

St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
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Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 15th November 2026

Special Collection this weekend for Retired Priests Fr Thomas is away until Thursday 10th December

Page 155 Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Gospel Matthew 25:4-5

The readings this weekend remind us that faith is shown in how we live each day. They speak of hard work, care for others and using the gifts God has given us. They call us to be watchful and ready, not afraid or lazy but active in faith and love. It highlights the qualities that matter most. It means living with purpose, staying alert and making good choices in life.

In the first reading we have a portrait of wisdom in action. It shows that real wisdom is not about knowledge but about living faithfully and responsibly. The virtuous woman is radiant as a bright star and embodies the important virtues of trust, diligence, generosity and love of the Lord. Women do unpaid work in the home and with families. Cooking, cleaning, caring and planning are crucial in the family. This work load must be respected and valued rather than being taken for granted

In the second reading St Paul encourages believers to stay awake, living as children of light, walking in faith and not fear. It calls for readiness and trust in God's timing and reminds them that their identity as light-bearers gives purpose and direction.

In Matthew's Gospel, just like a good wife is trusted by her husband in the first reading, the master trusts his servant. A talent was a large amount of money. Some servants used their ability to increase the wealth but one did nothing. He expected them to use their talents and not be inactive. Effort and responsibility are important to use our skills to serve God and others.

Mass times	Feast Days
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 15th November Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
NO MASS	**Monday 16th . St Margaret of Scotland** Born in 1046 in Hungary to Prince Edward of England and Princess Agatha of Hungary. Her father, heir to the English throne, was in exile after the Danish Conquest. The family went to England in 1057 but her father died. Margaret, her mother, sister and brother entered the Anglo-Saxon court of her great uncle King Edward the Confessor. In 1066 her brother Edgar was heir to the throne but the powerful Harold Godwin was made King Harold II. Family fled to north to Northumbria at the Norman Conquest. Trying to return to the Continent a storm drove their ship to Scotland. They were given protection by King Malcolm III, a widower with two sons. Margaret eventually agreed to be his wife . Brought European and Anglo-Saxon culture to improve the Scottish royal court. Very happy pair who had eight children. She softened Malcolm's fiery nature and helped him become a virtuous King of Scotland. Worked to aid the poor and with example encouraged people to live a devout life. Had churches built and Iona Abbey restored after Viking raids. With her skills in reading and writing and promotion of the arts and education, known as "Pearl of Scotland". She died of grief at the death of her husband King Malcolm and eldest son Edward after an ambush in a battle with William Rufus, King of England on 16th November 1093 aged 47**.**
NO MASS	**Tuesday 17th St Hilda of Whitby** Born 614 daughter of King Hereric, nephew of King Edwin of Deira. As an infant her father was murdered and she was taken to the court of King Edwin. He then married the sister of King Eadbald of Kent, the Christian Æthelburg. She was accompanied by St Paulinus who became Bishop of York. Aged 13 Hilda was baptised a Christian together with King Edwin. Aged 33, Hilda went to East Anglia to a relative hoping to travel to France to learn about monastic life which she felt was her vocation. Recalled to the north by St Aidan, Bishop of Lidisfarne, to start a community of nuns. Abbess of double monastery at Hartlepool. Founded double monastery at Whitby as Abbess. Used the Celtic Rite and was known for her wisdom. Chosen as venue for *Synod of Whitby* due to prestige of the monastery. This was to decide which rite should be used all across England. The north used the Celtic Rite and the south used the Latin Rite. The Latin Rite won the day led by the arrogant St Wilfred and Abbess Hilda reluctantly changed to the Latin Rite. She was known as "Mother" due to her wonderful devotion and grace and her influence spread. Leading figures sought her advice including kings and clerics. Abbess Hilda died aged 66 in November 680.

SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm **NO MASS**	**Wednesday 18th St Mawes** His mother from Brittany sailed to Ireland just before he was born in the 6th century. As an adult he went to Cornwall and founded a village near the River Fal which bears his name. Lived as a hermit and attracted followers. He and his disciples left for France to evangalise in Brittany at the time of the Frankish King Childbert I. They landed on an island now called Ile Maudez. St Mawes set fire to the dried vegetation to clear away all the vermin. From there he and his followers were missionaries in mainland Brittany. The many churches in the region named after him (Maudez in French) testify to their influence and the missionary zeal of St Mawes**.**
NO MASS	**Thursday 19th St Cecilia** Born to a noble Christian family in Rome in about 210. Much of her story relies on legend. From very young Cecilia was determined to remain a virgin but her parents arranged a marriage to a rich pagan nobleman, Valerian. On her wedding night told her husband of her vow and that she had an angel to protect her. Valerian wanted to see the angel. Needed to convert to Christianity. He agreed and his brother Tiburtius converted. The young brothers, encouraged by Cecilia, gave support to Christians, did works of mercy and buried martyrs against Roman rules. Both arrested. Refused to offer sacrifice to imperial gods. Executed as martyrs. Cecilia was then arrested and also stayed true to her faith. Tried to kill by chocking on toxic gases but kept singing Christian songs. Tried to behead her but she survived for 3 days. Patron saint of musicians.
NO MASS	**Friday 20th . St Edmund, King of East Anglia** Young King of East Anglia born 840 in Saxony, Germany, a pious devout Christian. Model king who cared for those in his kingdom especially the poor. Developed military skills so he could lead an army to fight with King Alfred the Great, King of Wessex, against the Viking invasions. Lost in battle against the Danes. Captured and tortured to renounce his faith but refused. Martyred on 20th November 869 aged just 29. Eventually buried in a town that was then named Bury St Edmunds. Was originally the patron saint of England until sadly King Edward III, in creating the "Order of the Garter", elevated St George as patron saint despite having no connection with England. Have been attempts to reinstate Edmund as the patron saint.
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	**Saturday 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, brought Mary aged 3 to the Temple to consecrate her to God. This was in thanksgiving for the gift of a daughter as they had been childless for many years. This feast originated in 543 after dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary the New, built near the site of the ruined Temple in Jerusalem.
9.30 am Mass	**Sunday 22nd November Our Lord Jesus Christ, Lord of the Universe**
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 Moira Hodgson	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Philip has asked for a new Special Second Collection this weekend for Retired Priests
Those parishioners who gift aid please use a spare pink envelope from your box as gift aid can be claimed.

Next SVP Social on Wednesday 18th 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.

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 our administrator Lina Maria on svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk so that Liz Challand can speak to parents.

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 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. QR code opposite for more details.

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

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£77	£19.25	£129.68	£242.54	£51.98	£520.45				**£520.45**