

PARISH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE, WESTBOURNE

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth: registered charity 246871
visit us at catholicwestbourne.org

WELCOME: And many thanks to Fr Andrew Moore, who will be offering Masses for us over the Christmas week-end.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: A *great light* shines forth (Is 9:1); the light of Jesus' birth shines all about us... The true light has come to illumine our lives so often beset by the darkness of sin. Tonight we have been shown the way to reach the journey's end. Now must we put away all fear and dread, for the light shows us the path to Bethlehem. We must set out to see our Saviour lying in a manger. This is the reason for our joy and gladness; this Child has been *born to us*; he was *given to us*, as Isaiah proclaims (9:5)...Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we too, with eyes full of amazement and wonder, gaze upon the Child Jesus, the Son of God. And in his presence may our hearts burst forth in prayer: *Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help* (Ps 84:8). **(Pope Francis)**

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS: Many thanks to all concerned: to Patricia and the choir, to Pam for lunch, and to all our readers, ministers, welcomers and cleaners.

CRIB OFFERINGS: This year, the parish will be donating crib offerings to Friends of the Holy Land. Every penny will help the



poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing costs and initiatives. FHL is non-political and ecumenical. Please keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers at this time.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: The Mass collection on Christmas Eve and Day is traditionally for the parish priest. This year it will be divided amongst the priests who have kindly helped us through the last six months.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Will be having a break over Christmas, and will resume on **January 8th**.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be no second collection today or next week.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Suzanne will be away from the office over the Christmas week and will return on **Friday 6th January**. Emails will still be monitored for the newsletter.

NEXT WEEK: Please note there will be no Masses from Monday to Thursday next week as Fr. Bernadine has prior engagements. There will, however, be Mass this coming **Friday 30th December** with Fr Tony Pennicott.

HOLY FAMILY: This Friday, 30th December. We are grateful to Fr. Tony who will be celebrating a Thanksgiving Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family at **11am**.



Father in heaven, creator of all, you ordered the earth to bring forth life, and crowned its goodness by creating the family of man. In history's moment when all was ready, you sent your Son to dwell in time, obedient to the laws of life in our world. Teach us the sanctity of human love, show us the value of family life, and help us to live in peace with all men that we may share in your life forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

CHILDREN'S EPIPHANY PARTY: Sunday January 8th at 3pm.



Did you know that the 3 kings who followed the star to Bethlehem were astronomers? Our party will be filled with fun and games all about the stars and planets - so come and be part of our own magical galaxy! Delicious refreshments also provided. There's a **sign-up sheet** in the foyer. We look forward to seeing you there.

DRESSING-UP BOX: Do you have any children's dressing-up Nativity clothes that you could lend us for the Epiphany Party on **January 8th**? If so, please hand them in to Suzanne or Sara. We suggest you make sure they are clearly

LITURGICAL CALENDAR, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Cycle of Prayer: Expectant Mothers

SATURDAY 24th DEC	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	8.00pm	All Displaced Peoples
SUNDAY 25TH DEC	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9.00AM 11.00AM	Noone Family People of the Parish
Mon 26th	St Stephen	<i>No service</i>	
Tues 27th	St John	<i>No service</i>	
Wed 28th	The Holy Innocents	<i>No service</i>	
Thurs 29th	St Thomas of Canterbury	<i>No service</i>	
Fri 30th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	11.00am	Thanksgiving Mass
Sat 31st	Liturgy of the Day	<i>No service</i>	
SUNDAY 1ST JAN	MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD	9.00AM 11.00AM	Leonard Fawkes People of the Parish

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, 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

Sat	24	7.30pm	Carols and Readings	OLI Church
		8.00pm	Christmas Mass During the Night (Fr. Andrew Moore)	OLI Church
Sun	25	9.00am	Christmas Morning Mass (Fr. Andrew Moore)	OLI Church
		11.00am	Christmas Morning Mass (Fr. Andrew Moore)	OLI Church
		12.30pm	Parish Christmas Lunch	OLI Hall

JANUARY

Sun	1	9&11am	Priest to be confirmed	OLI Church
Sun	8	9&11am	Fr Andrew Moore to offer Masses	OLI Church
		3.00pm	Children's Epiphany Party	OLI Hall
Mon	9	2.00pm	Bridge Club	OLI Hall
Tues	10	2.00pm	SVP Afternoon Tea	OLI Hall

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.

labelled so they can be safely returned. Many thanks in advance!

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.

ST. PAUL'S MISSALS 2017: 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: Great stocking filler! £3.50 each. All proceeds to the Society.

SOCIAL EVENTS

QUIZ FISH AND CHIP NIGHT: Thursday 19th January at 7pm. £10 per person, payable in advance please to the parish office post box, in the hall. Sign-up sheet now available.

PASTORAL AREA AND BEYOND

ARE YOU SEEKING ACCOMMODATION?
Christian Flatshare is a website that seeks to bring together those offering accommodation and those who are seeking accommodation. There is no fee for the service and the options are very flexible.

INVITATION FROM BISHOP PHILIP TO ALL ENGAGED COUPLES: If you are getting married sometime soon, either in a church in our diocese or elsewhere, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Valentine's Day breakfast on **Saturday 11th February at 9.15am** in the Cathedral Discovery Centre, Portsmouth. He will also bless each couple and their engagement ring. For more information and booking, pick up a form at the back of the church or call Kirsten on 023 9282 0894.

SVP

AFTERNOON TEA: The next SVP Afternoon Tea will be **Tuesday 10th January at 2pm.** All welcome.

SPIRITUALITY AND PRAYER

BAMENDA: As a result of a recent outbreak of violence and unrest between youths and the law, many innocent lives have been lost, many people injured and property destroyed. Please keep the people of Bamenda, our twinned diocese, in your prayers at this time. Bishop Philip has asked us to pray the *Memorare to Our Lady* for their intentions: you will find copies in the lobby.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST JOHN PAUL II: 19th-24th April 2017. Led by **Fr John Lee.** With one night in the hills of Zakopane and four nights in the historic Krakow, this guided tour will enable you to visit places central to the life of Pope St John Paul II including his birth place, Czestochowa's Black Madonna Shrine and Auschwitz. The pilgrimage takes place over Divine Mercy Sunday and we will visit the shrine celebrating the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, as revealed by Christ himself to St Maria Faustina Kowalska. For information contact Pilgrimage People on 0800 6123423

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

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