



## PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

**Parish Priest: Reverend Canon Christopher Rutledge KHS**

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**Office Hours: Mon: 8.30am - 3.30pm; Tues & Thurs: 8.30am - 12 noon; Fri. 8.30am - 2.30pm.**

**NB: The Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays / Canon Chris' Day off: Wednesday.**

**20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them forever.

**Psalm Response:** In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia.* The spirit of truth will bear witness about me comma says the Lord, and you also will bear witness. *Alleluia*

**Communion Antiphon:** The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Isn't it wonderful that the first thing Jesus does, after calling his apostles to follow him, is to try to take away their fear? Jesus knows that fear is the enemy of generous, heroic service. If Jesus is to call others to follow in the path before him, he must first encourage them. He gives courage to replace fear. The courage he gives comes from confidence in his promises.

When I reflect on what keeps me from a greater and deeper commitment to service of others, the answer is always: because of some fear. Fear is complicated. If I open up the various "excuses" or "things that keep me from" a greater surrender of myself in love and service of others, somewhere underneath, I always discover some fear. Self-preservation is a good instinct. Without it, we would have no natural defences to predators or enemies. Self-care is a good thing. Without it, we risk squandering the gifts of life God has given us. However, in a world in which there is little attention to reality beyond the day-to-day battle for survival - self becomes the ultimate concern. The ultimate imbalance in life is to see everything and everyone in relation to what is best for me. Fear of losing oneself - or any part oneself - can lead one to wake up in the morning and go through the entire day wrapped up in 'self': "How do I look? How am I coming across? How is this a slight to me? How can I win here? What about me? Surely, I matter too?"

This is not a happy way of life. Can this be what Jesus meant when he said, "If you try to save your life, you will lose it"? When Jesus says, "Don't be afraid," he is telling us that we can place our lives in his hands. He is telling us that he has already taken care of the ultimate "self-preservation." No one can ever take that away. We will live forever. We are only here on this earth, in this life, for a brief time. In helping us keep our ultimate goal and meaning in perspective, Jesus is empowering us with great freedom. Our hearts need not be occupied with ourselves. If we are liberated from this debilitating self-pre-occupation, we are freed to give our lives away, in great and heroic acts of love and service. Imagine how different our lives could be, if in the face of self-centering fear, we would pause and say, "Courage my soul; I don't need that fear; be brave; be free; trust in Jesus' care." Imagine if I "tuned out" or "turned off" the inner voice of self-absorption and became absorbed in the needs of others today. Can this be what Jesus meant when he said, "If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it"?

*From A.A. SJ*

This weekend there is a **Second Collection** for 'Day for Life'. This day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. This year's theme is 'The Wonder of the Child in the Womb'. Parenthood is a vocation of joys and hopes, of grief and anxieties. On this year's Day for Life, we acknowledge the particular grief of mothers and fathers who have lost a child before birth or in infancy. Many parents find consolation in their faith and its assurance that every child, including those who lose their life before they are born or soon after, is created, willed and deeply loved by God from all eternity.

*Please note, we cannot claim Gift Aid on this collection, so please don't use your envelopes.*

**Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for 'Peter's Pence'.**

The following **JOB VACANCIES** are posted on the **Diocesan Website** and also information is in the Church porch.

Full details, brochures and applications can be found at: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about/careers/](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about/careers/)

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR** – St John the Baptist Parish, Andover – 20 hours per week (Permanent / Part Time)

**PARISH FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR** – St John the Baptist Parish, Andover – 10 hours per week (Permanent / Part Time)

*Mass Intention Diary: Please note, the Parish Mass Intention Diary is now booked until the end of August.*

*We can't book any more Mass Intentions until the middle of August for September*

**PARISH COLLECTIONS:** 13<sup>th</sup> /14<sup>th</sup> June: Loose plate: £801.00; Gift Aid Envelopes: £284.00

Standing Orders: (weekly average) £933; Direct Debits: (weekly average) £315.00

## MASS INTENTIONS FROM 20<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July

**Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions *Waylon de Souza – for Good Health*

*Congratulations to Jace Lim who is to be baptised this weekend.*

**Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 6.00pm *Liz Hancock RIP*

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>** TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *Joe Hayward RIP - Anniversary*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *For the People of the Parish*

**Join us for the Rosary every Monday in the hall after Mass.**

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>** Requiem Mass 11.30am for Alec Carnell RIP *Feast of St John Fisher and St Thomas More, Martyrs*

**Tue. 23<sup>rd</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am *Norah Bulner RIP – Birthday Memoriam*

*Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm*

**Wed. 24<sup>th</sup>** Nativity of St John the Baptist – Our Patronal Feast Day

*\*Mass in Andover at 9.00am Richard Wright – Birthday Blessings*

**Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup>** No Mass or Service

**Fri. 26<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am *Amadeus Charles McGuire RIP*

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass for El Shaddai at 11.00am – all welcome. *Fr Amadeus Guidez RIP*

**Sat. 27<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 6.00pm *For the People of the Parish*

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>** SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *Mary Foran RIP*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *Maciej Kuchnia – Birthday Blessings*

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am *For our Parish Catechists – in grateful thanks*

**Tue. 30<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am *[First Martyrs of the Church of Rome – optional memorial] Feliciana McGregor RIP*

*Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm*

**Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> July** No Mass or Service

**Thurs. 2<sup>nd</sup>** Whitchurch Mass 10.00am *Beatrice Biggs RIP*

**Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am *Feast of St Thomas, Apostle. Mavil Rodrigues – Birthday Blessings*

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup>** Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions *[St Elizabeth of Portugal, optional memorial]*

*For the Intentions of the Wojtas-Barber Family.*

**The Divine Mercy Chaplet is said every Friday before Mass at 9.40am**

Please pray for: Esmé Coveney, Rita Lane, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Fiona Hilleard, Tony Fabian, Helen O'Connell, Douglas Manning, Diane Mahoney, Rita Casey, Rose Bull, Carol Keenan, Eileen Wharton, Oran Keenan, Margarita Hardiman, Robert Colledge, Eileen Price, Concepta Cuddihy, Frank Hinds, Clan Furtado, Lisa Rammage, Susanne Church, Sandy Saunders, Margaret Blair and Angelo and Angela Alvarez.

### FEAST OF ST THOMAS

Our Syro Malabar Catholic Community are celebrating The Feast of St Thomas the Apostle on **Sunday 5th July**.

All are welcome! Flag hoisting at 3.00pm, Mass at 3.15pm, Procession at 4.45pm followed by an Agape Meal. If you would like to join the Agape Meal, please leave a message on one of these numbers:

Babu - 07723 388805; Jobish – 07361536364; Saji - 07578 330294 or Gracy - 07557 944290.

#### ARE YOU CELEBRATING A 25<sup>TH</sup>, 30<sup>TH</sup>, 40<sup>TH</sup>, 50<sup>TH</sup>, 60<sup>TH</sup> OR ANNIVERSARY OVER 60 YEARS?

If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact me, Teresa, in the office if you would like to attend, I can help you complete the forms etc. to return to Kirsten McGuire (kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) in the Bishop's Office. Thank you.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Our Parish 'INTERNATIONAL DAY'** We are looking for more communities to participate in our upcoming International Day celebrations. For further information, please contact James Saviour on 07828 207335

Any donations of Raffle Prizes would be welcome, they can be left in the collection point in the Church porch.

The proceeds from the raffle will be for the Andover Foodbank.

#### Can you help? Do you have a regular free time every Monday morning? (Approx 9.00am to 10.30am)

We are looking for reliable people to count the weekend collection every Monday morning. We are hoping to get enough volunteers so that people would only be asked to help on a monthly basis. Training will be given and you will not be asked to bank any money. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office.