

# **PARISH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE**

**Seamoor Road, Westbourne BH4 9AE**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth. Registered charity 246871

## **NEWSLETTER    5<sup>th</sup> September, 2021   Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year (B)**

Website: [www.catholicwestbourne.org](http://www.catholicwestbourne.org)

Parish Office: Tel: 01202 760640 (all enquiries)

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Safeguarding Officer: Matthew French: [mail@matthewfrench.net](mailto:mail@matthewfrench.net)

MASS TIMES: Sunday 9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. - currently by advanced reservation only

Weekdays (Tuesday – Friday) 10.00 a.m. – no need to book

Confessions: On request.

COVID safeguarding restrictions remain in place for the time being, namely, social distancing within the church and the wearing of masks.

We remember in our prayers this week those priests and those parishes that will see changes in the coming weeks. This weekend we say goodbye to Fr Andrew after four years as our parish priest and next week we will welcome Fr Leslie Adams, and there are quite a few other moves in the diocese this year. Whatever changes there may be, a constant, of course, is the faith that binds us together wherever, and with whomever, we might be.

**Fr Andrew writes:** “As I take my leave after four happy and privileged years as Parish Priest at Our Lady Immaculate, I would like to express my gratitude for all the practical and prayerful support I have received. I shall remember you all in my prayers as the parish moves forward under the pastoral care of Fr Leslie.”

### **Our Parish Treasurer, Pam O'Neill, writes:**

As you will know, this is Fr Andrew's last weekend with us before he retires. In normal times we would have arranged a parish social gathering to wish him well and make a presentation but, alas, this is not possible. However, I am sure we would all like to show our appreciation to Fr Andrew for his ministry among us over the last four years and to this end we have arranged a special collection. If you have not already done so, contributions may be made: 1) through the ‘Donate’ button on the website with the reference ‘Fr Andrew’, 2) by bank transfer, again with the reference ‘Fr Andrew’, Account Name: PRCCTR Bournemouth Our Lady Immaculate, Sort Code: 30-93-04, Account Number: 00875075 or 3) in the special collection box at the church. Any cheques should be made payable to Our Lady Immaculate.

**Prayer Corner:** Please remember all the sick and housebound of our parish especially: Patricia Kowalewska, Win Sheridan, Kathleen Wood, Peter Henry, Phillip Rockford, Germain McAulay, Geoffrey Dixon, Joe Bonnici, and Marjorie Lee.

## Liturgical Calendar

To request mass intentions, please email or phone the Parish Office or leave an envelope at the church.

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year (B) 9.30	People of the Parish
	11.00 In thanksgiving	-
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	of the day (23 <sup>rd</sup> week)	-
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	of the day (23 <sup>rd</sup> week)	No service
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Nativity of Our Lady	No service
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	of the day (23 <sup>rd</sup> week)	-
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	of the day (23 <sup>rd</sup> week)	-
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	of the day (23 <sup>rd</sup> week)	-
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year (B)	People of the Parish

### Mass times and church opening:

Sunday mass is at 9.30 & 11.00 a.m. by advanced reservation only and FULLY BOOKED to the end of August. Weekday mass (Tuesday – Friday) is at 10.00 a.m. No need to book. There is generally good capacity on all days.

For all masses **please be punctual**. The doors will be closed five minutes before mass starts and it will not be possible to admit latecomers.

Please be advised that the Sunday obligation remains suspended and so, for some, it might be beneficial to attend during the week.

On Sundays, the church will remain open after the 9.30 mass until 10.30 for those who may wish to make short individual visits but will then be closed for cleaning before the 11.00 a.m. mass. During the week, the church will remain open after the 10.00 a.m. mass until 11.00 a.m.

**Please note: There will be no access to the Hall, the lift or to the toilets.**

### How to make a reservation to attend a Sunday mass:

You can request a reservation by one of the following methods (in order of preference):-

- 1) Send an email to [oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)
- 2) Leave a clear message on the parish office phone **01202 760640**
- 3) In writing, and placed in the letter box by the church door, or by post to Our Lady Immaculate, Seamoor Road, Westbourne, BH4 9AE

*When making a booking, please give the following details and you will be contacted by phone or email to let you know which mass you can be offered:-*

Name(s)

Phone number or email address:

Number of seats required:

Which Sunday mass you would prefer: 9.30, or 11.00, or either.

Would you like to be added to the ongoing Sunday rota? Yes/No

**Finance.** A ‘Thank you’ to those who are using the ‘Donate’ button on the website. The ‘Donate’ button has the facility of adding a reference in the ‘leave a message’ box and also the option to Gift Aid any donation. Any donation with no specific reference will be treated as ordinary offertory. The parish’s bank details are set out below for those who may wish to take out a standing order or make a bank transfer.

Account Name: PRCDTR Bournemouth Our Lady Immaculate

Sort Code: 30-93-04

Account Number: 00875075

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,  
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,  
that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom  
and an everlasting inheritance.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Say to all faint hearts,  
"Courage! Do not be afraid.

"Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;  
for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

## Psalm 145

Response:  
**My soul, give praise to the Lord.**  
or  
**Alleluia!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
    who is just to those who are oppressed.  
    It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
    the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
    who raises up those who are bowed down,  
    the Lord who loves the just,  
    the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,  
    but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
    The Lord will reign for ever,  
    Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

**SECOND READING**

## James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James.

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, "Come this way to the best seats;" then you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest." Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

## Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. "He has done all things well," they said "he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.

**God from God, Light from Light,**  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under

Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and  
of peace,  
graciously grant that, through this offering,  
we may do fitting homage to your divine  
majesty  
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,  
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Like the deer that yearns for running  
streams,  
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;  
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,  
whom you nourish and endow with life  
through the food of your Word and heavenly  
Sacrament,  
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great  
gifts  
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

It is the saying of holy men that, if we wish  
to be perfect, we have nothing more to do  
than to perform the ordinary duties of the  
day well. A short road to perfection – short,  
not because easy, but because pertinent  
and intelligible. There are no short ways to  
perfection, but there are sure ones.

St John Henry Newman

5 SEPTEMBER 2021

# Sunday Message

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B • Psalter Week 3

**THE WORD**

## JESUS A MAGICIAN? (MARK 7:31-37)

Jesus continues his journey through Gentile territory. Mark gives us a particularly detailed account of Jesus healing a man who has no hearing and limited power of speech.

This recalls the promise in Isaiah of the signs which will accompany the saving coming of God to Israel. The reaction of the crowd that Jesus "has done all things well" reminds us of God surveying the completed Creation. Mark's vivid presentation has a couple of interesting features which would not be surprising in a setting familiar with stories of healing by magic: the groaning by Jesus, the placing of his finger in the ears, and the anointing of the person's tongue with spittle. However, Jesus cures the person by speaking, by word. Jesus is therefore superior to any pagan healers, just as Moses and Aaron are vindicated in their competition with the Egyptian magicians.

We find another Markan motif in this episode: Jesus enjoins silence about what has happened on those who have witnessed it, only for this to have the opposite effect. This is part of the "Messianic Secret": most likely, it expresses Mark's concern that people (then and now) should not understand Jesus as being the Son of God simply because he can work miracles. Jesus' true identity as God's Son will be revealed at the cross, when there is no further possibility of misunderstanding.

The Gentile audience reacts with enthusiasm to Jesus: this contrasts with Mark's usual presenting of the disciples as failing to understand who Jesus is and the meaning of his actions. ■

**REFLECT**

Miracles in the Gospel tradition and text are described as works of power: they are signs of the kingdom of God breaking through into human life and confronting sickness and death. The person in the Gospel extract today is now able to communicate fully with those around him; the restrictions on his everyday relationships have been lifted.

It is a great temptation for preachers and teachers to emphasise Jesus' ability to perform such actions as revealing Jesus as the Son of God. But there is a very fine line between presenting these as

signs of the kingdom and (inadvertently) giving the idea that Jesus could work magic, which might be the reason why neither Matthew nor Luke includes this graphically detailed story in their own Gospel accounts. Mark's theme about Jesus' paradoxical insisting on not publicising accounts of healings or other experiences (the "Messianic Secret") only makes sense in such a setting.

When we read or listen to the Gospels, the evangelists want us to ask ourselves, "What does this mean?" not "Did it actually happen?" That Jesus worked what we call "miracles" is very much part

**SAY**

"Speak, Lord, your servant can hear and is listening."  
(see 1 Samuel 3:10)

**DO**

Look up Tyre, Sidon and the Decapolis on a map of biblical lands: this will give you an idea of where Jesus carried out his ministry.

**LEARN**

Tyre and Sidon are non-Jewish coastal cities to the north-west of Galilee.

Decapolis means "Ten Cities", although there is no fixed list of these towns: it refers to an area on the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee and the River Jordan.

The important point about all these places is that they are largely Gentile.

# ICHTHUS



SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

23RD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B

Ask Jesus to open your ears and help you to listen carefully to his words today.



## ENTRANCE ANTIphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.



We say these words  
or sing a hymn as the  
priest approaches  
the altar.

## COLLECT



O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,  
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,  
that those who believe in Christ  
may receive true freedom  
and an everlasting inheritance...

We ask for God's help.  
Listen now to the  
priest as he offers  
this prayer.



## FIRST READING

### ISAIAH 35:4-7

Don't worry! Don't be afraid! God is coming to save us. Any challenges or problems we face will be sorted out. God is in charge and will heal us, making us all well. We will speak and hear properly and we will

all dance, as gracefully as deer. When God comes, everyone will sing for joy! Nothing is impossible for God. Our hope in God is like water in the desert. God will bring new life and fruitfulness to our lives.

LOOK at the reader  
and LISTEN.  
The prophet Isaiah  
brings hope to the  
people.

The cantor or psalmist  
sings or says the psalm.  
Listen to the verses,  
and then respond by  
using these words.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 145



My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Or Alleluia!



## SECOND READING

### JAMES 2:1-5

If we believe in God, we can't say that anyone is better than someone else. We must never judge people because of what they are wearing and treat them differently. We certainly can't treat people who are rich better than

people who are poor. Not having the distraction of money means that poor people can be rich in faith. Poor people have a special place in God's heart. In fact, God chose people who are poor to inherit the kingdom of God.

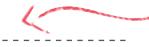
LOOK at the reader  
and LISTEN.  
Poor people have  
a special place in  
God's heart.



THINK

On Wednesday we celebrate The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary's birthday. We don't hear anything about Mary's birth in the Gospels, but other writings tell us that Mary's parents, Anna and Joachim, pray for a child and God answers their prayer. God was involved in Mary's life from the very start.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

We give a shout of  
praise to God, using  
these words taken  
from the Bible.



## GOSPEL MARK 7:31-37

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Mark.

Having been preaching and teaching in Tyre, Jesus is on his way back home. Some people bring their deaf friend to Jesus and ask Jesus to lay his hands on him. Jesus takes the man away from the crowd, touches his ears and his tongue and prays for him. The deaf man's

ears are opened, his tongue is able to move and he can speak clearly. Jesus asks the crowd not to tell anyone, but they are unable to keep quiet. The more Jesus asks them not to say anything, the more they tell people. Everyone is just so amazed with Jesus' power.

**STAND TO LISTEN**  
to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel.  
What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



### PRAY

Go for a walk and listen carefully. What is God saying to you through the voices of the people you love, the sound of the wind, the noise of the city, the animal calls and the music you hear?



### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us all to value and respect each other's differences. Help us to enable everyone, able-bodied and disabled, to take an active part in our community.  
Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This is a prayer you could say privately.



### OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about a time this week when you didn't hear what you were asked and think about another time when you heard and did what you needed to straight away.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



### DO

Make a special effort to speak kindly to the people you meet this week - tell people how much you appreciate them!



### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



### ΙΧΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

I (Jesus)  
X (Christos)  
Θ (Theou/God's)  
Υ (Uios/Son)  
Σ (Soter/Saviour)

### COMMUNION ANTIphon

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



### MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me and healing my hurts. Thank you for always being with me and helping me to understand that I can trust you. Amen.



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.



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FSC  
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# IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

A deaf man who has difficulty speaking is brought to Jesus. Jesus lays his hand on the man, touching his ears and his tongue. The man's ears are opened and he can speak clearly!

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

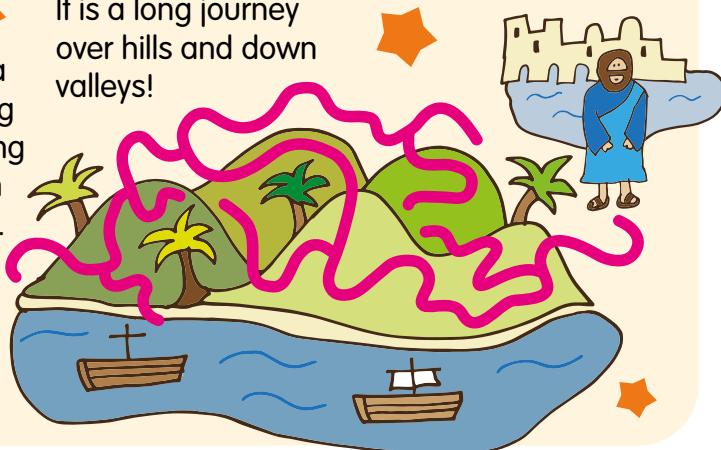
## LISTEN AND HELP!

### Maze

Jesus travelled a long way healing people and telling them how much God loved them.

Help Jesus make his way through Sidon to Lake Galilee.

It is a long journey over hills and down valleys!



### Sign language

People who are deaf are often better listeners than those of us who can hear. They use sign language or lip-read and have to pay close attention to what is being signed or spoken.



Perhaps you already know some sign language. Add the letters to see what these signs mean.

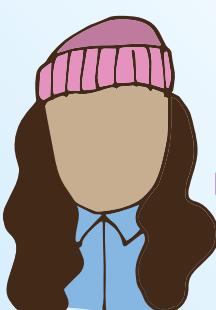
### Who does God love?



God does not have any favourites. God loves each one of us the same.

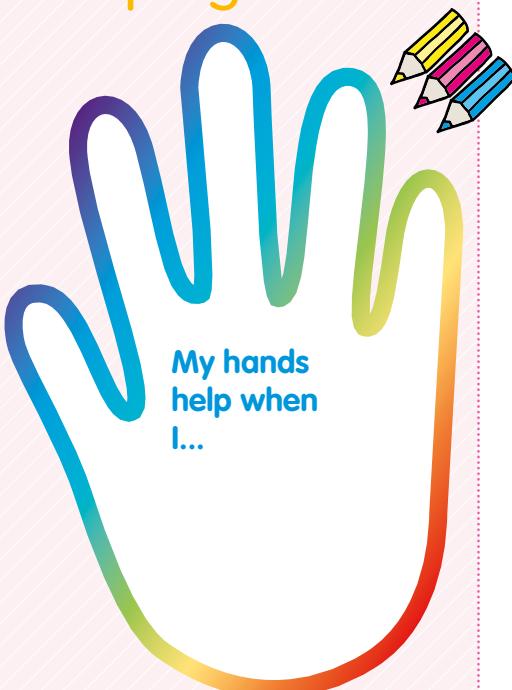
Starting with e write down every 2nd letter.

e \_\_\_\_\_



Make this face look happy with the good news!

### Helping hands



My hands help when I...

Jesus touched the deaf man when he healed him. I can use my hands to help people too. Draw or write your ideas in this hand.

### A PRAYER TO SAY

Open my ears, Jesus, and help me to hear your message of love. Help me to use my tongue to speak kindly to everyone I meet today.