

Southeast Hampshire Pastoral Area
Jesus Prince of Peace
St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

Parochial Administrator: Rev. Fr. James Lewis

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Parish Mass Book page 268

Scripture Readings at Mass

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 *'They laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.'*

1 Peter 3:15-18 *'Being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.'*

John 20:19-31 *'John 14:15-21.'*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10 May 2026

Fr. Tom writes...

Some of us attended a remarkable conference last week, at the Royal Albert Hall, where 6000 Christians from around the world, from Roman Catholics and Orthodox to Free Church Pentecostals, shared testimonies of living their faith and joined together in praise of God. For the Catholic contingent, which was similarly global in make-up, there was a daily Mass, with 40 or so priests and half a dozen bishops concelebrating. Some non-Catholics attended just to see what Mass was like. Though the conference not organised by Catholics, there was great respect shown to the Catholic Church throughout. Cardinal Tagle was a speaker, as was the president of Latvia. The whole thing was an extraordinary experience.

What everyone there had in common was that they were committed enough to want to share the Gospel with others. And everyone, it seemed, was experiencing new levels of interest. As one author put it: "it is as if our culture is waking from the fever dream of secularism". A school chaplain from Sweden, who was there with a big group, told me that children in her deeply secular country were often asking her: 'Why don't we believe?' Which is a very profound question, and not one their parents (the first generation in over a thousand years not to believe in God) can easily answer.

Obviously, such events are rare and contain a condensed level of excitement (amazement even) that can be hard to extend to one's daily life. But there was a healthy dose of realism there too. The rising cost of living, and the ever-rising anxieties and temptations of this world, mean that all of us, clergy and laity alike, are running out of room for compromise. As one young person to return to the Church, the former actress Sister Clare Crockett, shows in the now viral YouTube documentary *Sister Clare Crockett - All or Nothing*, only 100% makes sense when it comes to following Jesus. What she also demonstrated, in her beautiful and heroic life, and what I saw in London, was that this is not a joyless or unrealistic self-abnegation, but the most real and joyful commitment anyone could ever make.

A Pastoral Letter from Fr. James is available this weekend. If you do not have internet access, printed copies can be collected from the Welcome area. Included is information about Fr. Mark's retirement. He will be celebrating Mass at St. Edmund on Tuesday 19th May @ 6.30pm to bid farewell to our parishioners. There will be refreshments available after Mass. If you would like to donate towards a leaving gift for Fr. Mark, there is a link on the contactless machine at St Michael's.

Rosary Group

Meet on Monday at 10am at St Michael's.

Bible Timeline

Continues on Tuesday mornings at 10.15am at St Michael's in the Committee room. Each session will have a video, discussion and question time. Please do come along. Kathy Collins will be hosting kathyimcollins1@gmail.com

Flores De Mayo

9.30am Mass on Sunday 17th May will be our traditional celebration of Mary, and you are invited by our Filipino community to stay on for lunch. Please bring food to share.

Catholic Grandparents Association

The group takes a break during May and looks forward to gathering again at St Michael's on Thursday 11th June at 11am. In the meantime, Miss Cryer has shared details of the "Teach Me To Pray" group at St Thomas More Catholic School, which is led by the Grandparents' Association. Each week, the children focus on one or two mysteries of the Rosary and share thoughtful intentions together. *"We are so grateful to the Grandparents' Association for their commitment and kindness towards our growing group of 'little saints'. Thank you."*



A big thank you from the Humphreys family

Alison Humphreys writes... Fr John, Alison, Clare, Rosemary and Edward have been quite overwhelmed by the generosity of so many and the kind messages in response to their appeal for sponsorship in aid of Rare Dementia Support. At the time of writing, the total has reached £7669 (+£1643 Gift Aid). Thank you so much. Clare, Rosemary and Edward completed the walk successfully on Saturday, spurred on by the knowledge that they were backed by such a number of supporters. Donations can still be made using the link: www.justgiving.com/page/humphreys-walk

Afternoon Tea at St Joseph's Wednesday 10th June at 2pm. Traditional tea with a free draw! Tickets cost £10. Please book by Wednesday 3rd June – payment is required when booking. To book your tickets or for more information please contact Julia juliaat28@hotmail.co.uk

Family picnic St Joseph's, Havant, 13th June 2026 at 12noon. Includes BBQ, live music, and activities for children.

Sunday 21st June We lovingly remember Canon Gerard Flynn RIP, whose anniversary occurs during this month. Tea and cake will be shared after the 9.30am Mass as we come together in prayer and remembrance and hope you can join us.

Mass for the Sick St Edmund, Horndean, invite everyone in Jesus Prince of Peace Parish for a special Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick on Saturday 9th May at 12noon.

Peace talk Sat 9th May 2026 At St Colman's church hall (PO6 2JJ) from 4pm – 5.45pm followed by Mass at 6pm. Our Justice & Peace group invite you to an afternoon to reflect on what the church teaches on peace. We are pleased to have Fr Andrew Wagstaff speak about church teaching on peace and welcome Fr Jonathan Jeffery to lead us in a biblical reflection. Everyone is welcome.

Admittance to hospital When a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family should ensure the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so pastoral and sacramental support can be offered. It may help to give staff a note on admission requesting chaplaincy support, and to follow this up with the ward. Please also inform your parish priest before admission so the Sacrament of the Sick can be given where appropriate.

LITURGICAL WEEK

DATE	TIME	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION	VENUE	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 9 May Of the Fifth Week of Easter Vigil Sixth Sunday of Easter	11.30am 12noon 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Adoration & Confession Mass Mass for the Sick Holy Hour & Confession Vigil Mass	St Michael St Michael St Edmund Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	For the Parish For the sick Mr. Stewart Russell, RIP
Sunday 10 May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Mick Woodgate, RIP & the Woodgate family Canon Peter Turbitt INT Mick Woodgate, RIP & the Woodgate family People of the Parish
Monday 11 May Of the Sixth Week of Easter	7am 7.30am 12.30pm	Mass Holy Hour Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel	Holy Souls
Tuesday 12 May Of the Sixth Week of Easter	7.30am 7pm	Holy Hour Mass	Sacred Heart All Saints' Church, Denmead	Holy Souls
Wednesday 13 May Of the Sixth Week of Easter Vigil The Ascension of the Lord	7.30am 10.15am 11.30am 12noon 7pm	Holy Hour Mass followed by Adoration Adoration Mass Vigil Mass	Sacred Heart St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	Sr Angela RIP Private Intention
Thursday 14 May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD [Holy day of obligation]	7am 7.30am 9.30am 10am 5pm 7pm	Mass Holy Hour Adoration & Confession Mass Reception of body into church Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Edmund St Edmund St Edmund St Michael	Holy Souls Muriel Violet Coyle, RIP Holy Souls
Friday 15 May Of the Sixth Week of Easter	7.30am 11.30am 12noon 1pm	Holy Hour Adoration Mass Funeral Mass	Sacred Heart Sacred Heart Sacred Heart St Edmund	Maurice & Catherine Cremin, RIP Rosaleen Hatherly, RIP
Saturday 16 May Of the Sixth Week of Easter Vigil Seventh Sunday of Easter	11.30am 12noon 5-6pm 6.15pm	Adoration & Confession Mass Holy Hour & Confession Mass	St Michael St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart	For the Parish Bridget Precious, RIP
Sunday 17 May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am 9.30am 11am 4pm 5.30pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Edmund St Michael Sacred Heart Sacred Heart QA Hospital Chapel Sacred Heart	Joyce Barnett, RIP Sr Marie Therese Troadec RIP Mr & Mrs Oliver, RIP People of the Parish

Pastoral Area Letter for Southeast Hampshire, Jesus Prince of Peace, Sunday 10th May.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It was wonderful to see our churches so full over Easter and to witness so many children and adults being received into the Church. This is our mission: to bring all people to know the love of the Lord and to find their home in our Christian communities.

A heartfelt thank you to my fellow clergy and to everyone in our parishes who worked so hard to make these liturgies and celebrations run so smoothly. I am very aware of the effort and dedication involved, and the positive feedback we have received, even from those who do not regularly attend church, has been truly encouraging. Thank you all for your generosity and commitment.

Unfortunately, our One Parish Mass planned for Pentecost on Saturday 23rd May has had to be postponed. This is due to the necessary consultative steps required for us to become one Canonical Parish. These steps now appear to be in place, and I hope to present this proposal to the Priest's Council in early July. In the meantime, we have provisionally scheduled a Mass of celebration for the afternoon of Saturday 26th September. Please do note this date in your diaries and keep this intention in your prayers.

As you may have heard, Father Mark Whiting is stepping down from his role as Parish Priest at St Patrick's due to health reasons. I am deeply grateful for Father Mark's ministry, as well as for his friendship and support. His humour and joyful spirit will be greatly missed, and I sincerely hope he will visit us once he has settled.

Bishop Philip has asked me to serve as Acting Parish Priest for St Patrick's. I take on this responsibility with gratitude and look forward to serving the community there. I am also pleased that Father Innaiah will be joining us, residing at St Patrick's and assisting in pastoral care through visiting the sick, administering the sacraments, and being a regular presence in the parish. We are very grateful to him for leaving English Martyrs in Reading, where he was much loved and happy. Please join me in warmly welcoming Father Innaiah and helping him feel at home in our Pastoral Area.

As we approach Pentecost, I encourage each of us to pray a novena to the Holy Spirit for our Pastoral Area. Let us ask for guidance in the months ahead, clarity of vision for our new Parish, Jesus Prince of Peace, and a renewed missionary desire to draw all people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones.

God bless,

Father James Lewis

Acting Pastoral Coordinator for Southeast Hampshire Pastoral Area, Jesus Prince of Peace.