

SACRED HEART PARISH

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Reg. Charity No. 1199568



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A - 6 September 2026 - Page 125

Associate Priest: 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: Shanthi Fernando **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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 5 Sept	1:00 pm	Wedding	Felix and Scarlet
	6:00 pm	Mass	Mary Sparkes RIP Intentions of Teresa & Bogusz
Sun 6 Sept	10:00 am	Mass	Terry Wright RIP
		Blessing	Anna and Bruce
Mon 7 Sept	9:30 am	Mass in the Convent	

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 12 Sept	6:00 pm	Mass	
Sun 13 Sept	10:00 am	Mass	Intentions of Luka Laski Father Gabriel Imstepf SMB RIP

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 FINANCE

Dona Plates Contactless giving made easy (with Gift Aid optional) - See the machine at the back of the church

Give as you live Please see the QR codes in the church and in the newsletter.

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,
Andrew Henderson, Maeve Crangle, Kevin & Rita Saunders



VOLUNTEER AGREEMENTS

The Diocese have asked that all volunteers in the Parish sign a volunteer agreement, it doesn't matter how long you have been volunteering. To support this, the Diocese have introduced a Volunteer Agreement. Please check the table at the back for your envelope. A copy of the Volunteer Handbook can be found on our website.



BAPTISM

Welcome to the family of God.
Priscilla Holmes and Richard Holmes who were baptised here in Sacred Heart on Saturday 29th August.
Also Maisie Pinto who was baptised here in Sacred Heart on Sunday 30th August.
Congratulations.

THE SACRISTY

Is a place of prayer and contemplation and should be an oasis of calm, before and after Mass. The Priest and Servers need time and space in order to prepare themselves for The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. **Please respect this and refrain from visiting the Sacristy in the last 15 mins before Mass.** Unless there is an emergency, of course.

THE CHURCH—BEFORE MASS

Many have asked me that we try and keep our voices down before Mass so that we can all offer our prayers to God in relative peace before Mass begins. We are a beautiful family of faith at Sacred Heart, therefore very important we chat and catch up. But if we can try and leave this until after Mass it would be much appreciated.

Many thanks. Fr J C

PASTORAL COUNCIL (SACRED HEART)

If you have any questions for the PC then please either email them to ppc@sacredhearthook.org or drop them into the parish office.

The minutes are available from the welcomers table.

PASTORAL AREA COMMITTEE (BASINGSTOKE)

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Shanthi Fernando is our representative on the SLT

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors who join us. If you are new to the area, please contact the Parish office to register as a member of our Parish. Parish Registration forms are available from the welcomers table.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 94

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

Gospel : Psalm 62

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027

Our next FHC programme will be starting soon. To join the programme your child should be: 7yrs old or over, a Baptised Catholic, resident in Sacred Heart Parish and attending Mass weekly.



For enquiries please email: office@sacredhearthook.org

POPPY APPEAL

Calling all knitters and crocheters! Last year we had a fantastic response to our poppy appeal. This year we hope to put at least two more panels up over the hedge, so if you are able to help, please speak to either Maggie Wood or Candy Head. We have patterns available and any donations of red wool would be much appreciated.



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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 11/Sun 12 Sept	Mill Hill (Missio) Father Joining us
Sat 3rd Oct	Curry Night
Sat 28/Sun 29 Nov	Xmas Fayre

MARYFIELD CONVENT

Please note that from **Monday 14 September**, all services and parish activities taking place in the **Convent Chapel and Dining Room** will be suspended.

These services and activities will recommence on **Monday 19 October** and will take place in the **Church** or **Parish Hall**.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for the weekend of the 16 & 23 August amounted to £1,804.74 from Standing Orders, Direct Debits, Contactless and Mass Collections.

Thank you

ADoRE

On Saturday 19th September 10.00-13.00 there is another opportunity for your parishioners and communities to join us on Zoom for the next session in our ADoRE 2026 programme exploring God's amazing love. This month we focus on the theme: "HEALING - LOVE IN ACTION" - stepping out in love and faith to pray for people. This month's guest speaker will be **Ros Powell**, a Catholic Evangelist with a healing, deliverance and prophetic ministry, she is a frequent keynote speaker at New Dawn Conference. **Anyone can attend free of charge**, but they will need to register in advance here: bit.ly/ADORESEP2026 to participate in the next Zoom meeting. A reminder invitation email will also be sent out a week before the meeting.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF OCTOBER IN-PERSON MEETING

We hope many of your Community will also be able to join us in person for our October 24th meeting in Reading, if within reach. Anything you can do to publicise this event is appreciated. More details [HERE](#)

ADoRE is a monthly meeting of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, dedicated to the encouragement of a personal relationship with God, through Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Formed in 1975 in Portsmouth Diocese, it is one of the longest continually running Charismatic Days of Renewal in Britain. You can find out all about the full programme for the year – dates, topics and speakers – on our website at www.altonrenewal.com/2026.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Building Bridges. John and Jean visited us yesterday to talk about their wedding. They are the latest of over a dozen couples to approach us regarding their desire to marry. What a joy! Yet the administration around marriages, from a church point of view, has become ever more complex. You see this in your own families, I'm sure, but couples are increasingly choosing not to celebrate their marriages in Church. The rules and regs have clearly created a stumbling block in their relationship with God, so they dismiss the Church.

The Greek word for a stumbling block is 'Skandalon', where we get the word scandal. Despite his evident best intentions, St Peter – God bless him – was obstructing the Lord's work. So, Jesus told him off,

"You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

I think we all do this to an extent, when we allow our human concerns to eclipse God's concerns. We do allow our own ideas, even well-intended ones, to cloud, even obscure, what God says and does. Yet, we are called and expected to magnify – Our Lady's example - what God says and does, rather than magnify ourselves.

Thus, I am passionate about removing obstacles in the way of those seeking God's Grace, especially present in Word and Sacrament. The organisational church has become increasingly obsessed about processes, courses, timeframes, when receiving the Sacraments. Most of these speak to what we do, rather than what God does. This is a scandal. Every Sacrament celebrates what God does, to which we spend the rest of our lives responding. We receive His Grace not because we deserve it, not because we know enough, but because God loves us in the hope we will respond. Lord, I am not worthy...but only say the word... God has spoken, Brothers and Sisters.

This week, let us pray that we will not be 'skandalons', stumbling blocks in the way of Grace. **Build a Bridge** for others to walk on, to meet the Lord, to receive His love and saving Grace, just as we do.

Matthew 16:21-28

Fr John C

NEW PARISH DATABASE SYSTEM - CHURCHSUITE

Printed forms are available on the welcomers table, for Parishioners who have difficulty in accessing the internet.
Please kindly return your completed forms to the Parish Office.
Thank you to all those who have already registered.

The Adult Registration Form is available by copying and pasting the following URL link:
<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/xgfxemn6>
or by scanning this QR code:



The Child Registration Form is available by copying and pasting the following URL link:
<https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.churchsuite.com/-/forms/ury2lp4z>
or by scanning this QR code:



DIOCESAN CATECHIST DAY – PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE

Saturday 10 October | 9:30am–1:30pm | St Bede's, Basingstoke

Are you involved in passing on the faith in your parish? Join catechists from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer, inspiration, and practical formation as we reflect on our shared mission to **form missionary disciples**. Inspired by Jesus' words, *"Go therefore and make disciples..."* (Matthew 28:19), we will explore how catechists can lead others to Christ, hand on the living faith of the Church, accompany people in conversion, and help build vibrant missionary parishes. Whether you are an experienced catechist or new to the ministry, you are warmly invited to attend.

To register your interest please go to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email Meghan, Formation for Mission Team Leader at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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Support Sacred Heart
Catholic Church



SACRED HEART CHURCH
Where everyone is warmly welcome

HOOK UCM

Tuesday UCM knitting and crochet group
2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:30
in the Parish Hall

Save the Date - Table Top Sale:
Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September 2026, monies raised for The National Autistic Society.

A few weeks ago Sam gave a very enlightening talk on his autism and how he deals with it in everyday life. Many parishioners commented on it, so the UCM is going to hold a Table Top Sale; after Mass on Saturday 5th September and Sunday 6th September to raise money for the Autistic Charity—a very worthy cause.

But we need your help !!

We would be very grateful for donations of new and nearly new clothes and accessories as well as Bric and Brac items. These can be left at the back of the church.

There will also be a cake stall and we would be delighted if you could offer to make cakes and biscuits for us to sell. (and include a full list of ingredients).

A plant stall—so anyone with green fingers we'd be very pleased with any contributions. God bless and Thank you.



PHOTOGRAPHS

You may be aware that photos are taken at some of the church/parish events. For this purpose we need to know if there are any objections to these being put on the website or parish Facebook. If you do not want to appear in the above please make your objection known. Many thanks.