



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

Office: Alexandra Rd, Andover, SP10 3AD Tel: 01264 352829

Office email: office@catholic-andover.org.uk **Website:** www.catholic-andover.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Jackie Kelly: safeguarding@catholic-andover.org.uk

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.

22nd and 23rd August – THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; Save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, oh Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Psalm Response: O Lord, your merciful love is eternal; Discard not the work of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia.* You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. *Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

29th and 30th August – THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call you.

Psalm Response: For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia.* May the father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us. *Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

There is a page full of quotes about volunteering. Here are some of them:

"Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help."

"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud." "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?"

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

There are so many areas of our Church Community where there are opportunities to volunteer and give our time in a meaningful way: be it cleaning, welcoming, flower arranging, reading, becoming a Eucharistic Minister, taking Communion to the sick and housebound, helping in the Sacristy, serving tea and coffee, tidying up after services, counting the collection, picking up litter, joining prayer groups and committees, supporting the Parish Priest and keeping an eye open for jobs to be done. Without volunteers and willing hands, the future could look bleak – the parish needs people!

The parish needs YOU! As Charles Osgood once wrote:

"There was an important job to be done, and *Everybody* was sure that *Somebody* would do it.

***Anybody* could have done it, but *Nobody* did it.**

***Somebody* got angry about that because it was *Everybody's* job.**

***Everybody* thought *Anybody* could do it, but *Nobody* realized that *Everybody* couldn't do it.**

It ended up that *Everybody* blamed *Somebody* when *Nobody* did what *Anybody* could have!"

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Friday 28th August will be my final day in the office as Parish Administrator after some 22 years – retirement beckons! I was born into this – 'my' - Parish, my parents being active members of the parish. I was Baptised, made my First Holy Communion and was Confirmed in the church. I was married in the parish and my son was Baptised in the parish too. It was 23 years ago I began by taking the Finance Committee minutes, and my son was 2½ years old. I set up a parish shop in what is now the meeting room and then took over as administrator. Now, after what seems like forever, that 2½ year old son is a married man with a mortgage; I've seen part of so many parish celebrations and events and worked with four wonderful Parish Priests, it is now time to turn off the computer and retire!

So, on Tuesday 1st September we welcome Mrs Kasey Longman who will be our new Parish Administrator.

Kasey lives in Andover with her husband and two children, and will be taking over as Parish Administrator, please make her very welcome and do be kind and understanding as she takes on her new role! There is a lot to get to grips with, and she is very much looking forward to getting to know everyone. Kasey will cover the admin side of the Parish Office and the intention is that a new part-time Finance Administrator will be appointed later this month. The office hours will remain the same. I have enjoyed getting to know Kasey this past week and I know you will make her feel at home!

HOW CAN YOU HELP THE PARISH?

Digital Donation Terminals

You will have noticed by now, that we have two digital donation terminals, one permanently fixed in the porch at Andover and one which is brought out to Whitchurch every Sunday.



These DONA card reading machines are the perfect way to give to the parish without the need for cash or envelopes.

They are very easy to use, you just choose from the display screen what you would like to give and use the contactless card reader to tap your contactless card. You can choose the amount you give, and when it comes to the second collections you can donate to those by choosing the correct button.

Everything is securely encrypted and your details are never released or shared with anybody.

The first time you use it, it will ask you if you would like to Gift Aid your donation, and it will ask you for your e-mail address. When you get home you will receive an e-mail and you can complete a Gift Aid form for the machine.

That means each time you use your card it will automatically Gift Aid your donation.

If you happen to use a different card on any occasion, you will need to repeat the process of logging that card for Gift Aid.

Why not try it out?

You can use your phone directly linked to the DONA donations page.

Just scan the QR Code below and it will take you directly to the same pages that is on the Digital Donation Terminal.



You can still use Gift Aid Envelopes!

If you would like to register for Gift Aid and receive a set of envelopes for each week, just contact the Parish Office.

REMEMBER . . .

If you donate £10 and Gift Aid your donation, we receive a further £2.50 at no extra cost to you!

If you donated £10 per week, over a year we would receive an extra £130!

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU SHOP ONLINE, YOU COULD RAISE FUNDS FOR ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH?

It you have an iPhone you can download the Give AS You Live App from the App store.

Then, enter the Give As You Live Charity Name: **st-john-the-baptist-andover**

Then using the links through the App, you can do your online shopping whilst raising money for the parish!

For example: If you were to shop online with Dunelm, we would get 1% of your spend.

If you were to shop online with Waterstones as a new customer, we would get 2% of your spend or 0.5% if you were an existing customer.

If you had Tesco Grocery Home Delivery, a new customer would raise £2.00 and an existing customer £0.25.

In the words of the big supermarket . . . 'Every Little Helps'!

PARISH COLLECTIONS: 15th / 16th August: Loose plate: £571.50 Gift Aid Envelopes: £201.00

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

ANOTHER REQUEST!

As Kasey will be starting on 1st September, we really, really need to have an updated and comprehensive list of registered parishioners on our Church Suite Database. Even if you registered in the past, even if you have been here for years and know everyone well – you still need to register! Simply go to the Parish Website where there is a link on the first page to the Adult and Child registration forms – there are also QR codes in the porch and on the office window that take you straight to the form. If you really can't do that, then please come and collect a hard copy from the Parish Office.

This is the only way that we can know about you and your contact details, and the only way you are able to receive the newsletter by email. *Please* would you take 5 minutes out of your day to complete this task?

Thank you, Teresa.

RCIA – JOURNEY IN FAITH

Have you thought about joining the Catholic Church and would like to find out more?
Do you know someone who is interested in the joining the Catholic Church?
Did you miss out on Confirmation in the past but would like to become a full member of the Church?
We are starting a new course on ***THURSDAY 17th September**.
The sessions would run weekly, every Thursday from **7.00pm to 9.00pm** in the Parish Hall.
If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office on 01264 352829

BIBLE STUDY COURSE

There will be a new eight-week Bible Study Course in the Parish Hall on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.00pm starting on 5th October and ending on 30th November including a break for half term.
Would those interested please contact Mark Johnson-Ferguson at: mandj.jf@gmail.com or phone 0790 296 7210 or give your names and contact details to the Parish Office.



BAPTISM COURSE EVENING

The next pre-Baptism evening course will be on **Wednesday 16th September** from 7.00pm to approximately 9.00pm in the Parish Hall. Completion of the session is required before booking a baptism. To register for the course, please email / telephone the Parish Office. Both parents are requested to attend - not children -and must be registered with the Parish.

REQUIEM MASSES



If you come to Mass during the week, be it regularly or occasionally, and you see that instead of the usual Mass there is a Requiem Mass, please consider coming to that Mass. It is still 'Mass of the Day' and as a community it is right that we support the families of the person whose Requiem Mass is being celebrated. Even if you didn't know the person, to attend the Requiem Mass and pray for them is the best thing we can do as a Catholic community. Please consider coming to Requiem Masses when they occur.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH DEFIBRILLATOR

Members of Andover Circle of the Catenian Association are donating a **defibrillator** to the Parish on Sunday 23rd August after morning Mass and before the Barbecue. All are welcome to attend.
We are very grateful for this donation, and whilst we pray that it will never need to be used, it is good to know that we have it on site!

IT'S TEA O'CLOCK!

Come to tea at St John Fisher Church, Bell Street, Whitchurch on Saturday 12th September from 2.00pm – 4.00pm.
Join us for afternoon tea and a chance to catch up – all are welcome!
Bring a plate to share – drinks provided.
Raffle raising Funds for the Andover Foodbank. For more information contact the Parish Office or call Jim White on 07881 912373

The **MEDAILLE TRUST**, one of the UK's leading providers of support for survivors of modern slavery, is bringing its **Art Roadshow** to St John's Cathedral on Saturday 12th September from 11.00am to 2.00pm.

The Trust, which also runs safe houses and community projects across the country, is marking its 20th anniversary with the launch of '20 Years, 20 Stops: The Medaille Trust Art Roadshow', a powerful touring exhibition celebrating creativity, resilience, and community connection. This unique roadshow will travel across multiple locations, showcasing artwork and storytelling created by survivors of modern slavery and exploitation. Through art, reflection, and shared experiences, the exhibition aims to raise awareness, inspire conversation and highlight the impact of survivor-led voices over the past two decades. This event will see the venue transformed into an exhibition space, displaying artwork created by survivors of modern slavery. Alongside this exhibition, there will be an opportunity for discussion with the aim of creating a better understanding of the realities of exploitation in the modern world.

For more information see the poster in the porch or please email Jenny LeLean at caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

SECOND COLLECTION On 12th and 13th September there will be a **second collection** for the **CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE**. Education Sunday takes place each year on the second Sunday of September. Established by the Bishops in 1848, it is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in the liturgical calendar of England and Wales. Catholic education in Church schools and universities endeavours to acknowledge Jesus' loving presence in the lives of young people as they work, learn, pray, grow in character and virtue, and discover their vocation. Dioceses rely on the generosity of the Catholic community each Education Sunday to support education in the diocese and the work of the Catholic Education Service. (NB We CAN claim Gift Aid on this collection, so please use your envelopes!)

Looking ahead . . .

Saturday 10th October: Diocesan Catechist Day 9.30am-1.30pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke.

Whether you are new to catechesis or have served for many years, this formation day offers encouragement, practical tools, and spiritual renewal to support your ministry. Come and be refreshed, inspired, and equipped to form disciples who make disciples. Register your interest by emailing: ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 22nd August – 13th September

Sat 22nd Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions. *Queenship of Mary, memorial. Canon Barry RIP*

Sat 22nd Andover Mass 6.00pm *Patricia Moore RIP – Anniversary*

Sunday 23rd August – THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *George and Mary Ann Mahy RIP*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

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

Mon 24th Andover Mass 10.00am **ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle, feast.** *Kusumanathi Dissanayaka RIP - Anniversary*

Tue. 25th Andover Mass 10.00am [*St Louis IX, King of France or St Joseph Calasanz, Founder, optional memorial*]

Jim Cullen RIP - Anniversary

Wed. 26th No Mass or Service

Thur. 27th Whitchurch Mass 10.00am **St Monica, memorial.** *Beatrice Riggs RIP*

Fri. 28th Funeral Service for Katherine Johnson RIP – Charlton Park Crematorium at 9.00am

Fri. 28th Andover Mass 10.00am **St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial.** *For the Souls in Purgatory*

Sat 29th Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions. **The Passion of St John the Baptist, memorial.**

Adrian Rathnayaka – Birthday blessings

Sat 29th Andover Mass 6.00pm *Mary Evans RIP - Anniversary*

Sunday 30th August – THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *Florence Nyambura – Birthday Blessings*

Mon. 31st September – Benk Holiday Monday – [*St Aidan, Bishop, & All Saints of Lindisfarne, optional memorial*]

Andover Mass 10.00am *Fr Amadeus Guidez RIP*

Tue. 1st Andover Mass 10.00am *Michael Pearson RIP.* Mass followed by Coffee, Tea and Cake in the Hall – all welcome!

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 2nd No Mass or Service

Thur. 3rd Whitchurch Mass 10.00am **St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church, feast.**

Fri. 4th Andover Requiem Mass 11.00am *Patricia Judge RIP*

Saturday 5th Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions. [*St Teresa of Calcutta, Religious, optional memorial*]

Emma McAuley & Family – for Health and Strength

Sat 5th Andover Mass 6.00pm *Ante Churkovich RIP*

Sunday 6th August – THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *Dominic Godfrey RIP*

Mon. 7th Andover Mass 10.00am *Antonia Fernandes – Birthday Blessings*

Tue. 8th No Andover Mass

Crematorium Service at Charlton Park, 3.00pm for **Horace Herft RIP**

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th No Masses or Services as Canon Chris is on retreat.

Saturday 12th No 10.00am Morning Mass

Please pray for: Esmé Coveney, Rita Lane, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Fiona Hilleard, Tony Fabian, Helen O'Connell, Douglas Manning, Diane Mahoney, Rita Casey, 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, Pat Middleton and Angelo and Angela Alvarez.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Teresa Kearley, Katherine Johnson, Pat Judge, Ann Matthews and Horace Herft.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.