



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)

Fourth Sunday in Lent Sunday 15th March 2026

Special Second Collection this weekend for the Clergy Assistance Fund

Page 164	1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13	Ephesians 5: 8-14	Gospel Joh9: 1- 4
<p>In the readings this weekend God helps us to look beyond what is on the outside as He looks deeper and knows what really matters. He looks at the heart, not outward appearances. We must open our eyes with faith to God's light and guidance. In the first reading Samuel is sent by the Lord to anoint one of the sons of Jesse as the new King of Israel. David is chosen to be king by God even though he was the youngest and smallest. Everyone thought the eldest son Eliah would be picked but God shows he sees things others miss as He looks deep into their being and potential and is not impressed by physical assets. David is a shepherd and was not expected to be considered as the new king but is given strength and guidance from the Holy Spirit. King David develops into one of the greatest and well known of the kings of Israel. The second reading from St Paul calls us to live as children of light. We are challenged to see the world through God's eyes, walking in goodness and truth. Spiritual sight involves seeing things from God's perspective, not through the lens of selfishness or judgement of the world. This means rejecting sin and letting Christ's light guide our actions. In John's Gospel the blind man and the Samaritan woman last weekend are outcasts of society and Jesus again is breaking social barriers. In both cases the actions of Jesus lead to life-changing transformation and shows he is more than a healer, He is the Saviour. The woman's community is open and curious and become believers. However religious leaders reject the blind man's story and refuse to believe in Jesus showing spiritual blindness. We must learn from the courage of the healed man who boldly defends Jesus before the Pharisees to inspire us to stand up for our faith even when challenged. Malcolm.</p>			
Mass times		Feast Days	
10.30 am: CAFOD Lenten Walk from St Edmund's	Saturday 14th St Leobinus of Chartres	Born in France at the end of the 5 th century to peasant farmers. As a child he worked in the fields but was full of intellectual curiosity. Keen to learn he went to the local monastery. Carried out menial tasks all day and studied at night. Gained considerable religious knowledge. Spent time as a hermit with St Avitus. Joined monastery at Lyons Abbey. Five years later monastery was raided. Leobinus was tortured to disclose where the monastery treasurers were kept. Refused tell them and left for dead. Recovered and rejoined St Avitus at La Perche. Appointed Abbot of Brou and ordained a priest although he preferred the life of a monk. Then made the Bishop of Chartres. Carried out many reforms and was involved in 5 th Council of Orleans and the Second Council of Paris. He died after a long illness on 14 th March 558	
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Doreen Maciejewski RIP	Sunday 15th March	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Lumen Da Silva RIP
9.30 am Mass	Monday 16th St Clement Mary Hofbauer	Born in 1751 in Czech Republic son of a farmer and butcher who died when he was 6 years old. Aged 15, apprentice baker in Znojmo. Baker at Austrian Priory. Hermit. Baker in Vienna. Hermit at a shrine in Rome. Trained as a priest at Vienna University. Joined the Redemptorists in Rome and ordained a priest. Established Redemptorists in Warsaw in Poland. Refuge for homeless boys and girls. Active parish. Expelled from Poland by Napoleon. Chaplain to a hospital and Ursuline nuns in Vienna. Founded a College. Intellectual discussions with students. Brought rich, influential and artistic people into the Church. Stopped Germany creating a national Church. He died 15 th March 1820 aged 68. Vienna streets crowded for his funeral.	
6.30 pm Mass Paul Gardiner RIP	Tuesday 17th St Patrick's Day	Patrick was born in 387 in Scotland to fairly wealthy Roman parents. At age 15 he was captured with some of his father's slaves by Irish raiders and sold as a slave in Ireland. He was six years a shepherd to a cruel chieftain and acquired a perfect knowledge of Celtic language which would be useful later. Then he escaped back to Scotland. He then trained for priesthood in Gaul as his mother was related to St Martin of Tours who had died a few years earlier. Part of mission to Britain. Ordained a priest. Led missionaries to Ireland in 433 requested by Pope Celestine just before he died in 432. Irish astonished he preached so eloquently in their own language. Opposed pagan Druids with great success. Evangelised Ireland with the help of St Brigid. Built churches and monasteries. 493 aged 106 Patrick retired exhausted to the monastery at Saul, Downpatrick, south of Belfast. He eventually died there on 17 th March 493. His remains were wrapped in a shroud woven by St Brigid's own hands. Bishops, clergy and the faithful from all parts of Ireland came to pay due honour to the Father of their Faith. He was buried at the chieftain's fort, near Saul monastery, later Down Cathedral on English Street, Downpatrick.	
10 am Mass	Wednesday 18th St Cyril of Jerusalem	Born in about 315 near Jerusalem. Deacon, priest and then Bishop of Jerusalem. Opposed heresy of <i>Arianism</i> which the Bishop Acacius of Caesarea supported. Jerusalem, covering the Holy Land was considered more important than Caesarea. Caused conflict between Cyril and Acacius. Acacius accused Cyril of selling Church property, which he did to feed the poor. Bishop Cyril ignored him. Synod deposed Bishop Cyril who went into exile. Reinstated and then deposed again twice more. Took part in the Second Ecumenical Council in 381. Helped to rewrite the Nicene Creed to exclude <i>Arianism</i> beliefs. Died exhausted in 386 aged 71.	
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm	6,30 pm Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Peter and family		

10 am Mass

Thursday 19th St Joseph I have always felt that St Joseph has not had enough recognition in the Church. While Mary had a visit of the Angel Gabriel to explain the virgin birth of Jesus, Joseph had a divine revelation in a dream. The teenager responded to care for Mary who was aged only 13 or 14. Despite Mary being close to giving birth the two teenagers travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem where Jesus is born. Joseph is again told in a dream to travel to Egypt to avoid the massacre of the "Holy Innocents" by King Herod, a really dangerous journey for the teenage couple. Back in Nazareth Joseph became famous as he was more an artisan, a skilled craftsman in wood and stone, than just a carpenter. It seems he died before Jesus started to gather his disciples. He is the patron saint of workers and many organisations. There are many religious Orders that use his name.

NO MASS

Friday 20th St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne Born about 635 to a poor farming family near Melrose, Scotland. He tended sheep on hills above Melrose Abbey. At age 16 he saw a vision of the soul of Bishop Aidan being taken to heaven by angels. Felt he had a calling as a monk but first spent four years as a soldier fighting for Christian King Oswy of Northumbria against pagan King Penda of Mercia. Then entered Melrose Abbey. Educated in Celtic tradition by Irish monks. His mentor Eata was made Prior of new Ripon monastery. Cuthbert became guest master at Ripon. When St Wilfred became abbot he adopted Roman rites so Cuthbert and Eata returned to Melrose Abbey. Eata became abbot and Cuthbert was made Prior. Cuthbert was austere unlike the arrogant St Wilfred and ministered to the people who found him friendly and inspiring. Tension between Celtic and Roman rites resulted in the *Synod of Whitby* in 664. Abbot Wilfred won the day for the Roman rite. Bishop Colman resigned from Lindisfarne and left with most of the monks and relics of St Aidan, the first bishop. Abbot Eata asked Cuthbert to be Bishop of Lindisfarne to introduce the Roman rite. His gentle leadership was ideal for this sensitive role. Cuthbert was successful and admired by the remaining monks and people for his charm, sanctity and generosity to the poor. He travelled the area as a missionary and converted many and improved religious practices. In 676 he left Lindisfarne to live as a hermit, first on the mainland at *St Cuthbert's Cave* and then on Farne island. He was elected Bishop of Hexham but rejected the post. Eventually agreed to return as Bishop of Lindisfarne. Died in 687. Shrine to him in Durham Cathedral. In 9th century was an inspiration for King Alfred the Great. .

6pm Confessions
6.30pm Vigil Mass
Diana Stimson
RIP

Saturday 21st St Nicholas Owen Born in Oxford in 1562. Trained as a carpenter and stone mason by his father. Short in stature, he was disabled with a limp. Two brothers were priests and other brother printed and secretly sold Catholic books during Penal Laws of Queen Elizabeth I. Travelled with Fr Edmund Campion SJ as Jesuit lay brother. Started making hiding places for priests – "priest holes". Arrested with Fr Edmund and other priests he accompanied. Always released as considered a harmless disabled servant. Travelled with Jesuit Provincial Fr Henry Garnet. Spent 18 years from 1588 creating ever more ingenious priest holes and even secret rooms for celebrating Mass in homes of Catholic recusant families all over the country. Eventually betrayed by a servant. Arrested and martyred under torture refusing to reveal the secrets of his hiding places in 1606.

9.30 am Mass

Sunday 22nd March **Fifth Sunday of Lent**
30th Wedding Anniversary of Elizabeth and Robin Challand

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 Pat Sweeney

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Special Second Collection this weekend for the Clergy Assistance Fund

For those who gift aid, please use the orange envelope for your donation so that gift aid can be claimed.

Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 18th March – 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.

Special Second Collection on the weekend of 21st and 22nd March for Flowers for Easter.

Mass times for the period of Lent

Sunday 29th March: Palm Sunday: Mass at 9.30 am

Wednesday 1st April: Reconciliation Service at 5.30 pm followed by Mass at 6.30 pm

Thursday April 2nd : Maundy Thursday Mass at 7.30 pm

Friday April 3rd : Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 2.30 pm Good Friday Service at 3 pm

Saturday 4th April: Easter Vigil Mass at 8 pm Sunday 5th April: Easter Sunday Mass at 9.30pm

Update on Pat Sweeney

Pat is now at home and making good progress although still needing and receiving a good deal of therapy and medical assistance. She is very thankful for all the prayers and messages of support

Parish collection for last weekend 7th and 8th March

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Candle money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£77	£19.25	£203.37	£242.54	£51.98	£594.14	£49.04			£643.18