

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ST JOHN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, PORTSMOUTH**

#### **RELEASE IMMEDIATE**

**Date of release: 11 November 2005**

More than thirty nationalities were represented at International Masses at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, on Sunday 30 October.

## **STARTS**

### **SPEAKING IN TONGUES**

More than thirty nationalities were represented at International Masses officiated by Canon David Hopgood and Fr Steven Restori at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, on Sunday 30 October. The occasion, which packed the pews at the Cathedral, was to celebrate the internationality of the Roman Catholic Church and the many cultures and languages represented by the Cathedral's Portsmouth congregation.

'Portsmouth has long been a major gateway for Britain to the wider world and a gateway for the wider world to Britain,' commented Canon David. 'Nowhere is that more obvious than at our Cathedral.'

Canon David went on to mention that the multicultural celebrations included readings and activities from the Arabic, Albanian, Chinese, English, French, German, Goan, Italian, Lugandan, Maltese, Polish, Russian, Spanish and Tagalog sectors of the congregation. 'Not that that's the full list!' confessed Canon David.

## **ENDS**

Notes to Editors

For further information and photo opportunities please contact:

Canon David Hopgood, Cathedral Dean  
St John's Cathedral, Edinburgh Road  
Portsmouth PO1 3HG  
Tel: +44 (0) 23 9282 6613  
E-mail: [stjcath@portsmouth-dio.org.uk](mailto:stjcath@portsmouth-dio.org.uk)  
Website: [www.PortsmouthCatholicCathedral.org](http://www.PortsmouthCatholicCathedral.org)