

Forthcoming Events

15/01 Hatha Yoga continues 1830-2000 Cathedral Centre. Places are still available. Suitable for beginners.

15/01 Parish Justice & Peace Group Meeting 1930 St John's Room. New members are always welcome.

16/01 St John's School Year 5 Liturgy St John's Chapel. Parents are welcome.

16/01 Morning of Prayer & Reflection for Chaplaincy Team 0945 followed by lunch at 1300 Cathedral Centre.

17/01 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) 1930-2100 St John's Room.

18/01 Deanery Confirmation Session 1900-2100 Cathedral Centre.

19/01 Friends of the Cathedral Gathering 1030-1500 Cathedral Centre. Keynote speaker on 'Monks with a Mission' is Dom Aidan Bellenger, Abbot of Downside.

20/01 Baptism Preparation following 1000 Mass. Cathedral Centre. Parents of children who will be baptised on 3 Feb will meet with their catechists.

20/01 Youth Justice & Peace Group 1600-1800 Cathedral Centre. Open to all youth 13+

21/01 CWL Monthly Meeting 1315 Cathedral Centre. Speaker Sue James on 'Climate Control'. Sales and Raffle Table. New members and visitors are welcome.

22/01 Exploring God's Word 1900 St John's Room. Start of a six-week module on the Gospel of Matthew.

24/01 Liturgy Group Meeting 1800 Bishop's House

25/01 University Students Social Evening 1900-2100 St John's Room. A chance to meet fellow-students.

26/01 Listening Workshop and Training Day 1000-1600 Cathedral Centre.

Cathedral Priests:

- Canon David Hopgood and Father Steven Restori
- Mrs Lily Peach, Parish Secretary: 023 9282 6170
- Sister Rita, FMDM, Pastoral Assistant: 023 9296 0376
- Mr Peter Newman, Director of Music: 07811205729
- Mr Oliver Bailey-Green, Cathedral Organist: 07849 872010
- Mr Dave Yates, Cathedral Verger: 023 9287 0348
- Hospital Chaplaincy: 023 9228 6000
- St John's Cathedral Primary School: 023 9282 1055
- St Edmund's Secondary School: 023 9282 3766
- Discovery Centre: 023 9287 0348



St John's



Catholic Cathedral Portsmouth

Thought of the Week

Father Steven Restori

We are united to Christ, the beloved Son

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, a day that also concludes the Christmas season. Tomorrow is Monday of the First Week in Ordinary Time.

The Baptism of the Lord is yet another powerful revelation, manifestation or epiphany of Christ's identity – God's beloved Son, on whom God's favour rests. Like the visit of the Magi and the wedding feast at Cana, the baptism of Christ by John in the River Jordan is an experience of God's action and presence revealed in Christ.

In the Gospel from Matthew, which recounts the events surrounding the beginning of Jesus' public life and ministry, Jesus comes to John for baptism. John protests. Upon Jesus' urging, John baptises him. As Jesus comes out of the water, the heavens part, and the Spirit of God, in the form, of a dove, descends upon him. A voice is heard which explicitly identifies Jesus as the "beloved Son" on whom God's favour rests. This is the manifestation of God in Christ.

The beloved Son is the chosen servant of God – God's anointed, the messiah. The images in today's readings - sight, light and freedom - are the very images that have led us through the Christmas season. These are the spiritual graces that guide us in our Christian lives, given to us by the Son of God, whose coming we have commemorated. May these graces guide us throughout the coming year.

In the liturgy today we also use the Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling Holy Water. This reminds us that in our Baptism, we are united to Christ, the beloved Son. Christ has come as God's beloved, so that we too, through our own Baptism and living of the Christian life, might be God's beloveds. We are God's adopted sons and daughters, on whom God's favour rests.

Music	Mass Intentions
1800 102 407 171 (t 852)	If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular intention, please see the Verger or the priests.
1000 172 (692) 102 500 406	
1200 401 (692) 609 171 102	
1800 407 401 171 (t852)	

Liturgical Calendar

& Mass Times

**Sunday 13th January Feast
The Baptism of the Lord**

- 1000 People of the Parish
- 1200 Ceclia Rice RIP
- 1800 Margaret Kilivan Intention

Monday 14th January

Feria

- 0730 Eamonn McCormick Int
- 1215 Willie Doyle Intention

Tuesday 15th January

Feria

- 0730 Priest's Intention
- 1215 Teresa Slawek Intention

Wednesday 16th January

Feria

- 0730 Priest's Intention
- 1215 Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday 17th January Memorial

St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot
Credited as the father of western monasticism, St Anthony was born into a wealthy Egyptian family whose life was changed when he heard Matthew 19:21. He sold everything, gave the money to the poor and lived in the desert. He died aged 105.

- 0730 May Martyn Intention
- 1215 In Thanksgiving

Friday 18th January

Feria

- 0730 Margaret & Jack Finch (F)
- 1215 Anne Crowe Intention

Saturday 19th January

Our Lady on Saturday

- 1215 Private Intention
- 1700 Meditation in St John's Chapel
- 1800 George Short RIP

Sunday 20th January

2nd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

- 1000 Max Bischof (F)
- 1200 People of the Parish
- 1800 William Barnes Intention

The Early Morning Mass

This weekday Mass, celebrated Mon to Fri at 0730 has resumed in St John's Chapel.

First Communion Programme

The seventh session will be held during the 1200 Mass today.

**International Theme
Sunday**

This month we pray for and think of, the people of Malaysia.

Near the statue of St Edmund we hang the flag of the country that we remember and pray for during our Masses, as well as a display about the country and saints of that area.

Lent Groups

As has been the tradition in previous years the Churches of the City Centre are planning to have some Lent Groups for discussion on a particular subject.

If there is anyone who would feel able to lead such a group in the Discovery Centre for the five weeks of Lent, do speak to one of the priests.

Student Social Evening

Have fun and a chance to meet other students in St John's Room on Friday 25 Jan from 1900-2100. Refreshments will be served.

Exploring God's Word

Next Tues 22 Jan at 1900 in St John's Room we begin module 2 for six weeks and explore Chapters 10 & 11 in the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome.

Meditation Group

The Meditation Group continues to meet in St John's Chapel from 1700-1730 every Saturday for a time of quiet, reflection and silent prayer. Everyone welcome.

Day Retreat 'Listening to the Holy Spirit'

Given by Sr Maria Natella OP on Saturday 2 Feb from 1030-1530 in St Joseph's Church, Ann's Hill Road Gosport. Bring a packed lunch. Transport can be arranged. Please ring the Parish Office 023 9258 0119.

Friends of the Cathedral

The Society of Friends is always looking to welcome new members from other parts of the diocese. Support of the Cathedral's key building and other projects is the Society's main aim. For further information please contact the Parish Office.

Welcome

To all relatives, friends and visitors to the Cathedral and the city of Portsmouth.

Visitors: You are invited to register in the Visitor's Book at the west end of the Cathedral.

New Parishioners: Please introduce yourselves after Mass to the priest (and to other parishioners) so that he (and we) can get to know you.

National Poverty and Homelessness Action Week in Portsmouth, 1 Feb 2008

Organised by representatives of local churches in Portsmouth. This is a faithful ecumenical response to the Biblical call to do justice on the issues of poverty and homelessness in the area. "Opening Doors Opening Hearts" is an awareness event in the Discovery Centre on Friday 1 Feb from 1530-1730 with keynote speaker Havant MP David Willetts. He will be joined by leading Portsmouth decision-makers and representatives of homelessness agencies. Refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to all.

It is also 'National Poverty and Homelessness Action Week' across the UK from 26 Jan to 3 Feb, and there will be events and discussions that you can take part in to make poverty and homelessness history. Further information can be obtained on www.church-poverty.org.uk

For this to be a success we need churches to support it and show our faith in action. Please help and support us by your attendance.

Employment Opportunities at Cathedral Discovery Centre

A new post of **Supervisor** is being created to lead the team in this important instrument of outreach for our Cathedral. The terms are 20 hours a week, Tuesday to Friday, though can be flexible over the six days of opening.

A **Catering Sales Assistant** is also being sought for the Coffee Shop. You will be responsible for preparing the food and drinks and for serving the customers. This post does not require a professional qualification, but does need a person who is keen on cooking. The terms are 16 hours a week Tuesday to Friday.

For both positions please apply in the first instance to the Parish Office. Deadline for applications is 15 January.

Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

Fr Peter Sprague, Nora North, John and Kathleen Cotter, Bradley Brennan, Mark Hamilton, Betty Knighton, Albert Hider, Dan & Elish Cregan, Laurie Payne, Brenda Hamilton, Adelaide de Battista, Caroline Moran, Maisie Hider, Jenny Edwards, Doreen Yates and Pat Wright.

Please keep in your prayers those who have died:

Mavis Dodd, Joe Joyce, Ellen Newnham and Esther Tweed RIP

As well as for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Grace Peroti † Peter Kitching † Dora Caruck † Anthony John Murphy † Beattie Peters † Kathleen Sault † Jack Padley † Alastair Walker † Cyril Bennett † Josephine Triggs † Edward Olive † Kenneth Harris † Molly Tremlett † Margaret Daley † Victor Robbins † Patrick Holihan † Joseph Psaila †

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Confession

Saturday 1100 - 1200
1630 - 1730

Devotions

Midday Prayer

Monday - Saturday 1200

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 1100-1200

Rosary after 1215 Mass
Tuesday and Thursday

We acknowledge with thanks:

Last weekend's collection, including Standing Orders, amounted to £1,596.35 of which £960.60 (60%) was gift-aided.