



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Aldermoor Close, Coxford Road, Lordswood, Southampton,
Hampshire SO16 5ST **Office: 07887452313**

Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Parakandathil tparakandathil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Lina Maria Speigal email: svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Newsletter editor: Malcolm Forster email: malcolmandrita@btinternet.com
Safeguarding Officer Liz Challand safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator Lina Maria is available preferably by email on in emergency by the office telephone on Thursdays
Website: [https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/paof the rish/st-vincent-de-paul/](https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/paof%20the%20rish/st-vincent-de-paul/) (To open: Select link then Ctrl + left Click)

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday 28th December 2025

Fr Thomas wishes to thank everyone for their contribution to his Christmas Collection

Page 106	Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14	Colossians 3: 12-21	Gospel Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23
<p>The feast of the Holy Family reminds us that Jesus lived in a real family. He had a mother and father who cared for Him. Mary and Joseph did not have easy lives, but they trusted God and followed His plan. Their home was simple, but was full of love. This feast helps us think about our own families. Every home has struggles. But like the Holy Family we are called to listen to God and care for each other with patience. Love grows in quiet moments, hard choices and daily kindness. The first reading this weekend considers honour and respect in families. It emphasises honouring parents, showing respect within families brings blessings and strengthens relationships. Caring for parents, especially in their old age, is a way to live out God's commandment and reflects a life grounded in respect, humility and love, the core message of the prophet Sirach. The second reading calls for compassion, kindness and patience within families. These virtues build harmony and reflect Christ's love in daily life. Families are encouraged to forgive one another and live in peace fostering unity and understanding. Matthew's Gospel shows Joseph's obedience and trust as he protects Jesus by fleeing to Egypt and later returning to settle in Nazareth. It shows how God's plan works through ordinary faith and quiet courage and how family life can follow God's plan.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Doreen Maciejewski	Saturday 27 th St John the Evangelist Born in Galilee the son of Zebedee and brother of St James the Great and the two were known as "Sons of Thunder" due to their strong reation to events.. They were fishermen on Lake Galilee until called by Jesus to be apostles, John the youngest of the 12. He is the author of the fourth gospel and also wrote three canonical letters. In his gospel he is usually identified with " <i>the disciple whom Jesus loved</i> " and sat next to Jesus at the Last Supper. Jon was present with James and Peter at the Transfiguration. It was to John that Jesus, from the cross, entrusted the care of his mother. After the resurrection many of the apostles returned to fishing and it was John who recognised and idedntified Jesus when he appeared to the disciples who were fishing on the Sea of Galilee and he shouted "It is the Lord". He first worked with St Peter and one legend was that he survived being boiled in oil in Rome. His brother James was martyred in the persecution by Roman Emperor Domitian who exiled John to the Aegean island of Patmos between Geece and Turkey where he wrote the Book of Revelation. In the reign of Roman Emperor Trajan John settled in Ephesus in what is now Turkey and attrated large crowds with his preaching. He lived into his 90's and became feeble having to be carried to communities to preach. He would tell people "My little children, love one another". Died of natural causes and was the only apostle who did not die a martyr.		
	9.30 am Mass	Sunday 28 th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Benny Francis RIP Roy Guisha 25 th Anniversary	
6.30 pm Mass Sue Chandler RIP	Monday 29 th St Thomas Becket of Canterbury Born in 1118 in London. His father was a Norman merchant. He studied in Paris. Returned to England and worked as a clerk. Then entered to the service of Archbishop Theobold of Canterbury who made him his archdeacon in 1154. He was a close friend of King Henry II, who made him Royal Chancellor in the following year and Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162. Previously he had lived a rather worldly life, but now he concentrated on his pastoral duties and insisted on the independence of the Church from the jurisdiction of the Crown. He went into exile in 1164, returned in 1170, and was assassinated in Canterbury Cathedral that year on 29 th December by four royal knights who thought they were acting on the king's wishes. He was canonised in 1173 and his tomb in Canterbury Cathedral became one of the foremost pilgrimage shrines in western Christendom until its destruction by King Henry VIII.		
10 am Funeral of Sue Chandler	Tuesday 30 th St Egwin of Evesham Anglo-Saxon born about 660, descendant of the Mercian kings in central England. He devoted himself to God in his youth as a monk. Appointed Bishop of Worcester in 692. With his zeal, the severity of opposing evil and his reforms he incurred the hostility of some in his diocese. Did a penitential pilgrimage to Rome to answer to the pope for complaints that had been made against him. He returned to England and was more forgiving. With the help of King Ethelred of Mercia he founded the famous Abbey of Evesham in the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He then undertook another pilgrimage to Rome in the company of King Conrad of Mercia and King Offa of the East Saxons. He obtained considerable privileges for his foundation from Pope Constantine. Bishop Egwin died on 30 th December 717 and was buried in the monastery at Evesham. Eventually, Evesham Abbey became one of the great Benedictine houses of medieval England		
	Wednesday 31 st St Pope Sylvester I Born 285 in Italy, son of Rufinus, a Roman. In 314 he was appointed Bishop of Rome as Pope Sylvester I. The year before, Roman Emperor Constantine was starting to become interested in Christianity and played a role in the Edict of Milan that declared tolerance for Christianity in the Roman Empire. A few years later he was baptised and was the first Roman Emperor to convert to the Christian Church. With Pope Sylvester he elevated the status of Christianity in Rome. In 324 he gave his palace of the Lateran to the Church and it became the		

11 pm: Adoration 12 Midnight Mass Thanksgiving Mass for all the blessings received for the Bile family	Cathedral Church of Rome for the Pope, the first Basilica in Rome which was named the Basilica of St John Lateran. In 325 Pope Sylvester convened the First Council of Nicaea which condemned the Arian heresy which claimed God the Son was a lower status than God the Father and the Holy Spirit. It defined the first Nicene Creed which stated that the three persons of the Trinity were equal. This was only the beginning of a devastating struggle in the Church for centuries. Pope Sylvester built many churches including the old St Peters, the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem and St Laurence Outside the Walls. He died on 31 st December 335 aged 50 and was initially buried in a church he had built at the cemetery of Priscilla on the Salarian Way. In 761 his relics were transferred by Pope Paul I to the Church of St Sylvester, now the national church of English Catholics in Rome.	
10 am Mass Mass for divine direction in 2026 for Niciruka Dkonkwo	Thursday 1st January St Fabius Fulgentius of Ruspe Born in 465 in North Africa, now Tunisia. His grandfather had been a senator in Carthage until it was invaded. Father died when he was young. Mother taught him Greek and Latin. Memorised the entire works of Homer and so gained public respect. Made procurator and tax collector of Byzacene where he lived in Tunisia. Grew tired of job and studied theology after reading a sermon from St Augustine of Hippo. Became a monk in a monastery in Byzacene. Driven out by supporters of Arianism heresy. Went to Rome in 500 but was not impressed and returned to Africa. Founded an orthodox monastery in Tunisai. Eventually made Bishop Fulgentius of Ruspe in the Tunisian province of Byzacena. Banished to Sardinia by King Thrasamund of the Vandals who had Arian beliefs. Fabius founded a monastery and did much writing. Recalled to Tunisia by the king to debate between orthodox and Arian beliefs. Fabius was so effective he was allowed to stay. Then sent into exile again after complaints from Arian clergy. Fabius returned to Tunisia on death of king when the new leader had orthodox beliefs. Again Bishop Fulgentius of Ruspe. Demanded a strict austere life style for his clegy, fasting and care in their ministry to the people. Just before his death on 1 st January 533 he tried to be a hermit.	
NO MASS	Friday 2nd St Basil the Great of Caesarea Born in 330 in Caesarea to wealthy and devout Christian Greek family, one of 10 children. His paternal grandmother, mother, father, one sister and three brothers are all venerated as saints. Educated in Caesarea where he met his close friend Gregory of Nazianzus. He then studied advanced rhetoric and philosophy in Constantinople and Athens where he met up with Gregory of Nazianzus again. They both studied with a student who would become the pagan Roman Emperor Julian for 3 years. Later they were in conflict with Julian. Basil, Gregory and Gregory’s brother Gregory of Nyssa were known as the <i>Cappadocian Fathers</i> and opposed the heresy of Arianism and were strong supporters of the Nicene Creed which defined the three natures of God as equal. Basil wrote numerous theological works and libraries preserve many of his books and letters. He preached to large gathering twice a day and was loved by them. He took care of the poor and had a hospital built. Basil did superlative and enduring work in one of the most difficult times the Church had ever faced . A greatly respected Doctor of the Church for his writings. He died on 2 nd January 379 aged 48 of liver disease caused by excessive ascetic practices	
6pm Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Joseph Devassia	Saturday 3rd St Genevieve of Paris Born about 422 in France. Was a shepherd when she was young. St Germanus encouraged her piety and wish to have her life consecrated to God. When her parents died went to live with her godmother in Paris. Devoted herself to works of charity which upset some traders. Lived austere life style. Reported she had visions which her enemies declared was fraud and tried to drown her. St Germanus supported her and convinced her enemies she was genuine. Bishop of Paris put her in charge of consecrated virgins in Paris area. Saved Paris from famine in 451 and from Attila the Hun in 464. She died in about 502. Patron saint of Paris.	
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 4th January	Second Sunday after the Nativity
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION		
Your prayers are needed for the following people		
Ann Drumgoole	Hazel Sale	Mary Light Trevor Delves

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Fr Thomas thanks all those who contributed to his Christmas Collection which totalled £690.90 with gift aid
Funeral of Sue Chandler at 10 am at St Vincent de Paul on Tuesday 30th December

Sue was an active member of the Union of Catholic Mothers in the parish very soon after it started just after the church opened in January 1976 and remained a member until it closed on its 40th anniversary in 2016, 10 years ago next month. After the pandemic lockdown Sue suffered mobility problems and was in special accommodation.

Funeral of Fr Shaun Budden is on Friday 9th January at 2pm at Christ the King and St Colman in Bitterne

Fr Shaun was a parish priest of St Vincent de Paul from 1977 to 1984, for 2 years supported by Fr Michael Cronin.

Parish collection for last weekend 20th and 21st December

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Use of church Candle money			TOTAL of all money
£77	£19.25	£137.50	£242.54	£51.98	£528.27	£50 £60.22			£638.49

Christmas Collection for Fr Thomas

Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Total Collection
£310	£77.50	£303.40	£690.90