

St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 8th November 2026
Fr Thomas is away from Monday 9th November to Thursday 10th December

Page 152 Wisdom 6: 12-16 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Gospel Matthew 24: 42-44

The message of the readings this weekend is that wisdom, readiness and faith are essential. Those who seek wisdom find peace; those who prepare are not caught off guard and those who trust in God have hope. The readings challenge everyone to think about their own spiritual journey so that we are guided to live a life that is both meaningful and prepared for the future. The Book of Wisdom is the final book in the Old Testament written in Alexandria, Egypt, where there was a large Jewish community and important centre of learning, written just before the coming of Jesus Christ. The image of Wisdom as a woman always radiant and unfading, always available to those who seek her with open hearts is very striking. It encourages us to test our own opinions as carefully as we test ideas we dislike. This is important in politic, faith and strongly held views
In the second reading St Paul writes to the Thessalonians in Greece and encourages a young Christian community to live faithfully especially when they suffer the death of a loved one in their family. He tells them not to grieve without hope and speaks about endurance, holiness and mutual care. The belief in the resurrection of Jesus gives meaning to life and death.
Matthew's Gospel relates the parable of the wise and unwise virgins at the marriage celebrations. The fact that the wise ones do not share their oil emphasises that it is important to realise that nobody can get us prepared for future events except ourselves. It shows the difference between those who stay alert and vigilant and those who grow careless and unprepared.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Trevor Delves RIP	**Saturday 7th St Willibrord of Utrecht** Born in 658 in Northumbria. An Anglo-Saxon educated in Ripon and Ireland. Went as missionary to Netherlands to convert pagans, "Apostle to the Frisians". First Bishop of Utrecht. Founded monastery of the Abbey of Echternach in eastern Luxembourg. He invited monks from Ireland. Established a prestigious library. Then expanded missionary work to Denmark. Flouted the pagan customs to demonstrate power of Christianity. Pagan king conquered Frisia. They destroyed churches, killed missionaries and built pagan temples from 1716. Willibrord fled. Frankish King Charles Martel then retook Frisia in 719 so Willibrord returned. St Boniface later joined him and led mission to Germany. As Willibrord grew old, he retired permanently to the monastery in Echternach. He eventually died there on 7th November 739
9.30 am Mass	**Sunday 8th November Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
NO MASS	**Monday 9th St Cybi** Born about 483 in Cornwall, son of a "warrior prince", and the King of Cornwall. Pilgrimage to Rome and the Holy Land. Ordained a priest and then a bishop by St Hilary in France. On arrival back in Cornwall his father had died and he was in line for the throne which he declined. Went preaching with his followers and successfully founded churches in Cornwall and Wales but Ireland proved more difficult. Travelled to north Wales. Monastery founded on Anglesey on the site of an old Roman Fort at Holyhead. There are two holy wells, one in Cornwall and one in Wales, named after Cybi. Bishop Cybi died on 8th November 555 and buried at his monastery.
NO MASS	**Tuesday 10th St Pope Leo the Great** Aristocrat born in Rome about 400. Advisor to popes at an early age. Gifted in reconciling disputing Christians. Was respected for his piety, intelligence and persuasive nature. Elected Pope Leo on death of Pope Sixtus III in 440. Great administrator. Opposed heresies. First pope to be called "Great". Met Attila the Hun and persuaded him to turn back from his invasion of Italy in 452. Great theologian. Issued the "Tome of Leo" on the divine and human nature of Christ. Keen on pastoral care of people and charitable work with the poor. Started parishes. Called Fourth Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon. Pope Leo died on 10th November 461.
NO MASS	**Wednesday 11th St Martin of Tours** Born in 316 in Hungary to pagan parents. Followed his father's profession. Served in the Roman Cavalry. He was drawn to Christianity. He gave half his cloak to a poor beggar. He then saw Christ in a dream wearing it. Became a soldier of Christ. Put in prison when he tried to leave the army having become the first conscientious objector. Released and became a disciple of St Hilary of Poitiers in France as a monk and hermit. Proclaimed Bishop of Tours by the people. He founded monastic communities, a seminary for training priests and travelled all over his diocese on a donkey. Destroyed pagan temples and shrines. Replaced them with churches. Known as "Hammer of the Pagans". Died 8th November 297 aged 81.
NO MASS	**Thursday 12th St Josaphat Kuntsevych** Born in 1580 in Ukraine. Talented young student who was brought up in Eastern Orthodox Church. Befriended John Rutsky. Both supported union with Western Catholicism in Rome. Became Polish Lithuanian monk who took name Josaphat. Met two Jesuits. Ordained a priest by Catholic bishop aged 29. Appointed abbot to replace John Rutsky who had reformed monastic life. Met some opposition due to his sympathy with Rome. Then Archbishop of Polotsk in Belarus. Supported by the people but not all his bishops who had anti-Roman attitudes. Josaphat was martyred by an angry mob trying to explain the union of the Roman Latin Rite and the Orthodox-Byzantine Rite of the Eastern Church on 12th November 1623 aged 43. Many Ukrainian and Polish churches and cathedrals are named after St Josaphat.

NO MASS	**Friday 13th St Abbo of Fleury** Born 945 near Orleans, France and brought up in a Benedictine monastery, Fleury Abbey in Normandy. Studied in Paris and Rheims. Wrote a mathematics book. Produced a simplification of calculating date of Easter. Academic of incredible ability over an amazing variety of subjects. Made abbot of an English monastery in Ramsey near Peterborough and headmaster of the Abbey school. He wrote a Latin grammar for his English students and account of the martyrdom of St Edmund, King of East Anglia the patron saint of England. (Sadly replaced by St George in 1350 by King Edward III) Returned to France. Abbot of Fleury Abbey. Versatile thinker and copious writer. Died trying to restore peace and discipline in a visit to a monastic community in Gascony. Killed in a fight between the monks and the refectory servers in 1004.
6pm: Confessions **6.30pm Vigil Mass**	**Saturday 14th St Laurence O'Toole** Born in 1128 in Ireland. Son of a chieftain in County Kildare. Aged 10 he was taken hostage in dispute with a rival king. After 2 years released due to intercession of abbot into his care. When peace was restored, Laurence wanted to stay in the monastery rather than join his father. Aged 26 was made Abbot of Glendalough. Reformer who wanted Irish Church to have stronger ties with Rome. Elected Archbishop of Dublin aged 34 at Synod of Clane. First Irishman as his predecessors came from the Continent. Choice welcomed by local leaders which made his diocesan reforms easier to achieve. He was tireless in his preaching and celebration of the liturgy and generous to the poor. In 1158 the only English pope issued a Papal Bull giving England rule of Ireland. English forced took Ireland in 1170. King Henry II called it a Crusade to bring the Irish closer to Rome before the murder of Thomas Becket in 1171. Archbishop Laurence was the mediator between King Henry and Irish rulers. Went to England and achieved *The Treaty of Windsor*. Organised Synod of Cashel to accept Papal Bull and clerical celibacy. Attended Third Council of the Lateran in Rome. Respected and trusted by the Irish, English, Vikings, Normans and Rome and all who met him. He died on 14th November 1180 aged 52.
9.30 am Mass	**Sunday 8th November** **Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Also Remembrance Sunday**

PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION

Your prayers are needed for the following people

Hazel Sale Mary Light Pat Sweeney Phil Boulton David Keates Chris Fitzgerald

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Second Collection last weekend for the African Bamenda Diocese

Total donated with the gift aid added is £300.40. Many thanks to all who contributed

Are you able to host the Posada, figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey from 1st to 24th December



Parishioners wishing to help should fill in the "*Posada Journey Rota"* in the church porch with your name and contact details. The person hosting the Posada on the day before you will deliver the Posada to you at an agreed time. You are then expected to make arrangements for the Posada to be delivered to the next host on the following day. For the evening that you host the Posada, you might like to invite family and friends to join in your celebration, or you might prefer a quiet evening of prayer and reflection.

Meeting for Advent reflections on Saturday 12th December from 10.30 am to 3 pm

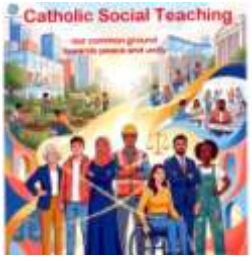
The day will include talks, Mass, the Rosary and Adoration. Hot drinks and biscuits will be served during breaks. Please bring a packed lunch. Donations of £10 per person should be paid before the event to secure your place. To book a place and for your payment details please contact svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Children's Day on Sunday 13th December from 2 pm to 4 pm

We are again organising a special children's day celebration before Christmas. Please encourage our children to attend this special celebration event. A donation of £5 is required per child. For booking a place please contact svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Christmas Vigil Mass and Carol Service on Thursday 24th December at 8 pm

The Vigil Mass will start with a 30 minute Carol Service before the start of Mass. Christmas Day Mass 9.30 am



Discover Catholic Social Teaching. Induction presentation on Friday 27th November

Our Catholic faith is very practical and responds to the needs in society. This makes it especially relevant in the world today. This series of talks aims to make accessible to all of us our Christian faith. From them we will realise just how much of this social teaching from the Church we already live in our everyday lives. The induction presentation is at 7.30 pm at the Immaculate Conception. The six presentations will start on Friday 22nd January and finish on Friday 22nd May. See QR code opposite for more details.

Next SVP Social on Wednesday 8th November – 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.

Parish Collection for last weekend 31st October and 1st November 2026

							Bamenda Diocese		
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
£102	£25.50	£142.40	£242.54	£51.98	£564.42	£52.64	£164 (£41)	£95.40	**£876.44**