

Today

Youth Justice & Peace Group Meeting: 1600-1800 Cathedral Centre. We invite our young parishioners (ages 13 and up) to join us. You will be most welcome!

Forthcoming Events

- 18/02 CWL Section AGM** 1315-1530 Cathedral Centre. The Branch Secretary will be in attendance. All welcome.
- 18/02 Girls' Night In** 1830-2100 St Joseph's Hall, Copnor, for girls in Year 9 and over. Cost £2.50. Consent forms available in Church. Also see Mary-Ellen Donnelly.
- 19/02 Hatha Yoga continues:** 1830-2000 Cathedral Centre. A gentle way to fitness, health and well-being.
- 19/02 Exploring God's Word:** 1900 Jubilee Room. Group Study and discussion meeting on the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome.
- 19/02 Deanery Justice & Peace Group Meeting** 1930 St John's Room. New members are always welcome.
- 21/02 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** 1930 St John's Chapel. An ongoing programme every Thursday.
- 21/02 Presentation and Information Evening on Stem Cell Research** 1930 Cathedral. In the company of Lord Alton. All are encouraged to attend.
- 23/02 Bishop Crispian's Lenten Day of Prayer** 1100-1500 Cathedral Centre. Bring packed lunch. All welcome.
- 23/02 and every Saturday: Meditation Group** 1700-1730 St John's Chapel. A time of quiet, reflection and silent prayer. All are welcome.
- 24/02 Healing Prayer Time** 1700-1745 St John's Chapel. An opportunity to receive individual prayer and anointing with Oil of Gladness. All are welcome.
- 26/02-09/03 Fairtrade Fortnight Events in Portsmouth.** Please visit the Fairtrade page in the Cathedral website.
- 26/02 Justice & Peace Meeting** 1930 St John's Room.

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



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St John's



Catholic Cathedral Portsmouth

Thought of the Week

Canon David Hopgood

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill: What can I do?

Does the Church Support Scientific Research?

The Church welcomes and supports ethical and effective scientific research. Jesus came as one who serves and to heal the sick.

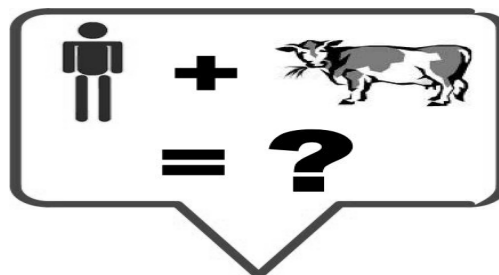
Is Stem Cell Research Ethical?

Adult stem-cell research is both ethical and effective. Currently, it is used in more than seventy therapies, and new therapies are being tested in over eight hundred clinical trials. In contrast, embryonic stem-cell research is **not** ethical, since it involves destroying human embryos. It is also important to note that embryonic stem-cell research has not yet generated any therapies.

Embryology Bill

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill is a proposal for new law on infertility treatment and experimentation on human embryos. This includes embryonic stem-cell research. The key concerns, therefore, about this Bill are:

- **The Welfare of the Child:** At present, infertility clinics have to consider the 'need of a child for a father'. The Bill will remove the reference to a father. The Bill will also make it easier to use women as 'surrogate mothers'. The Bill does not recognise the natural right of the child to a mother and a father.
- **Hybrids:** The Bill will allow scientists to create embryos that are half-human, half-animal. For example, an embryo could be made from the egg of a woman and sperm from an animal. To do this would be a radical violation of human dignity.



Now is the time to draw the line!

There will be a presentation and information evening on this important topic in the Cathedral on Thursday 21 Feb at 1930. Please do make an effort to come to this gathering. Vote cards are available at all exits to the Cathedral for you to write to your MPs (see over for details) and let them know where you stand on these vital issues.

Music				Music at the 1000 Mass	
1800	208	801	969	The various sung parts of the Mass can be found in the Hymn Books: Kyrie - 497, Sanctus - 571 Acclamation - 572b	
1000	664	801	321		
1200	801	969	284 862		
1800	969	801	208		

**Liturgical Calendar
& Mass Times**

**Sunday 17th February
Second Sunday of Lent**

1000 Vocations (Catenians) (F)
1200 Christopher John Coll RIP
1800 People of the Parish

**Monday 18th February
2nd Week of Lent**

0730 Cesare Sartori & Giacinto Maganzini RIP
1215 Samuel Eves RIP

**Tuesday 19th February
2nd Week of Lent**

730 Tony RIP
1215 Maria Madalena RIP

**Wednesday 20th February
2nd Week of Lent**

0730 Cyril & Ethel Patricia Knott F
1215 Kathleen Pellatt RIP

**Thursday 21st February
2nd Week of Lent**

0730 Celebrant's Intention
1215 Maria Madalena RIP

Friday 22nd February *Feast*
The Chair of Peter, originally when the early Christians remembered the death of St Peter. Today this feast is understood as a commemoration of St Peter's leadership in the Church of Rome

0730 George Dutrieux RIP
1100 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
1215 Arthur Christmas RIP (F)

Saturday 23rd February Memorial
St Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna and revered leader of the Church in the first half of the second century. Companion of both John, the Apostle, and Ignatius of Antioch. Martyred in 155 AD

1215 Hubert de Mornay RIP
1700 Meditation in St John's Chapel
1800 John Walsh Intention

Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular intention, please see the Verger or the priests.

Hospital Chaplaincy

Volunteers are needed to take Holy Communion on a Sunday morning to those who are ill in hospital. Please contact Fr Andrew on 9228 6408.

Building Blocks...Building Better Lives: Putting in the Windows

Christ's Transfiguration is a sign of how the goodness and glory of God can transform his world. For example, many rural African classrooms are just shells with corrugated steel roofs and gaps all along the walls where there should be windows, allowing dust and rain to be blown in. Our contributions can help transform the quality of a building to enable the children to learn in comfort.

The cost of this classroom is £3400, which will buy what is virtually a lifelong gift to many. Throughout Lent, there will be a display in the Cathedral (St Patrick's Chapel) of similar projects that have been carried out in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Please view the display.

The purple buckets will be at the exits of the Cathedral for your donations to the 'Building Blocks' Appeal.

Renewal of Marriage Vows

There will be a celebration of marriage with the renewal of marriage vows for married couples during all Masses this weekend.

Fairtrade Fortnight in Portsmouth

Fairtrade Fortnight will run from 25 Feb to 9 March. Events include showing of the award-winning film 'Black Gold' about the coffee industry, a wine tasting, a coffee morning, a Fairtrade stall in the Cascades and a recipe competition.

Please visit the Fairtrade page on the Cathedral website.

Girls' Night -In

For girls in Year 9 and older we have a Girls' Night-In on Mon 18 Feb from 1830-2100 at St Joseph's Church Hall, Copnor. We will be spending some time together, watching a film, doing our nails and getting to know each other. Please fill in a form and return to a priest by Sun 17 Feb. For further details please contact Mary-Ellen on 07814 467102.

The Season of Lent Activities

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence. Fridays during Lent are optional days of fasting.

Daily Mass, Monday to Friday, 0730 and 1215.

Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 1245 and 1830.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday and Saturday from 1100 to 1215.

Lent Day of Prayer

Led by Bishop Crispian
Saturday 23 Feb 1100-1500
Talk and celebration of Mass.
Cathedral Centre. Bring packed lunch

Embryology Bill - Vote Cards

MPs to whom you should address your vote cards, regarding the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill are:

- Mike Hancock (Portsmouth South)
- Sarah McCarthy-Fry (Portsmouth North)
- David Willetts (Havant)
- Mike Hoban (Fareham)

Readers' Training Day for Young People

This will take place on Sat 1 March from 0930-1130 for anyone who is Year 7 and older and would like to read in Mass. If you are interested please fill in a form and give it to your Parish Priest by Wed 27 Feb. If you have any questions please contact Mary-Ellen on maryellen.portsmouthdeanery@googlemail.com or 07814 467102.

Singers/Cantor Needed

We are looking for male and female singers (aged 16 upwards) to join our choir. We rehearse for an hour and a half each Thursday evening and meet on Sunday morning to lead the singing at the 1000 Mass. A capacity for fluent music reading is not essential.

We are also looking for a cantor to help lead the singing at the 1800 Mass each Sunday. If you would like to be part of these important ministries please speak to any of the music team after Mass.

Charity Concert in Aid of the Portsmouth Street Pastors

Please support this concert on Wed 12 March at 1930 at The Salvation Army, Lake Road Portsmouth. The proceeds from the concert will give financial support to the work and services that the Street Pastors are doing in our area. For full details please see poster in the Centre or contact 01329 233460.

Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

Michael Dyer, Pam Rundell, Yvonne Tomkins, Carole Winsler, Agatha de Mornay, Fr Peter Sprague, Nora North, 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.

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

Angela Mincham † Seamus Lee † Violet Muir † Creng Smith † Richard Tremlett † Walter Sutherland † Tom Joyce † Dot Payne † Leslie Concannon † Michael Metcalfe † Kathleen Pellatt † Agnes Balding † Arthur Christmas † James William Creevy † Edgar Sumner † Noelle Martin †

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 Friday & Saturday 1100 -1215
Rosary after 1215 Mass Tuesday and Thursday

We acknowledge with thanks: Last weekend's collection, including Standing Orders, amounted to £1,931.30 of which £1,083.10 (56%) was gift-aided.

Lenten Alms Wk 1: £455.24