

SACRED HEART PARISH

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Reg. Charity No. 1199568



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - 30 November 2025

Priest in Charge: Fr. John Chadwick
Parish Administrator: Mrs Jan Hughes **Office open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings**
Phone: 01256 577007/07719 012955 **email:** office@sacredhearthook.org
Website: www.sacredhearthook.org **Facebook:** facebook.com/sacredhearthook
Safeguarding Minister: Mrs Maggie Wood **email:** safeguarding@sacredhearthook.org
PC Chairman: David Brown via the parish office or ppc@sacredhearthook.org

Sacred Heart Church, The Priests House, London Road, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9LA

St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) now have a confidential mobile phone line to assist & help. 07434 773219.

Please note we now have CCTV Cameras around the premises for security purposes.

MASS TIMES

Mass in the Convent on Monday mornings at 9:30am

Daily Eucharistic Service at Maryfield Convent at 10:00am (Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat 29 Nov	6:00 pm	Mass	Richard Coleman RIP
Sun 30 Nov	10:00 am	Mass	Tess Dunne RIP
			Intentions of Brian Smith
Mon 1 Dec	9:30 am	Mass in the Convent	
	1:30 pm	Funeral Service	Gerard Carton RIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat 6 Dec	6:00 pm	Mass	People of the Parish
Sun 7 Dec	10:00 am	Mass	Richard Allen RIP
Mon 8 Dec	9:30 am	Mass in the Convent	

CONFESSIONS & SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Father John will be available after Mass for Confessions and/or the Sacrament of the Sick.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass Intention, please contact Jan in the Parish Office on 01256 577007.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for the weekends of the 9 November & 16 November amounted to £1,756.23 from Standing Orders, Direct Debits and Mass Collections.

Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH FINANCE

Dona Plates Contactless giving made easy (with Gift Aid optional) - See the machine at the back of the church
Standing Orders Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

BACS Transfer

Our bank details are: CDP Hook Sacred Heart (Lloyds Bank) : Sort Code 30-93-04 Account 00880117

Cheques Payable to 'CDP Hook Sacred Heart'

Gift Aid payers are encouraged to contact the office at: office@sacredhearthook.org

PLEASE PRAY

Lord, have all those who are unable to be with us at Mass in Your safekeeping as we remember: Debbie Cavedon, Jacob Weston, Mike Murch, Ken Musgrave, Sylvia Hosking, Fr Jean Patrice, David Xavier, John Kidd, Anne Mitchell, Peter Ward, Sheila Barlow, Marilyn Warren, Andrew Henderson, Tony & Jackie Hopgood



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the soul of **Gerard Carton RIP** who died this week. His funeral is on Monday 1st December at 1:30pm in the Sacred Heart.



May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God.

Rest in Peace. Amen

MARYFIELD CONVENT

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Divine Mercy chaplet followed by the Holy Rosary will take place in the Convent Chapel at 3pm on Fridays.

Everyone is welcome

FAITH SHARING PRAYER MEETING

First Tuesday of the month.

At 10:30am

in the tea room

TUESDAY UCM KNITTING AND CROCHET GROUP

2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday of the month

At 10:30 in the tea room

ADORATION FOR PEACE

Tuesday evenings 7:30—8:30pm

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Sunday of Advent

First Reading Isaiah 2: 1 - 5

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 121

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

‘Let us go to God’s house.’

Second Reading: Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let me see, O Lord, your mercy

and give us your saving help.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 24: 37 - 44

ILL AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL

If you are ill and are unable to attend Mass, please let Sister Mary-Doris know, we can then arrange for communion to be brought to you. If you are in hospital or know that you are going to go in, let us know in the office by phone 01256 577007 and Sister Mary-Doris on 07899 653413

ADVENT STARTS TODAY

The season of Advent is a time of preparation before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *Adventus* which means coming. Here are some thoughts to help us to prepare for Christmas.



Consider ...

- ♦ A place to go to get away from all the adverts
- ♦ A day of silence to just be with the Mystery of the Incarnation
- ♦ A chance to be of service to the poor
- ♦ A little more time to be with Family and Friends
- ♦ Some time to meditate on the fact that Jesus was born

REPOSITORY

Please check out our repository in the porch.

If there is anything you would like especially Advent and Christmas items please ask Cecile

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

Father John will be visiting the local Cemeteries on the following dates and times, to bless the graves.

Saturday 29 November

1:00pm Odiham Cemetery

1:30pm South Warnborough Cemetery

2:00pm Greywell Cemetery

Sunday 30 November

1:00pm Hook Cemetery / St John’s Cemetery

1:30pm Mattingley Cemetery

2:00pm Hartley Wespall

COFFEE MORNING

For all those who helped with the poppies, please join us for a thank you coffee on Friday 5th December at 11:00am in the Hall

ADVENT WREATH HYMN

During the lighting of the advent candle this weekend, we will be singing the first verse of the Advent Wreath Hymn.

**Light the Advent Candle one
Now the waiting has begun
We have started on our way
Time to think of Christmas Day**

***Candle, candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle, candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light***

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sat 29 & Sun 30	Blessing of Graves
Sun 30 Nov	Christmas Fayre
Fri 5 Dec	Thank you coffee 11:00am Hall
Sun 7 Dec	Children’s Advent Workshop
Sat 13 Dec	Advent Retreat Day with Father Fergal McGuire SSCC

Parish of the Sacred Heart – Advent Day of Reflection
Date: Saturday, 13th December Time: 10:30am – 4:00pm

Dear Friends,

My name is Fr. Fergal Maguire SS.CC., and I am a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. I come from Dublin, Ireland, and have had the privilege of ministering in Africa, Spain, the Americas, and within parish communities in the Southwark and Westminster dioceses. I have also served as chaplain at the Heathrow Detention Centre and currently have the blessing of serving as chaplain to the traveling communities for the Diocese of Westminster.

I am delighted to be invited to Sacred Heart Parish to lead your Advent Day of Reflection. I understand that the run-up to Christmas can be a busy time for us all, but I hope you will be able to join us for this special day. During the day, we will focus on themes such as “Finding Stillness in a Busy World,” “Meeting God in Solitude and Silence,” with talks titled “You Can’t Hurry Love.” And “The Naked Prophet”. Throughout the day we will pause, engage in reflective talks, and have opportunities for mindfulness and meditation, allowing time for personal prayer and reflection and have a shared lunch. This day aims to help us prepare our hearts for Christmas, embracing hope, peace, and renewal as we journey through Advent.

The day will begin at 10:30am in the parish hall, where tea and coffee will be available. For lunch we will be serving soup & a roll in the hall. The reflection will conclude mid-afternoon, allowing time for a break before the evening Mass. If it’s more convenient, I will also celebrate Mass on Sunday morning at 10:30am.

I look forward to meeting as many parishioners as possible on Saturday, 13th December, or at the Masses over the weekend.

Warm regards,

Fr. Fergal Maguire SS.CC.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT WORKSHOP.

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 2025

A date for your diaries - we will be running an Advent Workshop for the children on Sunday 7th December, after Mass in the church - it will start fairly promptly after Mass and will be approximately one and a half hours duration.

We will have refreshments.

If your child is able to attend,
please let either Maggie, Gill or Jan know.

Many thanks.

ADVENT BOOKLETS

‘Day by Day’ booklets are available from the welcomers table for £1.00. They are a helpful guide for our journey through Advent. Please place money in the wall box.

PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Our Pastoral Area Penitential Service is on Friday 19th December at 7pm and will take place in St Joseph’s Church. All are most welcome to attend.

DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

During December, the Holy Father asks us to pray for Christians in areas of conflict. *Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.*

REPOSITORY

Please check out our repository in the porch.
If there is anything you would like especially Advent and Christmas items please ask Cecile

CHRISTMAS FAYRE—THIS WEEKEND

Sunday 30 November at 11 am (The hall will also be open on Saturday 29th November at 7 pm)

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following items:-

Bottles for the tombola, Raffle prizes, Bric a brac, Children's toys/books

Cakes (on the Saturday and/or Sunday please)

Please could any donations be put into the Welcomers' cupboard at the back of church.

All moneys raised will be going towards the Parish for the purchase of
new albs for the Altar servers and Altar Cloths. Many thanks

Christ the King 2025 – Hook

Saving Yourself. At the age of 10, my primary school, St Jude's, Fareham, stepped into the 20th Century. It installed a swimming pool, outdoors! It was January when we first got a chance to sample the delights of swimming in an unheated pool, outside, in the winter! I had not learned to swim by then, but that didn't seem to matter. I remember sitting on the side of the pool with my feet in the water turning into blocks of ice. Then the order was given by the teacher, "In you get!" I felt some persuasion behind my shoulder blades. I was in the water, immediately floundering and out of my depth. I felt some more persuasion under my arms, this time pulling me out. Another teacher had saved me. Sometimes, it just isn't possible to save yourself. Help from another is absolutely needed.

Three times the onlookers, the soldiers, the 'Bad Thief', goaded Jesus,

"Save yourself."

The 'Good Thief' was different. He recognised the truth. First, he recognised God and challenged the other thief to do the same,

"Don't you fear God?"

Second, the Good Thief recognised that he was in a tight spot. He was indeed a sinful man who was now receiving his 'just deserts'. Third, he recognised that he needed saving. Fourth, he couldn't save himself. Fifth, he recognised Jesus could save him. Thus, the Lord responded,

*"Truly I tell you, **today** you will be with me in paradise."*

Brothers and Sisters today is the day to recognise the truth: that God exists; that my sinfulness exists and warrants justice; that I need saving; that **I can't save myself**, but **I know THE MAN who can**. We must not waste time. We must follow the example of the Tax Collector of a few weeks ago, the Good Thief of today. If we do, we will hear these words,

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:35-43

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the Jews. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Fr John C

SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Stella Maris ask for your support for their Christmas Appeal to help give Christmas chocolates to seafarers in Southampton this December. About 400,000 seafarers will be working over Christmas, separated from their families and friends. Stella Maris meets and supports seafarers around the world. We want to show them that they are not forgotten this Christmas, so we are planning to collect hundreds of chocolate Christmas presents for seafarers visiting the Southampton ports in the days before Christmas. We invite local Catholic parishes and primary schools to donate chocolate tubs, which our chaplains and volunteer ship visitors pass on to seafarers coming into Southampton and Fawley ports. To support this appeal please email:

BASINGSTOKE CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

A new group for Catholic Men will be starting in January. Men of all ages are welcome from 18 upwards. The idea will be that Catholic men can come together to chat about issues that face us, enjoy fellowship and have time to pray. We will also arrange the occasional social night out. Sessions will run on Tuesday evenings at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke. To register your interest please use the QR code or sign up here: <https://forms.gle/ZUSxCHpMsoXuRvG48>



WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2026

We are delighted to announce our second annual ecumenical pilgrimage to Walsingham, taking place from 17th – 21st August 2026, departing from Sacred Heart Hook.

This special journey offers time for prayer, reflection and fellowship with friends from different Christian traditions

A non-refundable deposit of £40 is required by the end of November to secure your place.

If you are interested please put your name on the list at the back of the church