CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE
NEWSLETTER
1 NOVEMBER 2026 ALL SAINTS

CALL TO HOLINESS

Today is the Solemnity of All Saints. The Church celebrates all the saints, canonised or beatified, and the multitude of those who are in heaven enjoying the beatific vision that are only known to God. During the early centuries, the saints venerated by the Church were all martyrs. Later the pope set 1 November as the day for commemorating all the saints. We all have this *"universal call to holiness."* What must we do in order to join the company of the saints in heaven? We *"must follow in his footsteps and conform (ourselves) to his image, seeking the will of the Father in all things. (We) must devote ourselves with all (our) being to the glory of God and the service of (our) neighbour. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history"* (*Lumen Gentium*, 40).

The feast of All Saints should inspire us with tremendous hope. Among the saints in heaven are some whom we have known. All life on earth is like our own. They were baptised, marked with the sign of faith, they were faithful to Christ's teaching, and they have gone before us to the heavenly home whence they call on us to follow them. The Gospel of the Beatitudes, read today, while it shows their happiness, shows, too, the road that they followed; there is no other that will lead us whither they have gone.

According to various authors, including Father Francis X. Weiser, SJ, the *"Commemoration of All Saints"* was first celebrated in the East. The feast is found in the West on different dates in the eighth century. The *Roman Martyrology* mentions that this date is a claim of fame for Gregory IV (827-844) and that he extended this observance to the whole of Christendom; it seems certain, however, that Gregory III (731-741) preceded him in this. In Rome, on the other hand, on 13 May, there was the annual commemoration of the consecration of the basilica of *St. Maria ad Martyres* (or St. Mary and All Martyrs). This was the former Pantheon, the temple of Agrippa, dedicated to all the gods of paganism, to which Boniface IV had translated many relics from the catacombs. Gregory VII transferred the anniversary of this dedication to

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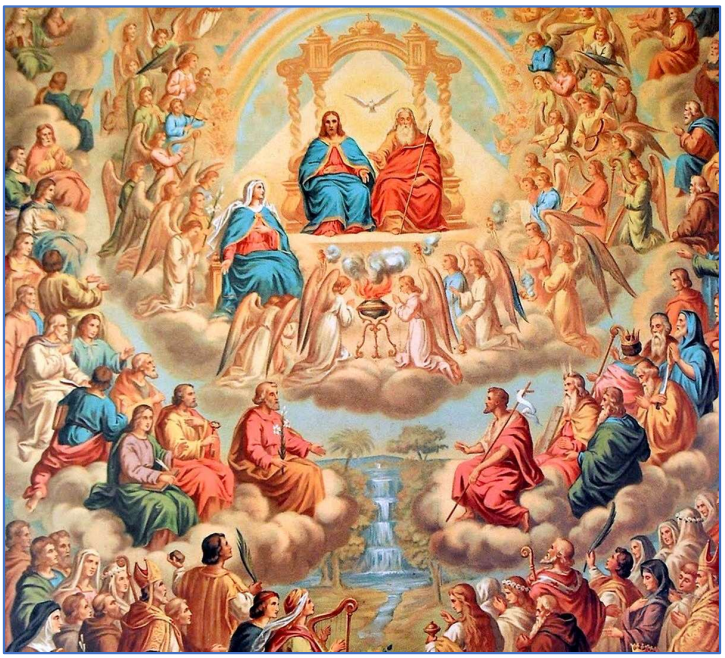

MASS TIMES

Sunday 1 November - ALL SAINTS
9.00am
11.00am

Monday 2 November - ALL SOULS
10.00am

Tuesday 3 November - ST. MARTIN DE PORRES
No Mass

Wednesday 4 November - 31ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
No Mass

Thursday 5 November - FERIA
10.00am

Friday 6 November - FERIA
10.00am

Saturday 7 November - OUR LADY ON SATURDAY
10.00am

Sunday 8 November - 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)
9.00am
11.00am

OUR PARISH

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH
SEAMOOR ROAD, WESTBOURNE,
BOURNEMOUTH, BH4 9AE

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(Baptism, Marriages, Sick Visits, Funerals and Confessions)

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Joan Smithies and Edward Adamson
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Donations: CDP Bournemouth
Our Lady Immaculate
Sort code: 309304 **Account:** 00875075

SUNDAY READINGS

Entrance Antiphon
Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Responsorial Psalm
Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

CALL TO HOLINESS (FROM PAGE ONE). 1 November.

Highlights and things to do:

- Visiting a cemetery and praying for the faithful from 1 November through to 8 November will gain a plenary indulgence that can be applied only to the souls in Purgatory. On other days, this work gains a partial indulgence.
- Spend a little time after Mass thanking God for all the unnamed saints, some of whom could be our own relatives.
- Prepare a special meal, and if you have young children, have them dress up like saints and play games.
- Read about the lives of the saints online and in books.

OUR LOVED ONES. As we enter the month of November, traditionally dedicated to the Holy Souls, envelopes are available at the baptismal font for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones whom you wish to be remembered in prayer. Please place your completed envelope on the altar. Those whose names are submitted will be remembered at Mass throughout the month of November.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

OUR SECOND COLLECTION today is for Bamenda.

PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN. The children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion next year will be presented to the parish at 11.00am on Sunday 22 November. They will also be helping to serve refreshments after Mass so please do come along to say hello to the children if you can.

HALL. A complaint has been raised about tables being left dirty after use. Please can all hall users ensure that tables are wiped down as appropriate so that they are clean for the next group. Thank you. *Fr. Leslie*

SAVE THE DATE. In place of the usual parish lunch, we will be having a carol service followed by a Christmas international buffet on Wednesday 16 December at 6.00pm. More details will follow.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER. *For the proper use of wealth.* Let us pray for the proper use of wealth. By not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, let it always be put at the service of the common good and those who have less.

THE NEXT YOUTH MASS will take place on Sunday 1 November at 5pm at Corpus Christi Church. This will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Address: 757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AN.

CARITAS CHARITY MASS AND NETWORKING EVENT. This will take place on Saturday 14 November from 10.30am - 3.00pm in St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke. For more information email: caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

ARE YOU GOING INTO HOSPITAL? When a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family should ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given to them during their stay.

BOURNEMOUTH AND CHRISTCHURCH PASTORAL AREA PRAYER. *Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to be your witnesses in this area and in this time. Root us deeply in your love, shape us as missionary disciples, and teach us to steward wisely all that you have entrusted to us. Give us the courage to change, the humility to listen, and the faith to trust where you lead. May your Spirit guide our prayer, our planning, and our action, so that all we do may give glory to the Father and draw others to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

PLEASE REMEMBER all the sick and housebound in our parish: *Mary Stone, Geoffrey Dixon, Christopher Browne, Elizabeth Lubrow and Liz Judge.*

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND. If you are interested in a home visit, please contact the office, so Fr. Leslie can arrange this for you.

GOING AWAY? Need someone to care for your home or pets while you're away? If you're planning a holiday, mission trip, family visit, or other time away from home, *Christian House Sitters* can help provide peace of mind. *Christian House Sitters* connects Christian homeowners with trusted Christian house sitters who can care for homes, pets, gardens, and livestock while owners are away.

Homeowners register free of charge. Sitters are Christians with references. Pets and homes receive personal care and attention. The service also supports the work of TLC Children's Trust helping vulnerable children in Kenya. Visit the website for more details: www.christian-housesitters.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE. Please send any newsletter items to the office by 9.00am on Wednesday. They can also be emailed to the parish inbox at: oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Thank you!

PORTSMOUTH VOCATIONS. If you're considering a vocation to the priesthood, please contact Canon John Cooke on 01329 318 869. Please pray that more men will come forward for the priesthood.

GOSPEL - MATTHEW 5:1-12a

'Blessed are the poor in spirit'

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: *'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

CAN YOU HELP with organising a Christmas Day lunch for those adults who are on their own? Please contact Allan on 07782 968593.

BAPTISM, being the doorway to fullness of life and to the kingdom of God, is the first sacrament of imitation celebrated. If you are thinking of having your child baptised and raised in the practice of the faith, please speak with Fr. Leslie.

A FOUNDATION MASS is a memorial Mass for a specific person that is offered on an annual basis, on a specific day, for a period of 25 years. Please speak to Fr. Leslie if you would like to know more.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT. Retrouvaille could be the solution if you're experiencing difficulties in your marriage. Visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk or call 0797 338 0443.

THANK YOU for your continued generosity.

PIANO FOR SALE. I am helping a priest friend to downsize, and he has a *Yamaha Clavinova CLP-360* digital piano for sale. It would be ideal for children learning to play or anyone starting their musical journey or for use in a church hall or community centre. This high-quality digital piano belongs to a local priest and has been beautifully cared for. It features full-sized weighted keys to mimic the feel of a traditional piano, headphone capability for silent practice. It never needs tuning. Please note, this will need to be collected. Price: £300 o.n.o. Contact: Fr. Leslie 07496 253542.

MASS INTENTIONS. If you would like a Mass to be celebrated for a loved one, please speak to Fr. Leslie.

GETTING MARRIED? Congratulations! Please speak with Fr. Leslie after Mass, so he can discuss the preparations with you.

THE MONTHLY MASS at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital will not be celebrated during November. Please note that while Mass isn't celebrated at Poole Hospital there is a prayer session with the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Holy Rosary from 3.00pm each Friday. All are welcome to come and pray for the patients and staff.

SIGN UP for the Portsmouth Lay Leaders' Conference that takes place on Saturday 21 November at The Solent Hotel & Spa, Whiteley. This will be a day of encouragement, inspiration and fellowship. See the poster in the porch for more information.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (Carlo Club). Contact Nicola on 07932 142594 for further details.

'THE CHOSEN' SEASON 6. This will be available on Prime Video from 15 November. The final 24 hours of Jesus' life. https://thechosen.tv/en-us/explore/season-6.