**PRESS RELEASE**

**RELEASE IMMEDIATE**

**Date of release: 8 November 2004**

Belgian-born Sister Anne of the congregation of Catholic nuns 'Helpers of the Holy Souls' in Portsmouth today celebrates her 100th birthday. Sister Anne is particularly remarkable for her work in the 1960s in the organisation of the sacramental programme for Catholic children in England and Wales.

To mark this happy occasion, Bishop Crispian Hollis of Portsmouth celebrates a special Mass at 1215 hrs at St John's Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth. The Belgian Ambassador to the UK is among the many in attendance.

# STARTS

**A Nun's Story**

Sister Anne of the congregation of Catholic nuns 'Helpers of the Holy Souls' in Portsmouth today celebrates her 100th birthday.

Born in Belgium, Sister Anne was instrumental in the 1960s in organising the sacramental programme for Catholic children in England and Wales. In the words of Bishop Crispian Hollis of Portsmouth: 'The Catholic Church is greatly indebted to Sister Anne for her dedication and achievement'.

The Belgian Ambassador to the UK will be among the many dignitaries and well-wishers celebrating Sister Anne's lifetime of service at today's special Mass conducted by Bishop Crispian at 1215 in St John's Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth.

# ENDS

Notes to Editors

For further information and photo opportunities please contact:

Canon David Hopgood, Cathedral Administrator
St John's Cathedral, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth
Tel: +44 (0) 23 92xx xxxx …… Fax: +44 (0) 23 92xx xxxx
E-mail: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx