

Priest-in-Charge: **Rev. Fr Matthew King**
 Parish Secretary: **Clarinda Mansfield**
 Deacon: **Rev Dcn John Cumpsty**
 Office Hours: **Mon to Fri 9am—12pm**
 Email: **office@stmarysgosport.org.uk**
 Telephone: **(023) 9258 0119**



Safeguarding Officer: **Maureen Williams**
 Email: **safeguarding@stmarysgosport.org.uk**
 @catholicchurchingosport
 www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/gosport/



ST MARY'S WEBSITE



ST MARY'S FACEBOOK

ST MARY'S & ST COLUMBA'S

The Catholic Church in Gosport

16 November 2025 - ST EDMUND OF ABINGDON

15	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	Jermilla Bangura INT	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
16	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	Deceased of the Turner & Anderton Family People of the Parish	
17	Mon	No Service			
18	Tue	12:00nn	Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul, Rome	Capt Dugmore RIP	
19	Wed	07:00pm		Margaret Cahill RIP	
20	Thu	12:00nn	<i>Requiem Mass</i>	Ella Arendse RIP	
21	Fri	12:00nn	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Deceased of the Bay & Alvarez Family	
22	Sat	06:00pm	<i>Vigil</i>	People of the Parish	
23	Sun	08:00am 11:15am	<i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	Deceased of the Ashworth & Anderton Family Zied Solomon RIP	

REFLECTION

On Sunday 16th November across the Diocese of Portsmouth we celebrate the Solemnity of St Edmund of Abingdon, co-Patron of our Diocese. Deacon Andrew Collins writes in the diocesan E-News:

St Edmund of Abingdon was a teacher of mathematics and dialectics, a Doctor of Divinity, a wonderful preacher, and was appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1233. He is venerated as an energetic and reforming bishop, a peacemaker, as well as being an effective spiritual writer and highly accomplished commentator on the Scriptures. He was a defender of justice, and discipline, particularly in high quarters which brought him into conflict with King Henry III and others opposed to his values. He was canonised in 1246, just six years after his death.

In our readings today we hear the calling of Jeremiah, the Lord putting out his hand to touch Jeremiah's mouth and saying to him, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth." We are called to "Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples" in our response to the psalm. In the Gospel Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" before telling him to go out and "Feed my lambs, my sheep."

Throughout his life as a devout Catholic, Edmund embodied this role of shepherd of the flock, which God enjoined on Jeremiah and Jesus on Peter and the apostles. There was no doubting Edmund's love for Christ, and he fed and tended those sheep entrusted to him with the greatest care. He gave away much of his income to charity, spent hours in prayer and on proclaiming the gospel, helping others to come to Christ through his Church.

The world finds itself at a crossroads today. Like Henry III, those who hold, or aspire to hold high office in this country, and around the world, seem to have lost the light of the Good News in their lives. There is an ever-growing disparity between the richest and poorest, a desire to take advantage of the weak and to oppress and to persecute those most in need of help, rather than to do the things which would alleviate their poverty and pain. As our co-patron, let us pray to St Edmund for his help in fighting for justice as he did, fighting for those who are unable to do so for themselves, to stand up for the principles of the Gospel, the two greatest commandments, Love of God and Love of Neighbour, whoever and wherever they may be, and in whatever circumstances they find themselves.

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

On the 20th-Thu and 25th-Tue of November, the parish office will be closed. Clarinda will be attending Diocesan training. Church opening times are not affected.

30 Nov-Sun - **First Sunday of Advent**

December

08 Mon - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and Filipino Supper and entertainment at **7pm** at **Our Lady in Stubbington**

14 Sun - Pastoral Area Carol Service at **St Philip Howard - Fareham** at **3pm**

19 Fri - Filipino *Simbang Gabi* Mass at **6pm** at St Mary's.

21 Sun - St Mary's Children's Nativity Play at **5pm**, parish hall

ROOF MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE—17 NOVEMBER

Thank you for your generous donations, we are now able to schedule the required cleaning of the guttering on the church roof and that of the parish hall. This is scheduled on **Monday the 17th of November**. This means that the church and the church grounds will be in-accessible in the morning. 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.**



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 29th November 2pm Sunday 30th November 10am

ST MARY'S NATIVITY PLAY

Join us on **21st December at 5pm in the parish hall** as we re-tell the timeless story of Christmas with joy and hope. Children of all ages are welcome to take part. Come and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with carols, mince pies and plenty of festive cheer! Please speak to Elsie after the 11:15am Mass or contact the parish office for more information.

NATIVITY SET COMPETITION!

This Christmas season, we invite all parish families to take part in our Family Nativity Set Competition. Celebrate the birth of Christ through creativity, teamwork, and faith as you design your own nativity scene. Use any materials you wish, and let your display reflect the true story of Christmas. **Submission date is 13 December** ready for display from the Third Sunday of Advent. For more information, please speak to Annette after the 11:15am Mass or email her: ahkosche@gmx.com

PARISH VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER!

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!**

FUNERAL NOTICES ✠

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. **There will be no 7pm Mass this Thursday.**

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.

THANK YOU TO OUR BRASS CLEANERS

To Cathy, Les (*in photo*) and team, the parish of St Mary's would like to thank you for your care and dedication in polishing and maintaining our brass elements. Your shining dedication shows so much detail and pride in your work. Thank you for helping St Mary's look its best every day!



STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS 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!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT VESPERS

There will be First Sunday of Advent Vespers with adoration at Our Lady's on Sunday 30th November, beginning at 6pm with refreshments in the hall afterwards. Everyone is invited to come.

VOCATIONS

"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Church needs those who are willing to dedicate their lives to nurturing the Body of Christ. Are you being called to help build up the Church as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to Fr Matthew, Dcn John, or contact Cn. John Cooke at 01329 318 869 / vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DIACONATE ORDINATION—JACK RYAN

Saturday 20th December 3pm at St John's Cathedral, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth. All are invited to the ordination of Jack, one of our "sons" from the Solent Pastoral Area - St Margaret Mary's Parish, Park Gate. Through the solemn Laying on of Hands he will be ordained a Deacon for us and, God willing, a Priest next year. Do come and support, and pray for Jack. All are very welcome!

PRAYER AND FASTING FOR END OF ABORTION

Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia on **Monday 17th November**. These days seem quite dark, what with Parliament voting to partly decriminalise abortion and voting to legalise euthanasia. Please invite others to join us in praying and fasting for life, you can do so with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ypbv3yzt>

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

A DAY WITH MARY

On **29th November - Saturday, Bournemouth Oratory** invites everyone to attend a day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. The day starts at 9:30am until 4:30pm. There will be confession and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. For more information: www adaywithmary.org