



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

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

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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.

4th and 5th July – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Psalm Response: I will bless your name forever, my God and king.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. *Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: Taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

Or Come to me, all who labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Thank you Jesus for your healing invitation! Jesus extends his healing invitation to all of us. He wants us to share the complexities and complications of our daily lives with him. He wants us to accept his guidance and encouragement which will give us rest. There are those times when the weariness and burdens can be overwhelming. Jesus' invitation to come to him is an invitation of love. Love is the silver lining that can be palpable during trying times. Love makes the yoke easier and the burden lighter.

Thank you Jesus for the rest that you provide for our souls. We are called to use our God given talents to obtain wisdom and acquire knowledge so that isn't the challenge revealed in today's gospel. There are problems when we neglect to acknowledge (either intentional or unintentional) that our talents come from God. Jesus is our role model to be humble in heart. The good news is that Jesus will always extend his invitation to help us find rest for our souls. Jesus doesn't promise us that our lives will be easy. What he does promise is that our burdens will be lighter when we go to him. *J.S.*

Vacancy: PARISH FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR – St John the Baptist Parish, Andover – 10 hours per week
(Permanent / Part Time) Closing date Sunday 5th July.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY IS 'SEA SUNDAY'

Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all our lives, but they often work in difficult and dangerous conditions. Conflicts around the world are increasing risks to their safety, especially for crews travelling through regions such as the Strait of Hormuz. Many also face abandonment by employers, long separations from family, stress, and poor mental health.

Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) is the maritime charity of the Catholic Church. Its chaplains and ship visitors provide practical help and pastoral care to seafarers and fishers in the UK and around the world. Sea Sunday is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea.

The collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. Thank you. *Please note, we cannot use Parish Gift Aid envelopes for this collection.*

ANDOVER CHAMBER CHOIR INVITES AUDIENCES TO REVISIT CHILDHOOD WITH "RHYMES AND RECOLLECTIONS"

Andover Chamber Choir is set to transport audiences back to the carefree days of youth with their charming and evocative upcoming concert, "Rhymes and Recollections: A Choral Collection of Childhood Songs". This unique performance weaves together familiar nursery rhymes, beloved literature, and masterful choral arrangements that celebrate the wonder and nostalgia of childhood, promising a captivating evening for all ages. The programme is an eclectic and beautifully curated mix, showcasing the choir's versatility and passion for diverse choral repertoire. Highlights include John Rutter's charming '5 Childhood Lyrics', a playful arrangement of 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' by Andrew Carter, and Eric Whitacre's ethereal setting of the Rudyard Kipling poem, 'The Seal Lullaby' - a piece renowned for its poignant beauty. Adding a rich layer of literary charm, the evening will be interspersed with prose from iconic children's authors, including A. A. Milne and Beatrix Potter, grounding the musical pieces in cherished childhood narratives.

The concert takes place at **7.30pm, Saturday 18th July, Farleigh School, Andover, SP11 7PW.**

Tickets are £15 on the door or £12 in advance from The Lights (in person and online) or through choir members. Under 16s are admitted free. Proceeds are in aid of Andover Young Carers, providing vital support and respite to young carers in Andover and the surrounding area.

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 4th July – 17th July

Sat 4th	Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions [<i>St Elizabeth of Portugal, optional memorial</i>] <i>For the Intentions of the Wojtas-Barber Family.</i>
Sat. 4th	Andover Mass 6.00pm [<i>St Elizabeth of Portugal – Optional Memorial</i>] <i>Pat and Carl Grey – Wedding Anniversary Blessings</i>
Sunday 5th July – FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
	Whitchurch Mass 8.30am <i>Winifrid and Colin Timothy, Peter and Christine Yacomine RIP</i> Farleigh School Mass 10.00am - Andover Mass 10.30am <i>Cruz Vas RIP</i> Syro Malabar Community Feast of St Thomas Celebrations – Mass at 3.15pm, Procession at 4.45pm
Mon. 6th	Andover Mass 10.00am [<i>St Mareia Goretti Martyr – Optional Memorial</i>] <i>Frank Hinds – for Health and Strength</i>
Tue. 7th	Andover Mass *9.00am <i>Ben Dunne RIP</i> <i>Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm</i>
Wed. 8th	No Mass or Service -
Thur. 9th	No Whitchurch Mass <i>Funeral Service for Teresa Hollingworth RIP, Charlton Crematorium 9.00am</i> <i>Funeral Service for Lucille Fares RIP, Charlton Crematorium 11.30am</i>
Fri. 10th	Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition until 11.00am <i>Wedding Anniversary Blessings</i>
Sat. 11th	Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions <i>Feast of St Benedict, Founder & Patron of Europe.</i> <i>Canon John Longinotto RIP</i>
Sat. 11th	Andover Mass 6.00pm <i>Mary Workman, Birthday Blessings</i>
Sunday 12th July – FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [Sea Sunday]	
	Whitchurch Mass 8.30am <i>For the People of the Parish</i> Farleigh School Mass 10.00am - Andover Mass 10.30am <i>Bernadette de Souza (née Fernandes) RIP - Anniversary Remembrance</i>
Mon. 13th	Andover Mass 10.00am [<i>St Henry, Emperor, Optional Memorial</i>] <i>Charles Decrose RIP</i>
Tues. 14th	Andover Mass 10.00am [<i>St Camillus of Lellis, Founder, Optional Memorial</i>] <i>Anne Scicluna RIP - Anniversary</i> <i>Mass followed by Tea, Coffee, Cake and Chat in the Hall – all welcome!</i> <i>Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm</i>
Wed. 15th	No Mass or Service -
Thur. 16th	Whitchurch Mass 10.00am [<i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Optional Memorial</i>] <i>Thomas Foran RIP</i>
Fri. 17th	Andover Mass 10.00am <i>St Bonaventure, Religious, Bishop, Memorial. Brian McAuley RIP - Anniversary</i>
<p><i>Message from Bishop Challoner School: Due to unforeseen circumstances, it is with a heavy heart that our 50th Celebration Event planned for Saturday 11th July has been postponed. We will announce the new date as soon as possible. We are very sorry for any disappointment and inconvenience this may cause.</i></p>	
<p>PARISH COLLECTIONS: 27th / 28th June: Loose plate: £531.05; Gift Aid Envelopes: £257.00 Standing Orders: (weekly average) £933; Direct Debits: (weekly average) £315.00 Thank you for your donations, the collection for Peter's Pence came to £671.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal</p> <p>You can help our neighbours affected by the 24th June earthquakes in Venezuela with emergency shelter, water and food. CAFOD is already working with local Church partners to support people who have lost their homes, but we need your support to help more survivors. Your donation will provide essential supplies and help families rebuild their lives. Donate to the CAFOD-DEC Venezuela Earthquake Appeal today: cafod.org.uk/Venezuela or call 0300 999 0030 or scan the QR code. Please keep our neighbours in Venezuela in your prayers.</p>	
<p>Can you help? Do you have a regular free time every Monday morning? (Approx 9.00am to 10.30am)</p> <p>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.</p>	

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

