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ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S

The Catholic Church in Gosport

09 November 2025 - THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

08	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Deceased of the Leigh & Fairhurst Family	CONFESSION TIMES Wed 6:15pm-6:45pm <i>(if Mass is celebrated)</i> Sat - 12:00nn—1:00pm EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Thu—after the 7pm Mass <i>Holy half hour with Night Prayer</i> Fri 10:00am—12:00nn <i>Rosary for the Unborn at 10am</i> OUTREACH Thu from 1:00pm
09	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	The Dedication of the Lateran Church	Cecil Frank Wallace RIP Holy Souls in Purgatory	
10	Mon	No Service			
11	Tue	12:00nn	St Martin of Tours	Brou and Antoinne RIP	
12	Wed	07:00pm	St Josaphat	Christopher & Abigail RIP	
13	Thu	07:00pm		Thomas, Jack & Jacob RIP	
14	Fri	12:00nn		Ms Mary Anne Cornelius RIP	
15	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Jermilla Bangura INT	
16	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	St Edmund of Abingdon	Deceased of the Turner & Anderton Family People of the Parish	

REFLECTION

Reflection for Go upstream: Forming disciples to confront injustice

You've no doubt heard the story of the wise man who went to the river to meditate. When he arrived, he found a group of agitated people gathered on the riverbank. As he drew closer, he saw them frantically wading into the water to rescue people from drowning. Every time they pulled someone to shore, more flailing bodies came rushing downstream, crying for help.

After watching for a moment, the wise man asked what they were doing.

"Are you blind?" one of them shouted. "Can't you see we're saving people from drowning? We've been at this for hours!"

The wise man nodded. "It's a great thing you're doing," he said. "But perhaps it would be even more helpful to send some of your group upstream to find out why people are falling into the river in the first place."

That, in a nutshell, is the point of Pope Leo's recent apostolic exhortation found here : <https://tinyurl.com/3zvsn8kv> *Dilexi te* ("I have loved you").

As noted in *Encountering the poor is a prerequisite of faith* <https://tinyurl.com/4uvbxy6w>, the heart of the pope's message is this: **caring for the poor is not merely a consequence of faith—it is a prerequisite of faith and an essential aspect of the Church's mission.**

This article is from Nick Wagner, co-Director of Team Initiation and can be found at <https://teaminitiation.com/2025/10/go-upstream/> where there are many resources to help us develop a Parish option for the poor.

Dcn John



TO MAKE DONATIONS:

For **BACS Transfer**: Account Name: **CDP Gosport** Account No.: **00878538** Sort Code: **30-93-04** . Make all cheques payable to **CDP Gosport**, or you may scan the QR code. Standing Order and Gift Aid forms are available in the office.

Please Gift Aid your donations if possible.



OTHER IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 Nov / Fri - Parish office will be closed
30 Nov / Sun - First Sunday of Advent
08 Dec / Mon - Feast of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and Filipino Supper at 7pm at Our Lady in Stubbington
14 Dec / Sun - Pastoral Area Carol Service at St Philip Howard - Fareham at 3pm
19 Dec / Fri - Filipino "Simbang Gabi" Mass at 6pm

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND BLESSING OF GRAVES

At 2pm, everyone is invited to join Fr Benedikt Timpe and Dcn John for prayers near the graves of our loved ones laid to rest in Ann's Hill Cemetery. We will pray also for all the fallen in time of war.

We would like to thank everyone who donated knitted poppies, and to Elsie and Anne Berger for creating our beautiful Remembrance display. Thank you!



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Registration for the 2026 First Holy Communion programme is now open for children in Year 4 or over. Registration forms are available in the parish office. Please email office@stmarysgosport.org.uk or call 02392580119. **Registration ends on the 30th of November and programme starts in January.**



A LETTER TO OUR GIFT AID DONORS

A letter for all our Gift Aid donors is available for collection in the church foyer. If you have not yet done so, please collect yours at your earliest convenience. We continue to thank all our donors and those who Gift Aid their donations. The government adds an extra 25p per £1 donated by our Gift Aiders. In the last tax year, Gift Aid has added an extra £5000 to help with the regular upkeep and maintenance of our church. If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aiding your donations and/or paying by standing order. Please contact the parish office to know more.

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REPOSITORY

Religious items and Christmas cards will be available for sale in St Mary's Hall sometime this month (TBC) after the 8:00am Mass and 11:15am Mass. Everyone is welcome to come and browse.

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Did you know that a team of volunteers, led by Mike and Anne, welcome people of all faiths and backgrounds into the church to pray or light a candle? If you would like to be part of the Outreach Team, please join us by speaking to Mike or Anne. Find out more about this very rewarding ministry. Thank you to the Outreach team for your dedication and efforts.

CHOIR PRACTICE

For the members of the choir and those who wish to join the choir, below are the practice dates and they are all happening in St Mary's Church

Saturday November 29th 2pm Sunday November 30th 10am



FUNERAL NOTICE ✕

Ella Arendse . A Requiem Mass will be held for Ella Arendse on the 20th of November at 12nn followed by a committal at Portchester Crematorium. May her soul rest in peace.

Barbara Bond . Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Barbara Bond. May she rest in peace. There will be a Requiem Mass on the 26th of November at 12:00nn St Mary's.

Tea and Coffee in St Mary's Hall every Sunday after the 11:15am Mass. Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat.

JUBILEE WALK IN NOVEMBER - Weather-permitting!

Our parish administrator, Clarinda, is organising a Jubilee Walk on the 15th of November to celebrate the Jubilee theme: Pilgrims of Hope. This walk will begin at 10am at St Mary's Church going to Bayside Cabin and back. It will be a gentle prayerful walk through our local area. Along the way, she will pray the Rosary, pause for reflection, prayer and thanksgiving, and there will be short breaks. She warmly invites anyone to join her, whether for a whole walk or just part of it. It will be suitable for all ages. If you would like to join her on this Jubilee Walk, please speak to Clarinda as she needs numbers. Thank you. **Please note: There will be no 12nn confession on this day.**

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

We wish to thank all our wonderful volunteers, and those who work quietly behind the scenes, for their dedication, generosity, and service to our parish. **The 11:15 Mass on the 14th of December - Sunday, will be offered for the intention of all our church volunteers in gratitude for everything they do throughout the year. This is a special time to celebrate our volunteers and the many ways they bless St Mary's. After Mass, we will gather in the hall for a small celebration. Please bring a plate of food to share. Thank you for all that you do!**



CAMINO FUNDRAISING

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who sponsored Clarinda and supported our Camino fundraising. **Together, we raised £1,571.22 through online and cash donations.** People are still donating! This will go towards the winter upkeep and maintenance of St Mary's. Thank you for your generosity!



CWL - GOSPORT

On Wednesday 12th November, Gosport Section of the Catholic Women's League are meeting at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Stubbington. Mass at 12 noon will be for the intention of CWL Members past and present. Visitors will be very welcome to bring a packed lunch and stay to hear a talk about **Volunteering with Mercy Ships by Dr Jo**. The talk will begin at 1.30pm. For further information, please contact Marguerite Boulter: 01489 575663 / margieboulter@aol.com or Maria Owen: 07790 378 097 / mariaeowen@gmail.com



SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Be Still and Know that I am God, 14 - 17 November 2025 . A three-day retreat led by Fr Roger Dawson, SJ, aiming to help participants find a greater attentiveness and disposition to God's presence in their lives through a disciplining of the mind and awareness of the present moment. To find out more, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/mr3az6zr> Christian Heritage Centre

ADORE - SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

ADORE morning of spiritual renewal 22nd November. 10.00-1.00 on Zoom. "PILGRIMS OF HOPE - SIGNPOSTS TO THE KINGDOM." How we can revitalise Parishes to show people the way and share our hope with the lost. Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring talk from guest speaker Dr. Hannah Vaughan-Spruce. Register in advance for Zoom meeting 10.00-1.00 at bit.ly/ADORE22NOV2025 More information at www.altonrenewal.com

STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE APPEAL

It is the time of year! Did you know that there will be about 400,000 Seafarers working over Christmas, separated from their families and friends? Stella Maris meets and supports these seafarers. Your chocolate donations will serve as presents for seafarers visiting Southampton ports in the days before Christmas. Thank you for your donations!