



# ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Priest: Fr Mark Whiting

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Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No 1199568

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1st February 2026 AD

Year A (Cycle II – Psalter Week 4)

Welcome to St Patrick's Church. Today's Gospel is from St Matthew's memorable account of Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount*. We are asked to take particular account of the line "Blessed are the poor in spirit". In the beatitudes, Jesus tells us how blessed we are if poor in spirit because the kingdom of heaven will be ours. Poverty of spirit means putting Jesus first in everything. Not believing that we are good enough on our own. We are rich in Him when we recognise that everything of lasting worth comes from Him.

First Reading:	Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 — <i>I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	<b>Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.</b> (Psalm 146, R. Matthew 5:3)
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 1:26-31 — <i>God chose what is weak in the world</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<b>Alleluia, alleluia!</b> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. <b>Alleluia!</b> (Matthew 5:12a)
Gospel Reading:	Matthew 5:1-12a — <i>Blessed are the poor in spirit</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<b>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.</b> <b>blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.</b> (Matthew 5:3-4)

Day		Time	Service	Intention
<b>SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME IV</b>	1st February	10:30am 11:00am	Reconciliation (Confession) SUNG MASS	Terry Waldron RIP and all the People of the Parish
Tuesday <i>St Blaise, bishop, martyr</i>	3rd February	10:00am	Rosary	
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	4th February	9:30am	Mass at St Joseph's Havant	
Thursday <i>St Agatha virgin, martyr</i>	5th February	9:30am 10:00am	Compulsory Clergy Training Day Mass at St Joseph's Havant	
Friday <i>St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs</i>	6th February	9:30am	Mass at St Joseph's Havant	
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	7th February	5:00pm	Vigil Mass at Ss Thomas's, Emsworth	
<b>SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME V</b>	8th February	10:30am 11:00am	Reconciliation (Confession) SUNG MASS	Jimmy Cogger RIP and all the People of the Parish

**Prayers For The Sick:** Wendy Field, Mary Webb, Joan Ramsbottom, Patricia Church, John Nowaczewski, Peter van der Merwe, Maureen & Gerard Cronin, Mike Peacock, Liam Brice, Mick O'Mahoney, Lizann de Souza, Liz Parkinson, Bill McGill, Kevin Conroy, Maria Gaye.

**Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of those recently departed:**

**and those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:** Lilian Olive Heath (Sun) Terence Healy *priest* (Mon) Greta Perkins (Tue) Anthony Zollo *priest*, Michael Molloy (Wed) Donald Brassett (Fri) Brian Smith, Prudence Nowaczewska (Sat)

Queen Alexandra Hospital Chaplaincy Number : 023 9228 6000

Parish 24 Hour Emergency Number : 07584 661318 (Fr Mark)

Parishioners/Relatives may request Parish Visitors to call by sending an email to: [visiting.hayi@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:visiting.hayi@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## NOTICES:



**After Mass this morning** there will be a short rite for the choir and others who wish to take part honouring **St Blaise**. St Blaise was a doctor in Sebaste in Armenia, of miraculous ability, good-will, and piety. He was elected bishop of the city with the acclamation of all the people. In 316, Agricola, the governor of Cappadocia and of Lesser Armenia, having arrived in Sebastia at the order of the emperor Licinius to kill the Christians, arrested him. As he was being led to jail, a mother set her only son, choking to death of a fish-bone, at his feet, and the child was cured straight away. Regardless, the governor, unable to make Blaise renounce his faith, beat him with a stick, ripped his flesh with iron combs, and beheaded him. On his feast, candles are held in the form of a cross by a priest over the throat and the following blessing is given: "Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness". Then the priest makes the sign of the cross over the faithful.



**2nd February** is the **Feast of the Presentation the Our Lord** (Candlemass) which is of Oriental origin. It was known in the West as the feast of the Purification of Our Lady, and closed the Christmas Cycle, forty days after the Lord's birth. We celebrate with solemn blessings and processions of candles. The Presentation of the Lord concludes the celebration of the Nativity and with the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon. **Mass** will be celebrated at **12:00noon** at **St Joseph's, Havant**.



**For All Medical and Healthcare Professionals** (and those who pray for them. On Friday **13th February (The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes)** at **6:30pm**, there will be a mass at **St Colman's, Cosham** especially for Medics. Doctors, Nurses. Healthcare Assistants, Ambulance Crews, and all who work in Auxiliary roles and healthcare professions are invited to this mass.



**2026 Pilgrimage with Bishop Philip to Lourdes.** The pilgrimage will start at London Heathrow Airport on Monday **6th July** and run until Friday **10th July**. Accommodation will be at the *Hotel La Solitude*, which is close to the Sanctuary itself. During the pilgrimage you will be able to enjoy all that Lourdes has to offer, taking part in all the usual Pilgrimage activities as well as visits to many places that were important to St Bernadette. There are also opportunities to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. There will be moments of quiet reflection and peace, and others when we will be able to hear the chanting and singing of hundreds of voices. If you would like to know more email [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for a booking form.

**Lenten Lunches** are shared meals of a soup and a roll in various places around Hayling Island on a Friday. The Lunches raise money for *Christian Aid* and for *Cafod*. The venues this year are as follows: **20th February at 12:00pm** - URC Main Hall / 27th February at 12:30pm - Hayling Island Baptist Church (held in the URC small hall) / 6th March at 12:00pm - St Patrick's Church Hall / 13th March at 12:00pm - St Mary's Church / 20th March at 12:00pm - St Andrew's Church (held in St Mary's Church hall) / 27th March - tba / Saturday 28th March 12.00pm - Hayling Christian Centre (Elim Church)



**The Biblical Timeline Course** John McCormack (also at **Sacred Heart**) will be leading a course on how the Bible Testaments fit together, and how prophecy and fact link together giving us the bedrock of our faith. Starts **Monday 16th February at 6:45pm**.



**Lent Bible Studies** will be starting on **Wednesday 25th February at 7:00pm** in Church. Fr Mark will guide us through a series of Scripture passages where the Bible depicts stories of "being in the wilderness" culminating with the very foundation of Lent, Jesus spending forty days and forty nights alone in the wilderness with Satan tempting Him. Everyone is welcome. If you have your own Bible, please bring it with you. If you are looking for a new Bible; the Lectionary now uses the *English Standard Version* (Catholic Edition), while Scriptural and Theology Faculties use the *New Revised Standard Version* (Catholic Edition).



**Station Masses for Lent:** These will happen on **each Tuesday** evening in **Lent** and will be the only Masses available on those days. Each week we will have a **Holy Hour** starting at **6:00pm** with opportunities for Reconciliation (Confession), with **Mass** starting at **7:00pm**.

**24th February**—St Josephs, Havant / **3rd March**—St Edmunds, Horndean / **10th March**—St Colman's, Cosham / **17th March**—St Patrick's, Hayling Island (*Feast Day*) / **24th March**—St Michael and All Angels', Leigh Park. Deacon Nick O'Neil will be the preacher.



**Hayling Holiday Lunches:** The collection of food for takes place on the second Sunday of each month. It can get rather confusing when the second Sunday falls very early in each month, therefore... The next collection dates are:

**Sunday 8 February** / Sunday 8 March / Sunday 12 April / Sunday 10 May

**Church Hall** Should you wish to book the Church Hall please telephone Denzil on 07791 776148



**Charity Quiz Night:** St Patrick's Church have been invited to send a team of **8 people** to a Quiz taking place at Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Waterloo on Saturday **7th March** beginning at **7:30pm**. James Ryan, a parishioner at Saint Edmund's is arranging the Quiz, in aid of the Jesuit Refugee Fund, for whom he is also running the London Marathon. Anyone interested please speak to Fr Mark.



**The Catholic Women's League** has its next meeting on **Tuesday 3rd February**. For this month we will begin at **1:30pm**, as usual new members and visitors will be very welcome. Following this meeting **Tess Balchin** will join us to talk about the role of therapy dogs in QA hospital and the wider community. She will, of course, be accompanied by the lovely Molly. The talk is open to all and we hope you will come along and hear what she has to say. You are asked to arrive at **2:00pm** for a cuppa and a biscuit prior to **the talk which will commence at 2:15pm**. This will give us time for a brief question and answer session. We have to be clear of the Hall by 4:00pm.

**Future date for your diary - Wednesday 11th February - Bingo** in the Hall at **2:00pm**. Home-made cake with the tea/coffee in the interval and a Raffle. As this is close to Valentine's Day, several of the raffle prizes will be "pink". Come with friends or come alone, you won't be alone for long. The session is always a fun, friendly afternoon. Proceeds to CWL charities.



**Missio:** Many thanks to all those who brought in their Missio red boxes for emptying. We have collected a fantastic £453 which is more than we have collected for many years so thank you all for your generosity. Empty boxes which I have not already returned, can now be collected from the back of Church.

*Angi Howell*



**Church cleaning.** Apologies to the loyal team of Church cleaners.

Due to circumstances beyond our control the next session scheduled for Monday 2nd February has had to be moved to the following Monday (**9th February**) from 10:00pm.



### The Shepherds' Plate

There are a few tickets still available. Please contact Clare via email: [clareahill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clareahill@yahoo.co.uk) to purchase a ticket or for more information.

### Spring Alpha 2026

The Alpha course is about creating a welcoming space where everyone can enjoy a meal together, watch a video about the Christian message and then have some time for discussion and exploration of what they believe.

There's no pressure or judgment - it's just an informal and safe space to explore what we are thinking.

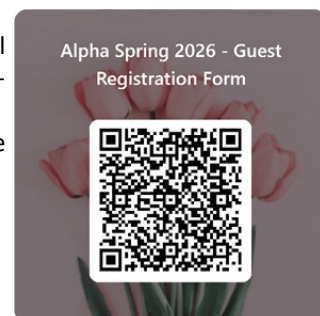
**We have three Alpha courses running** from the first week in March, starting:

Monday 2nd March - 7:00-9:00pm, at **St Coleman's Church, Cosham**

Tuesday 3rd March - 7:00-8:30pm Online

Thursday 5th March - 7:00-9:00pm, at a parishioner's home in Hayling Island.

Further information email [alpha@jesusprinceofpeace.org.uk](mailto:alpha@jesusprinceofpeace.org.uk) or scan the QR code:



Contributions to the next Edition are eagerly awaited. Share your past Lenten and Easter experiences, in poetry or prose, with your fellow parishioners. Non Seasonal items also welcome.

Deadline for copy is **Sunday 8th February at 4pm**.

Email: [gerryholden1000@gmail.com](mailto:gerryholden1000@gmail.com).

Typed or written contributions can be submitted if email is not available to you.