Are now available in the church lobby. Price: £5. If you are a reader at church, and would like one in order to prepare your reading in advance, copies are free.

ST PATRICK'S MISSION DIARIES 2017: Still some available, £3.50 each. All proceeds to the Society.

PASTORAL AREA AND BEYOND

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: On **Friday, 16th December, 7.00pm** at **Corpus Christi**

parish church, there will be an Advent Penitential Service with a number of priests available for confession.

RADIO IMMACULATA: The Marian Franciscans in Gosport are preparing to launch a new Catholic internet radio station - **Radio Immaculata** - on **8th December**, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From music to talk shows; from interviews to meditations and prayers, there's something for everyone, so why not give it a go?

WALKING PILGRIMAGE: Fr. Tom Grufferty is organising a walking pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi from **28th September - 6th October.** Cost £1, 195. For more information contact Fr. Tom at tomgrufferty1@gmail.com

SOCIAL EVENTS

PANTOMIME - CINDERELLA: **Thursday 15th December at 2.30pm at the Pavilion Theatre Bournemouth.** There are still 9 tickets left, so why not treat yourself? £16.50 per person (including a free ice cream!). Payment should be made to either John Slater or Suzanne Quinn.

BRIDGE CLUB: The last session before Christmas will be **Monday 12th December.** It will resume on **Monday 9th January.**

GERMAN CLUB: Will re-start after Christmas on **Wednesday 11th January.**

CRAFT CLUB: The last session before Christmas will be **Thursday 8th December.** It will resume on **Thursday 12th January.**

SVP

SVP CHRISTMAS TEA: Please join us on **Tuesday, 13th December at 2pm** for some Christmas fun with entertainment. Everyone welcome.

If you have anything of interest that you would like included in the newsletter, please email us at: oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Welcome to all our visitors today.

Dedicated bays for wheelchair and buggy users at the front and back.

Please remember: mobile phones off.

Just moved in? Please give us your details.

If you need any assistance, please ask one of our welcome team, who will be happy to help

Church Cleaning alternate Mondays at 2:00pm.

SVP Society meets Weds, once a month 11:30am in the Hall.

Rosary in church Wednesdays 10.15am

Benediction and Confessions: Fridays 11:30am.

Tea and Coffee Downstairs after both Sunday Masses.

Parish Administrator & hall bookings
Suzanne Quinn
 01202 760640
Office hours :
 Mon & Wed
 9.30-11.30 am.
 Fri 2-4pm.
 Email oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parochial Vicar:
Fr Bernadine Nsom
 tel: 01202 764 027
 email: westbourne@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 website: catholicwestbourne.org

GIFT AID
Pay income tax? We can reclaim 25% of your offering today from the Government at no cost to you. Please use one of our special envelopes or ask for a form.

We are part of Bournemouth Pastoral Area.