



Praying the Rosary



8TH October 2017

**XXVII Sunday of
the Ordinary Time**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
& St SWITHUN's CHURCH
in SOUTHSEA**



Prisoners' Week began in England and Wales in 1975. The Prisoners' Week Committee, consisting of Prison Chaplains and other Christians involved in work with prisoners and their families, was formed to encourage prayer within churches and the wider Christian community for the needs of prisoners. They produced a prayer and information leaflet for use on the third Sunday in November, designated Prisoners' Sunday, with the week observed until the following Saturday.

It had its beginnings as a Roman Catholic initiative started by Bishop Victor Guazzelli, but quickly gained ecumenical support and became an ecumenical observance, receiving the patronage of: The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Westminster, the Archbishop of Wales and the Moderator of the Free Churches Group.

In 1993 Prisoners' Week became a registered charity and in 1995, seeking to focus attention not only on the needs of prisoners but on *all* those involved and affected by prison (including prisoners families, victims of crime, prison staff, those working in other parts of criminal justice and many volunteers) the week became known as Prisons Week, and the committee known as the Prisons Week Committee.

For forty years now, Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature to enable the Christian community, through individuals and churches, to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime on the inside and outside of our prisons.

Prisons Week raises awareness and generates prayer. It motivates volunteers to step forward and give their time and gifts, in prisons and in their own communities. It provides an annual focus and reason for Christians to work for people who are out of sight and often out of mind.



PRESS ON

A WEEK OF PRAYER
8th-14th OCT 2017

www.prisonswk.org @prisonswk prisonsweek

Partners and supporters logos include: C of E, Langley Diocese, Methodist Church, PACT, Free Church Group, ADGB, CFEFO, Churches in Communities, Clean Sheet, Community Chaplaincy, Prison Fellowship, Reflex, The Salvation Army, Spurgeons, United Reformed Church.

Prisons Sunday — the second Sunday in October — marks the beginning of the week of prayer each year, running through until the following Saturday. Prisons Week aims to encourage prayer and awareness of the needs of prisoners and their families, victims of offenders, prisons staff and all those who care, reflected in the Prisons Week Prayer offered throughout the week:

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the activities of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another. To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in His strength and in His Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

My Dearest Brother and Sister in Christ, my Friend

In today's reflection, we return, according to your requests, to consider the mysteries of our faith. Today we look at the mystery of Heaven and Hell. Eternal reward and eternal punishment.

What can be said about this in the light of Divine Revelation? First of all, please remember that Heaven is not a payment, but a prize. There is no proportionality between the difficulty that man is carrying here on earth and what he receives as a final prize. I will use the comparison: A father promises his daughter a house, if she graduates successfully. The daughter graduated and, in accordance with the principle of justice, she received a Master's degree. But the house from her father is a promised prize for her. Heaven is such a reward promised by God the Father.

So we will obtain Heaven thanks to the love and goodness of the Father, who loves his children. Actually, we cannot say anything about Heaven. St. Paul, who received the grace of insight into this Divine reality, wrote: '*No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him*' [1 Cor 2, 9]. So it is impossible in the human language to express the riches of the future world, which God has prepared for the faithful who follow His commandments.

We can make a comparison, but this will be a very imperfect comparison again. We can imagine the world of the baby, living in the womb of the mother compared with the outside world. Each of us spent nine months in a small closed world, under our mother's heart. The laws of this world are completely different and it is impossible for a child living in it to explain how beautiful is the sun, how beautiful is the world that waits for when it leaves the womb of the mother. It is impossible to explain the outside world to the baby in the mother's womb, because he cannot imagine a new world. It is the same for us - no one can explain to us living in the beautiful and glorious world of our earth and in the world of the cosmos - the beauty and riches of the world, to which we strive by our second birth. One thing is certain: it will be a billion times more beautiful and magnificent than ours. This is probably the only statement that, on the basis of analogy, can signal for us the richness of the world of Heaven to which we are called.

The essence of Heaven is personal, extremely close, based on a loving encounter with the Lord God. Saint John says that we will see God face to face, that is, we will not need any half-measures. In Heaven we will look into God's eyes, and because God is pure beauty, goodness, love itself, then we will find ourselves in the world of the highest values. It will be a world of pure love, and entering into it, that is, receiving the reward of eternal salvation is possible only when the heart of man is filled with true, pure love. It gives the right to enter Heaven. I do not think here about the words 'I love' or 'I want to love', I speak about the real, true and pure act of love.

I remember many years ago, when I was still in elementary school, I first discovered what God expects of us to prepare us to enter into the reality of Heaven. During the retreat for us children, the preacher used a very simple image: "A greedy man stood at the court of God. They

accuse him of his misdeeds. There is no love in him, he has done much harm, lived in selfishness. Looking at his life, he looked for at least one deed of true love. Then his Guardian Angel approached him, carrying a bunch of straw. The Angel reminded him that one evening when there was bad weather a homeless man knocked on his door; and the greedy man opened the door of his barn and allowed him to sleep in it until the next morning. It was his only act of love. And it was enough for salvation." God is waiting for the only act of authentic, pure love. It is this which gives him the right to enter Heaven. Our hearts are built from selfishness and love. There were only two hearts created from pure love alone. They were: the Heart of Jesus and the Heart of Mary; therefore, these hearts were not left on earth but were transferred to Heaven: the Heart of Jesus by Ascension, and the Heart of Mary by the Assumption.

We are all paralysed by selfishness and selfish effort must be transformed into pure love. One may do it in a few percent, another in a dozen, yet another in a few dozen, but even the greatest saints have not achieved completely pure love here on earth. If at least one percent of pure love is in the heart, then that is the heart that has the right to enter Heaven, it belongs already to Heaven. However, a man is not able to enter Heaven with his selfishness. Before such a heart crosses the threshold of Heaven, it must purge itself of egoism. We can only enter Heaven with pure love. The martyrs were able to perfect love through suffering, for example Maximilian Kolbe purified his heart by the act of great love, offering his life for another man. But if we cannot cleanse our heart on earth, then we will have a painful process of purifying it before we approach our Heavenly Father. This purification process is called Purgatory.

We should not compare Purgatory with a prison in which God holds people for punishment. Purgatory is the work of a man who came to a party invited by God himself, and when he saw the splendour of the room, perfectly clean and beautiful, and saw the perfect people filling it, stopped at the door, saying, 'I cannot enter there, I must first be clean'. Man wants to be cleansed because he wants to enter into the world of pure love. Purgatory is the process of refining, cleansing from everything that is associated with selfishness, it is the time to perfect our love. Imagine someone in a bad mood, walking from one place to another, constantly complaining about children, wife, weather, mother-in-law. Such a man will not enter Heaven. His constant complaining about everything will not be allowed in Heaven, he must clear himself of it. Purgatory is the improvement of love. Purgatory is a great opportunity for many of us. This is a gesture of patience by God, which makes it possible to reach maturity for those who long to meet with their Father in Heaven. God also allows them to do well for the people living on earth. The souls in Purgatory can perfect themselves through acts of love directed at people living on earth. These are not acts of merit, but they are purifying acts.

But, Hell is the work of those who did not love; those in whose heart there is not even one percent of love, those who have rejected God, those who have neglected pure love. It is people themselves that create Hell. God does not create Hell. It is created by man. The ability of man to create Hell is the simple consequence of the

freedom God has provided for human hearts. Hell is a place of pure selfishness. If God had not given such a possibility, it would have limited man's freedom, and thus would limit the possibility of achieving perfect love.

Hell exists because it was created by spirits who rebelled against God. No one can answer the question of whether there is anyone in Hell. There may be, but if there is, we do not know. Hell is created by a man who has turned away from God and refuses to return to Him. Such a man wants to remain forever without God and then God is totally helpless to act. Respecting the freedom of this man, God agrees to his misery. Man chooses Hell himself, no one interferes. The Church officially says that many people - we call them the Saints - have reached Heaven. At the time of canonization or beatification, the Church infallibly states that someone is in Heaven, is a saint. However, the Church never ever says officially that someone is in Hell. There is only one man the Church does not prohibit us to say that he is in Hell, and that is Judas. But the Church has never authoritatively stated that Judas is in Hell. Jesus' sharp statement about Judas: '*It would have been better for that man if he had not been born*' [Mt 26, 24b], opens the perspective of eternal drama to him, and therefore the Church does not forbid him to be condemned.

We can never say with certainty that someone is in Hell. Hell is a reality when people create it. Therefore, God does not punish mankind, it is man himself who chooses life without God, man himself can choose life in misery, man himself can choose to be an outsider. Whoever met someone here on earth with pure selfishness has already experienced Hell. Such hell is the lives of children who have been harmed by adults; the wives, who are crushed by the selfishness of their spouses, who love only themselves;

or a nation that is being killed by the full egoism of the rulers of other countries, such as Syria today. Already here on earth we can experience the bitter fruit of selfishness, which is the prelude to the nightmare of Hell. May none of us 'benefit' from this terrible opportunity; May Hell be an option which no one ever faces, nor chooses the misery of eternity.



So much for today's reflection on the eternal perspective that opens up to us. The beautiful and glorious perspective of Heaven, which is achieved through pure authentic love, and the terrifying prospect of Hell, to which selfishness leads. Next week we will return to the reflections on the Holy Eucharist, the Mass. Please, pray for me.

With love, friendship and prayers – Fr Marcin

ROSARY PRAYER DURING OCTOBER 2017 in OUR PARISH

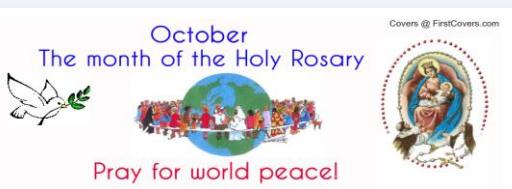
IN ENGLISH: From Monday to Saturday after Morning Mass in St Swithun's church;
on Saturdays at 5.30 pm in Our Lady of Lourdes' church;

INTERNATIONAL ROSARY –

On FRIDAYS at 7.30 pm after Evening Mass in St Swithun's;

IN POLISH: On Tuesdays at 6.30 pm in St Swithun's church;

On Sundays at 5.30pm in St Swithun's church;



During the night of 12-13 October it had rained throughout, soaking the ground and the pilgrims who make their way to Fátima from all directions by the thousands. This week it will be 100 years after this famous Miracle, so, please remember, that Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence opportunity for the 100th anniversary of the Our Lady of Fatima apparitions throughout the centennial year, from the 27th of November 2016 till the 26th of November 2017.

Pray before any statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The faithful, with devotion, can visit a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church, oratory or proper place of prayer during the days of the anniversary of the apparitions, the 13th of each month from May to October 2017, and there devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honour of the Virgin Mary. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima.

The elderly and infirm. The faithful who, because of age, illness or other serious causes, are unable to get around, may pray in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and must spiritually unite themselves to the jubilee celebrations on the days of the apparitions, the 13th of each month, between May and October 2017. They must also "offer to merciful God with confidence, through Mary, their prayers and sufferings or the sacrifices they make in their own lives." To obtain the plenary indulgence, the faithful must also fulfil the ordinary conditions:

-- go to Confession and Communion; -- be interiorly detached from sin; -- pray for the intentions of the Holy Father



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



ST SWITHUN'S CHURCH -
(105 Waverley Road,
Southsea PO5 2PL)

DAY OF THE WEEK	TIME	INTENTION OF THE HOLY MASS	FEASTS & MEMORIALS of the Holy Liturgy	Readings of a day
XXVII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 08-10-2017	8.30 am 10.15am 5.30pm 6.00 pm	+ Dec of Kennedy Family RIP + Bridie Quirke RIP We pray the Rosary in Polish Mass in Polish: <u>No intention</u>		Isaiah 5: 1-7; Psalm 79; Philippians 4: 6-9; Matthew 21: 33-43;
MONDAY 09-10-2017	9.30am 10.00am 10.30am	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> Holy souls in purgatory We pray the Rosary	Blessed John Henry Newman, Religious	Jonah 1: 1-2; 1, 11; Psalm - Jon 2; Luke 10: 25-37;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - 'Feasts prepared by Jesus Christ - bread is the Father's gift'				
TUESDAY 10-10-2017	9.30 am 10.00am 10.30am 6.30om 7.00 pm	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> + Deceased of the McCall Family RIP We pray the Rosary We pray the Rosary in Polish Thanksgiving intention on 70 th Birthday of Louis d'Espagnac	St Paulinus of York, Bishop of the 27 TH Week of Ordinary Time	Jonah 3: 1-10; Psalm 129; Luke 10: 38-42;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - 'Feast in the upper Room - Passover of the New Covenant'				
WEDNESDAY 11-10-2017	9.30am 10.00am 10.30am	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> + Ryszard Bagienko RIP We pray the Rosary	St John XXIII, Pope	Jonah 4: 1-11; Psalm - 85; Luke 11: 1-4;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - 'Feast in the upper Room - the law of mutual service'				
THURSDAY 12-10-2017	9.30am 10.00am 10.30am	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> Intentions for Anne Hehir We pray the Rosary	of the 27 TH Week of Ordinary Time	Malachi 3: 13-20b; Psalm 1; Luke 11: 5-13;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - 'Feast in the upper Room - to remove the stingy people'				
FRIDAY 13-10-2017	9.30 am 10.00am 10.30am 7.00 pm 7.30pm	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> + Gladys M Mosley RIP We pray the Rosary <u>No intention</u> INTERNATIONAL ROSARY	St Edward the Confessor, Founder of the 27 TH Week of Ordinary Time	Joel 1: 13-15; 2: 1-2; Psalm 9; Luke 11: 15-26;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - 'Feast in the upper Room - fraternal admonition'				
SATURDAY 14-10-2017	9.30 am 10.00am 10.30am	<u>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</u> + Margaret Mary Earl RIP We pray the Rosary	St Callistus I, Pope, Martyr	Joel 4: 12-21; Psalm 96; Luke 11: 27-28;
HOMILY: 'Gospel's banquets' - "Feast in the upper Room - the law of evangelical communion of a table"				
XXVIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 15-10-2017	8.30 am 10.15am 5.30pm 6.00 pm	For all Parishioners Tran family intentions We pray the Rosary in Polish Mass in Polish: <u>No intention</u>		Isaiah 25: 6-10a; Psalm 22; Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Matthew 22: 1-14;
OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH (Bransbury Road, Portsmouth PO4 9JY)				
THURSDAY 12-10-2017	12.00noon	Thanksgiving intention on 9 th Wedding Anniversary of Lech & Ewa Capak	of the 27 TH Week of Ordinary Time	Malachi 3: 13-20b; Psalm 1; Luke 11: 5-13;
SATURDAY 14-10-2017 VIGIL of SUNDAY	5.30pm 6.00 pm	We pray the Rosary <u>No intention</u>		Isaiah 25: 6-10a; Psalm 22; Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Matthew 22: 1-14;

OFFERTORY: Thank you for last Sunday's Collection. The total amount was: £1311.52 (52, 36% Gift Aid). As always, your generosity is much appreciated. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.

MASS COUNT: we will take a Mass count at all of next Sunday's Masses.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY COLLECTION

Today's second collection is for CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day which was last Friday. If you can gift aid your donation please use the available CAFOD envelopes



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION - This Pastoral Year 2017-2018 our Baptismal Preparation

Course will include 3 meetings. The next preparation meetings will be held on Thursdays: 9th & 30th November and on Thursday of 14th December - for BAPTISMS on Sunday 17th December 2017. Please, take the application form from the sacristy, or from the office, or upload from our website. Please, do your best to practice your faith before You will apply - attend the Holy Mass on lord's Day - which is Sunday. Thank you for your understanding.



DE-MYSTIFYING NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

(NFP): Sat 11 Nov from 0945-1600 at St Michael's Church Leigh Park. A Day for married couples and anyone interested in making an informed decision. There will be presentations on a theological perspective, scientific knowledge, the menopause, news from experts in the field. Please respond by 10 Oct mandfl@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Join us this Friday (13 Oct) from 1030-1530 at Holy Family Church, in Southampton to celebrate the development of Caritas. We will share some of our key projects (incl the Cathedral parish's *Insight* group). For more information please go to: caritasdioceseofportsmouth@org.uk

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: this year marks 50 years since abortion was made legal in the UK, which has seen the devastating loss of 9 million unborn human lives. For 50 years this unjust destruction of human life has been taking place on our doorsteps and is being funded by our taxes. In the year 2007, an international organisation called 40 Days for Life was formed to help bring about an end to abortion through prayer, sacrifice and street witness. A campaign running in Portsmouth began last week and will continue until 5th of November. You are invited to support this work with your prayers and to get involved. For more information please contact 07535 937865 or email 40daysforlifeportsmouth@gmail.com You can find the Portsmouth campaign page link via www.40daysforlife.com/Portsmouth

PORTRSMOUTH ROSARY PROCESSION PRAYER VIGIL

ON SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2017 – ANNIVERSARY 50 YEARS ABORTION 1967

FROM OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH PORTSMOUTH, Eastney, PO4 9JY TO BPAS Centre, St Marys Community Health Campus, Milton Road, Portsmouth PO3 6AD

9.00 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

9.40 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (silent prayer & preparation)

9.50 Depart church & Prayerful Procession to Abortion centre with Our Lady of Guadalupe

10.15 Arrive at BPAS Abortion centre, Milton Road

11.15 Process back to Church

11.40 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (silent prayer & thanksgiving)

11.55 Repose of the Blessed of the Sacrament

12.00 Angelus prayer

12.05 Retire for Refreshments 1.00 Depart

**PLEASE JOIN US – YOU REALLY DO MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. AND DON'T FORGET,
PLEASE TRY TO BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU.**

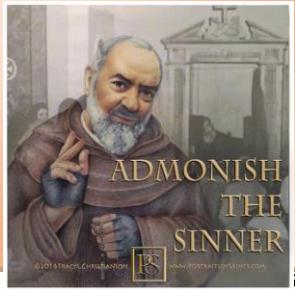
FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE UNABLE TO JOIN THE PROCESSION, PLEASE BE WITH US SPIRITUALLY.

LOCAL PORTSMOUTH CONTACT: Philumena 07535937865

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS SUITE 13, 17 HOLYWELL HILL ST ALBANS AL1 1DT

TELE: 01727 763832 e-mail: marg@helpersuk.org Web: www.helpersuk.org

The next Ascent Group meeting will take place in the Church Hall on Monday October the 23rd at 2-15 p.m. The Guest speaker will be Jean Webb one of the Ascent Group members who will speak on her 'Life in Art'. Prior to this meeting the Ascent Group trip to the Roman Place at Fishbourne will take place on Thursday October the 19th. Those members who have booked for this trip please assemble at St Simons church Car Park, Southsea at 10-15am on the day to board the red mini-bus.



SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION THIS WEEK
MONDAY to SATURDAY 9.30am to 9.55am at St Swithun's
Friday: 6:30 pm to 6:55 at St Swithun's
Sunday: 8.00am to 8.25am; 5:30pm to 5:55pm at St Swithun's
Saturday at Our Lady of Lourdes' church: 5.30pm to 5.55pm
and by request

Synod for youth in Rome next March

Pope Francis has announced a pre-Synodal meeting for young people from all over the world to be held in Rome from March 19-24, 2018 in preparation for the Synod of Bishops assembly on "Youth, Faith and Vocation Discernment," which will be held in October 2018.

He made the announcement towards the end of his Wednesday General Audience. "Young people from various parts of the world are invited – young Catholics, young people from various Christian denominations and other religions or non-believing young people," he told the crowd gathered at St Peter's Square.

The format of the meeting will be slightly more flexible than the meeting in Rome last Palm Sunday. Young people from across the world gathered to take stock of the Krakow World Youth Day (WYD) program and to begin preparations for the next event in Panama which will be held in Jan'19.

However, there is no plan to make any changes to the World Youth Day events held in dioceses each year by adding a "mini WYD" on Palm Sunday, which falls on March 25, 2018. Pope John Paul II launched the original idea for World Youth Day on Palm Sunday 1984, when he gathered 250,000 young people in Rome to celebrate the Jubilee of the Redemption.

"Several hundred young people are expected to attend," Pope Francis told the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. "To decide who will attend, we will work with bishops' conferences, as they are the ones who understand local realities best." "In this way, the Church is opening itself up to the voices, feelings, and faith - as well as the doubts and criticisms - of young people," the pope explained. "We need to listen to young people!" he insisted, leaving aside his prepared text.

The pope added that "the conclusions of the meeting in March will be passed on to the Synod Fathers". The outcomes from the meeting will also be included in the working document, which is to be prepared by the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops.

The document will be based on answers to the questionnaire distributed to bishops' conferences, another questionnaire for young people on the Synod website youth.synod2018.va, and possibly various other sources, e.g. the seminar on youth that was held at the beginning of September.



Beacon Project meetings are here on Monday in St Swithun's Church Hall (rather than the Church). It is now a weekly meeting from 7.30-9.00pm. This Monday we will welcome our guest, who will talk with us about 'CALLED & GIFTED' event, process, and ministry. Please contact coreteam@beaconprojectportsmouth.org.uk for further information, otherwise we look forward to meeting you there.

How can we live out our faith in our busy and chaotic home lives?
Workshop and discussion led by Lucy and Paul Docherty. Saturday 14th of October, 1600-1745, Mass at 6pm. St Peter's RC Church, Winchester.

HEAR GOD'S VOICE' - SCRIPTURE MEETING - this Tuesday on 10TH October.

ALL are very welcome - no register, no checking the list. ***from 7.40pm to 9.00pm in the church hall***

ST LUKE'S DAY MASS: the annual Mass for local healthcare professionals will be here on Wed 18 Oct at 1930 celebrated by Fr Joe McNerney (RC Chaplain to QA Hospital).

Our Parish “TRINITY PILGRIMAGE” to Poland, Ukraine and Lithuania

17th September to 28th September 2018

Our Parish Pilgrimage during the 100th Anniversary of the Independence of Poland; It may be your last chance in such a way before Brexit kicks in; – Come and find out about the culture, heritage, history and devotions of these **3 countries**.

What's we will see:

POLAND: Gdańsk – Westerplatte, Gietrzwąłd,
Świetego Józefa Kraków – Lagiewniki (*Divine Mercy
Centre, St John Paul II's Centre*), Lanckorona, Zamość, Sokółka (Eucharistic Miracle 2008), Suchowola & Mazury

UKRAINE: Lviv, Lawra Poczajowska, Olesko, Zwanięcice, Luck, Kamieniec Podolski, Zwanięcice, Chocim

LITHUANIA: Vilnius, Troki, Szydlów (1st Marian Apparition in Europe), Szawle, Kowno

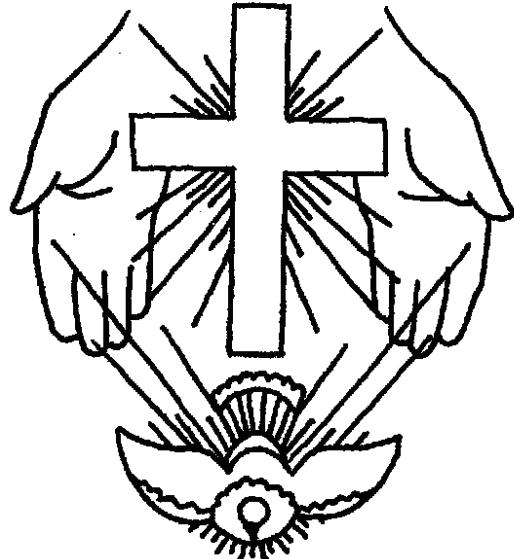
- Visit the places connected with many of our Saints; for example: St Sr Faustina, St John Paul II, Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko and many others;
- Visit the places of the 1st Apparition of Our Lady in Europe in Lithuania, and the only one proved by the Church in Poland;
- Visit the place of the Eucharistic Miracle which happened in 2008;
- Experience the culture of all these countries – their cultural events, traditional music, clothes, dances and of course their food;
- See the original image of Divine Mercy painted after the visions of St Sr Faustina
- Don't be afraid of the visit to Ukraine in our current times which may seem a dangerous country today. However the places we are visiting are over 350 miles away!!!! However if there is a change then we will visit Latvia instead.

So why not book up as one thing I can promise you will be loads of unforgettable memories. What's more your organizer has 17 years' experience in leading these Pilgrimages of a lifetime

For the details, please ask Fr. Marcin Drabik: directly (105 Waverley Rd, Southsea PO5 2PL) or by e-mail: mdrabik@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

IMPORTANT: The deadline for completing the registration form is 20th December 2017

Have you ever wondered “what does God want of me” or “how can I best help others” or “what particular gifts has the Lord given me to share with others”? If so, then the Called and Gifted process would be really helpful and even life-changing, as testified by previous participants around the diocese. There is a teaching day for Called and Gifted, open to anyone in the Diocese, Tuesday 10th October very near to us at Our Lady of Lourdes church between 9am and 5pm. This teaching day will focus on the call of each lay person to be a disciple of Jesus, and talk about the specific gifts or charisms that the Holy Spirit gives. You will start to look at your own possible charisms too. During the day you can sign up for a private Conversation, which will take place a few weeks later, with a trained person who will help you look at your spiritual journey and explore your own charisms. There is then the option of being in a small group with other parishioners, to discuss further. Please read more about it, and see comments from people around the diocese, at <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted/> If you would like to book a free place or ask questions, please email Clare at csimpson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Please accompany children to the toilet:

It is essential that a parent or responsible adult accompany any children who leave church to go to the toilet during Mass. The route to the toilet at St Swithun's is open to both Waverley Road and the car park and any member of the public could be walking through at any time. As the church hall is left open during Sunday Mass with no-one on the door, it is also possible for members of the public to enter the hall. For the safety of your children, please accompany them to the toilet.

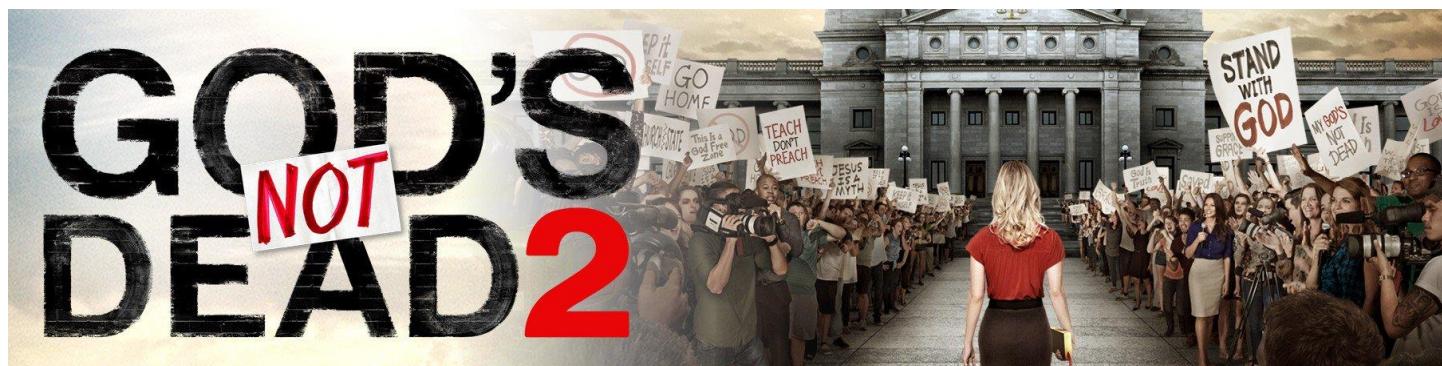
DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS: here on Sat 14 Oct, 1000-1530 on the theme of Opening the treasure of Scripture: understanding and using the Bible in catechesis Incl Mass celebrated by Bishop Philip at 1215. Register at: ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

ADORE (Alton Day Of REnewal) – Saturday 28th October 11.00-4.00

You are warmly welcome to a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on the Charisms or gifts of the Holy Spirit. At Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton GU34 2NG. 11.00am Rosary; 11.30am Mass; 12.15 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; 1.00pm Shared lunch; 2.00pm Praise & Worship; 2.30 Talk "The Gift of Faith" by Fr Anthony Meredith; 3.30 Prayer for healing. We end about 4pm. There is no need to register in advance, and no charge (though a collection will be taken to cover costs).

For more information and directions, see poster or website: www.altonrenewal.com Or telephone Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747. The following month, on Saturday 25th November, our guest speaker will be Kristina Cooper talking about "The greatest gift – Love."

***Our 'Parish Cinema' invites all of us for a show of the next film:
on Friday 13TH October 8.10pm in St Swithun's church hall - 121 minutes***



God's Not Dead challenges all Christians to grapple with the fact that freedom to express their faith is under fire!!!

As an exciting new year begins we meet dedicated history teacher, Grace Wesley, and her grieving student, Brooke, who has just lost her brother. Upon learning of Brooke's recent tragedy, Grace offers her condolences and in the hope of relieving her pain, shares her faith in Christianity. However, when Brooke later asks a question of religion in her history class, another student reports the incident to the school board. Interpreted as a breach of school and state policy, Grace suddenly faces an epic court case that may cost her not only her career, but may expel God from the classroom once and for all. **God's Not Dead 2** is the highly anticipated sequel that brings love, loyalty and important questions of religion prominently to the fore.

Please pray for those who are ill, especially: Dominic, Patricia Ward, Pat Groom, Stan Whitnell, Mary McKana, Eileen Inkpen, Rory McCreesh, Eddie Coppani, Peter Softly, Tony Denny, Betty Foster, Bobby, Eileen Stewart, Joan Smith, John Williams, Margaret Bager, Monika Madigan, Fred Vuksani, Tom & Lily, Greta Kemp, Magda K, Mary Wallis, Micheline Thompson, Pat Needham, Margaret Badger, Rosemary Ashton, Anne Sullivan, Catherine Morgan, Arthur Tobin, Jo Wheeler and Josephine Butler. **And all whose anniversaries occur at this time: 8TH October:** Joanna Harley, James Milne, Vera Davies, Mary Scanlon, Hilda Flynn, Gladys Mosley, Helen Harns Orme, Victoria Vittoria Luisa Place, Kathleen Mary Toomer, Ann Irwin, Patrick Morgan, Mary Taylor, Anne Byrne, Madge Bloxwich, Maud Lucy Lovell, Luigia Stasi, Mollie Murphy, Elsie Ellen Donovan, Desmond Maurice Vincent, Edward Sparkman, Winifred Ann Harris, Margaret Mary Blake, William Newton, Mary Veoney, George O'Callaghan, Margaret "Greta" Nevin, Felicissima Lamagna Cadag, Mavis Burnett, Jesse Eileen O'Regan, Margaret Jane Farry (Maggie), Roman Kruk, Elizabeth ("Bess") Fisher, Mary Lord, Francis Brotherton, Philomena Lynch, Mary McKinnon, Mary Bernes, George Blockley, Giovanna Maccarini & Frances Rita Grundy, **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen**

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