

Today

Confirmation Rite of Enrolment during the 1000 Mass. A service of commitment will take place for our parish Confirmation candidates. Please keep them in your prayers.

Baptismal Preparation following the 1000 Mass. Cathedral Centre. Parents of children who will be baptised on 3 Feb will meet with their catechists.

Youth Justice & Peace Group Meeting 1600-1800 Open and welcome to all 13+ parishioners and beyond.

Forthcoming Events

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

21/01 Steering Committee Meeting for National Poverty & Homelessness 1900 St John's Room.

22/01 Hatha Yoga continues 1830-2000 Cathedral Centre. Places are still available. Suitable for beginners.

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

23/01 St John's Cathedral School Year 4 Mass 0930 St John's Chapel. Parents are welcome.

24/01 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) 1930 St John's Room. An ongoing programme every Thursday.

24/01 Liturgy Group Meeting 1800 Bishop's House

25/01 Young Adults and University Students' Social Evening 1900-2100 St John's Room. A chance to meet and get to know each other. Please do come along.

27/01 First Holy Communion Programme - during the 1200 Mass - Children preparing for First Communion will hold their 8th session.

27/01 Healing Prayer Time 1700-1745 St John's Chapel.

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



Catholic Cathedral Portsmouth

Thought of the Week

Father Steven Restori

Our whole lives are spent beholding the Lamb of God

At first glance, this Sunday's gospel seems merely to be a mirror reflection of last Sunday's gospel - there is an unmistakable baptismal theme. So what's different?

The gospel of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is always taken from the gospel of John rather than the gospel of the year (Year A = Matthew). Rather than repeat the theme of last Sunday, the readings move us to reflect on Jesus' mission and identity through the eyes of John. Jesus is described as the "Lamb of God" - the One who will be sacrificed for our sins. He is the pre-existent One - Jesus is with and knows the Father, and so can reveal God to us. Jesus is also the Light come into the world to dispel its darkness.

John's gospel spells out more fully for us why John the Baptist ranks Jesus ahead of himself. There are many images of Jesus' identity and mission. John the Baptist unveils in his relationship to Christ the posture of the Church, which is to go from not knowing to seeing to testifying. We don't come to a one-time understanding of Christ. Our whole lives are spent beholding the Lamb of God.

This week we also celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. These eight days of prayer began last Friday 18th January and continue until this Friday the 25th January, the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. The Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism recognises the need to foster Christian unity. "It is a recognised custom for Catholics to have a frequent recourse to that prayer for unity of the Church which the Saviour himself on the eve of his death so fervently appealed to his Father: 'That they may all be one.'" (Unitatis Redintegratio 8). Let us be sure to include in our prayers this week the intercession that all Christians be united into the one Church of Jesus Christ.

Music	Mass Intentions
1800 969 602 314	If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular intention, please see the Verger or the priests.
1000 865 503 628 500 829	
1200 865 883 636 969	
1800 969 609 314	

**Liturgical Calendar
& Mass Times**

**Sunday 20th January Second
Sunday of Ordinary Time**

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

**Monday 21st January Memorial
St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr**
Feast of a young girl martyred at age 12. One of the most illustrious martyrs of the Church.

- 0730 Lawrence Allen RIP
- 1215 Bert & Anne Johns RIP

Tuesday 22nd January Feria

- 0730 Margaret Flourihan Int
- 1215 Requiem Mass for Ellen
Newnham RIP

Wednesday 23rd January Feria

- 0730 Stella Walsh RIP
- 1215 Lizzie Obermaier RIP

Thursday 24th January Memorial

**St Francis de Sales, Bishop,
Doctor of the Church.** *The "gentleman saint" who brought over 40,000 back to the faith. He co-founded the Visitation nuns with St Jane Frances de Chantal. He is patron saint of journalists.*

- 0730 Bill Hart
- 1215 Jon Wood

**Friday 25th January Feast
The Conversion of St Paul**

Today is one of the three feast days honouring St Paul and the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

- 0730 Kay Withers RIP
- 1215 William Lee RIP

Saturday 26th January Memorial

St Timothy, Bishop, Martyr & St Titus, Bishop. *Two companions of St Paul who were influential in the early Church. Timothy became the first bishop of Ephesus and was later martyred; Titus, a pagan convert, became a great peacemaker and bishop of Crete; he died at age 94.*

- 1215 Hubert de Mornay RIP
- 1700 Meditation in St John's Chapel
- 1800 People of the Parish

**Sun 27th January 3rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

- 1000 Bishop & Priests of Diocese
- 1200 Fil Tucker RIP
- 1800 Daniel Nolan RIP

**Retiring Collection :
Catholic Education
Service**

This diocesan collection will be taken after all Masses this weekend for the Catholic Education Service.

Chinese New Year

You are cordially invited to the 1200 Children's Mass on Sunday 3 Feb to celebrate the Year of the Rat.

As red is the Chinese auspicious colour, you are encouraged to wear something red.

Exploring God's Word

We begin module 2 for six weeks and explore Chapters 10 & 11 in the Gospel of Matthew on Tues 22 Jan at 1900 in St John's Room. Open and welcome to all.

**Young Adults and
University Students**

Come along on Friday 25 Jan for a Get-To-Know-Each-Other Evening from 1900-2100 in St John's Room. All are most welcome to bring their family and friends. Refreshments will be served.

**Listening Workshop and
Training Day**

A number of people from the parish will be attending a day workshop on 26 Jan in order to become better listeners. We all listen every day, but how well do we do it? The day will be led by tutors trained by the Acorn Christian Healing Foundation.

The Parish is able to cover the cost of this day from a legacy Anne Trist left specifically to further the ministry of Listening in the parish. She was herself a gifted listener and we thank God for her generous provision. May she rest in His eternal peace.

**Day Retreat 'Listening to
the Holy Spirit'**

Given by Sister 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.

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.

**Poverty and Homelessness
Action Week 1 February 2008**

Organised by the city churches of all denominations 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 speakers Havant MP David Willetts and Portsmouth South MP Mike Hancock, joined by key Portsmouth decision-makers. 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 discussion groups that you can take part in to make poverty and homelessness history. For further information go to: 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.

Catholic Children's Society

On Sunday 3 Feb the Annual Collection for the Children's Society will take place. The Society provides care for some of the most vulnerable children and young people in our community.

The Society relies on the generosity and good will of the Catholic community to continue its work in our diocese.

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.

**Please pray for those who
are ill, especially:**

Fr Peter Sprague, Nora North, John and Kathleen Cotter, 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.

If any parishioner is ill at home or in hospital and would like to receive Communion, even on a regular basis, please let the priests know.

**Please keep in your
prayers those who have
died:** Ellen Newnham and Ethel Pook RIP

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

Joseph Psaila † Mary Turner † Jane Dixon † Reginald Platt † Anne Mary Petty † Hubert de Mornay † Esther Myall † Catherine Carroll † Arthur Taylor † Christina McDonald † Patricia Day † Alice Teresa Rowsell †

**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 £1,790.65 of which £969.40 (54%) was gift-aided.