



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

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Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

Feast of All Saints

Sunday 2nd November 2025

Page 194	Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14	1 John 3: 1-3	Gospel St Matthew 5: 1-12
This weekend we celebrate the Feast of All Saints when we honour all the official saints of the Church, and all those in heaven who have been faithful to the teaching of Jesus or anyone of goodwill who may not have been a Christian. It is a time to thank God for the example of so many saints whose stories we hear that should give us courage to strive, despite our failings, on our faith journey. Our culture focuses on instant gratification which contradicts the gradual process of becoming more like Christ. We must not fear commitment or have a lack of fighting spirit that is clear in many of the most courageous saints. We must also consider praying to saints we know to intercede for us at all times but particularly at difficult moments. The “communion of saints” supports us as we face challenges that span across time and space connected by faith. In the Eastern Church a special day to honour saints dates back to the 4th century but in the Western Church the celebration of All Saints dates back to the 8th century when Pope Gregory III set 1st November as the day to remember initially just the martyrs. In the first reading we see that those who belong to the Lord are marked and kept safe. This is a vision of hope in the midst of turmoil. Later in the reading the multitude from every nation shows the universality of salvation. It emphasises God’s victory over evil and the final gathering of the faithful. White robes represent cleaning and triumph through Christ’s sacrifice. In the second reading St John teaches that God’s love makes us His children even if the world fails to see it. This connects us to the saints who were often misunderstood or rejected by the world. We must be pure as we are to see God as He is. In Matthew’s Gospel the Beatitudes set the tone for the teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus is presented as the new Moses, giving God’s law in a new way. The blessings show us how to act as believers just as the saints lived. It summarises the theme of righteousness, mercy and justice, reversing worldly values by showing God’s favour for the humble and suffering			
Mass times		Feast Days	
6 pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 1st November Feast day of All Saints When we remember the hundreds of saints recognised by the Catholic Church, those beatified, those venerated, all those known and unknown whose virtues and efforts in life are considered to have earned them an eternal reward with God.		
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 2nd November Feast of All Saints Albert Collinge RIP 20th anniversary on 4th Nov		
NO MASS	Monday 3rd Feast of All Souls The day we remember the souls of the departed who have died but might not have reached heaven and need our prayers and Masses offered for the repose of their souls that need cleansing from their sins. Various customs have developed over the years regarding the Feast of All Souls. In Mexico relatives make garlands, wreaths and crosses of real and paper flowers of every colour to place on the graves of deceased relatives on the morning of All Souls. Church bells are rung and the family will spend the entire day at the cemetery as it is a public holiday. Priest will visit cemeteries, peach and offer prayers for the dead and bless individual graves		
NO MASS	Tuesday 4th St Charles Borromeo Born in 1538 in Italy, a descendant of nobility. Charles was not handsome with a speech impediment. Gained Doctorate in Canon and Civil Law. Uncle was Pope Pius IV who made Charles a Cardinal and member of Roman Curia aged 21. Lived an austere life style. Reopened the last session of Council of Trent. Reformer of Vatican. Archbishop of Milan. Stopped corruption and selling of indulgences in his diocese. Reformed monasteries and clergy practice. Leading figure in Counter Reformation. Founder of seminaries and other establishments to improve training of priests. Founder of lay organisation to help in parishes. First Sunday Schools. Set up soup kitchens and hospitals during plague. Renowned for his charity. Cared for English Catholics fleeing persecution. Charles died on 4 th November 1584 aged 46		
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm NO MASS	Wednesday 5th St Elizabeth and St Zechariah The elderly parents of John the Baptist. Elizabeth was Mary’s aunt, sister of St Anne (Hannah in Hebrew), the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Zechariah was a priest in Temple in Jerusalem and his duties alternated between each of the family lines descended from those appointed by King David. The couple both prayed that they would have a son to take over the work in the Temple. When Elizabeth reached about 60 years old, the Angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah to tell him they would have a son who must be called John. When Herod’s soldiers started killing babies at the <i>Massacre of the Innocents</i> Elizabeth fled to the hills for safety. Zechariah was arrested and questioned. He was then murdered in the Temple when he refused to disclose the whereabouts of Elizabeth.		
NO MASS	Thursday 6th St Illtyd the Knight Born in 5 th century in a Welsh community in France. Popular Welsh saint who initially had a military career as a knight with his cousin King Arthur and was married. Moved to Wales with his wife. Known as Illtyd the Knight. Deserted his wife and his military career to become a monk. Developed a new method of ploughing and reclaiming land from the sea. Founded a school and monastery believed to be Britain’s earliest centre of learning and founded monastery on Caldey Island off the south coast of Wales. Organised corn ships to his birth place in Brittany during a famine. Many churches names after him including on Caldey.		

NO MASS	Friday 7th St Willibrord of Utrecht Born in 658 in Northumbria. Anglo-Saxon educated in Ripon and Ireland. Went as missionary to Netherlands to convert pagans, “Apostle to the Frisians”. First Bishop of Utrecht. Founded a monastery in Luxembourg. Invited monks from Ireland. Established a prestigious library. Then expanded missionary work to Denmark. Flouted the pagan customs to demonstrate power of Christianity. Pagan king conquered Frisia. Destroyed churches. Killed missionaries in 716. Built pagan temples. Willibrord fled. Frankish King Charles Martel then retook Frisia in 719. Willibrord returned. St Boniface later joined him and led mission to Germany				
6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 8th St Cybi Born about 483 in Cornwall, son of a “warrior prince”, and the King of Cornwall. Pilgrimage to Rome and the Holy Land. Ordained a priest and then a bishop by St Hilary in France. On arrival back in Cornwall his father had died and he was in line for the throne which he declined. Went preaching with his followers and founded churches in Cornwall and Wales successfully but Ireland proved difficult. Travelled to north Wales. Monastery founded on Anglesey on the site of an old Roman Fort at Holyhead. There are two holy wells, one in Cornwall and one in Wales, named after Cybi. Bishop Cybi died on 8 th November 555 and buried at his monastery				
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 9th November		The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica		
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION					
Your prayers are needed for the following people					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Mary Light	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	Ann Drumgoole

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Fr Thomas is having a well deserved break to visit family back in India from next week
Consequently there will be no weekday Masses from Monday 3rd November to Friday 28th November

Next SVP Social this Wednesday 5th November – 1pm to 3 pm

Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or 2 hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat

During the month of November we want to remember all the parishioners, friends and family who have died
In the porch is a basket where you can place the names on cards provided of those you wish to be remembered during Masses. For each Mass, 10 names will be randomly chosen and particularly mentioned.

Replacement of the boiler at St Vincent de Paul

Things have moved on as we had a visit from Heather Ward, Estates Manager for the dioceses, on Friday 24th October. She inspected the whole system with Joe McMahon including all the radiators and identified that the ceiling of the boiler room contained asbestos. As the Fabric and Finance Committee had already thought, Heather said a heat pump was not appropriate for the church that needs short bursts of heating that warms up the building quickly. This has been confirmed by a detailed report from Mark Brown, Estates Compliance Officer. Out of the five quotes Heather also chose the one the committee had considered the best from Harrison Heating as it was using the most powerful commercial boiler with a 7 day timer. The company is very familiar with our system as it has been servicing it for many years. At this point I should acknowledge the incredible assistance of our administrator Lina Maria who did a marvellous job in analysing the benefits and short comings of all the quotes. Heather suggested we should ask Harrison Heating if the boiler could be switched to run on hydrogen instead of gas as this might be used in the future and also to discover if they knew about the asbestos. It turns out they did know about the asbestos and did not see the need to disturb the ceiling. Also the boiler could be switched to using hydrogen. Heather, who has been in post for two years, has simplified the paperwork to obtain approval from the diocese and has changed meetings for such decisions to every two weeks, very much more frequent than in the past. The next such meeting is near the end of next week. One thing I did get wrong last week is concerning obtaining the money from our account. We have two accounts with just over £8,000 in our current account and a reserve account. A 30% deposit is needed before the company starts work which comes to about £5,000 so that can be paid out of the current account. The total quote including VAT is £16,488. Janet Springer has already started the process of moving money from our reserve account to cover the full cost. I think I can say on behalf of all the parish how much we are grateful to Janet who has been in charge of the accounts and doing all the financial returns and associated work for St Vincent de Paul for many years. Also a big thank you to Joe McMahon who gives up so much of his time caring for the parish and giving lifts to many parishioners. Save for clarification on one item, Lina Maria has now completed the diocesan form for application to the approval committee and will be able to send it in at the beginning of next week. With regards to Heather having simplified the application form I hate to think what it was like originally. Hopefully we can get the new system installed before Christmas all being well so please be patient and dress accordingly as the weather gets colder.

Parish collection for last weekend 25th and 26th October

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Candle money Adoration use of church	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£142	£35.50	£175.65	£242.54	£51.98	£647.67	£86.19 £50			£783.86