

SACRED HEART PARISH

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Reg. Charity No. 1199568



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A - 11 October 2026 - P. 140

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: Mrs 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-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 10 Oct	11:00 am	Wedding	John and Jean Coffey
	6:00 pm	Mass	Intentions of Teresa & Bogusz Laska Patrick & Elizabeth Flanagan RIP
Sun 11 Oct	10:00 am	Mass	Joanna's Intentions Intentions of Rama Intentions of Lori
	12:30 pm	Baptism	Mary McDonagh

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 17 Oct	12:30 pm	Baptism	Tyson Stokes
	6:00 pm	Mass	Intentions of Hubert Lyons Hamish Fraser RIP
Sun 18 Oct	10:00 am	Mass	Our Brother and Sisters Intentions of Bogusz & Teresa Laska

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

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, Nikki Pink, Ken Musgrave, Sylvia Hosking, Fr Jean Patrice, David Xavier, John Kidd, Anne Mitchell, Peter Ward, Sheila Barlow, Andrew Henderson, Maeve Crangle, Kevin & Rita Saunders

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 welcomer's table.

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

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 welcomer's table.

PASTORAL AREA COMMITTEE (BASINGSTOKE)

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Shanthi Fernando is our representative on the SLT

PARISH COLLECTION

The Parish Collection for the weekends of 27th September and 4th October amounted to £1,825.24, received through Standing Orders, Direct Debits, Contactless Giving and Mass Collections.

Our Second Collection for CAFOD raised a further £338.30.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for your continued generosity and support. It is very much appreciated.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027

Our next **First Holy Communion Programme** will be starting soon.

If you would like your child to take part in the programme, they should be **7 years of age or over**. For further information, or to register your interest, please contact the Parish Office by email:

office@sacredhearthook.org

We look forward to welcoming our new group of children and accompanying them and their families on this very special journey of faith.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 3rd Oct	PC Meeting
Sat 31st Oct	Curry Night
Sat 28/Sun 29 Nov	Xmas Fayre

CURRY NIGHT

Saturday 31st October

7.30pm

Hall open from 7.00pm

Come along and enjoy a great evening with our parish community!

Tickets: £10

Bring your own drinks

Raffle tickets will be available

after Mass and on the night.

We look forward to seeing you there!

THE SACRISTY

The Sacristy is a place of **prayer and preparation** and should be an oasis of calm, both before and after Mass. The Priest and Altar Servers need time and space to prepare themselves prayerfully for the **Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**.

We therefore kindly ask that you **refrain from visiting the Sacristy during the 15 minutes before Mass**, unless, of course, there is an emergency.

Thank you for respecting this important time of prayer and preparation.

THE CHURCH: BEFORE MASS

A number of people have asked me if we could try to keep our voices down before Mass, so that everyone has the opportunity to spend a little time in quiet prayer and preparation before Mass begins.

We are a beautiful family of faith at Sacred Heart, and it is important that we have time to chat, catch up and enjoy each other's company. However, I would be very grateful if we could, wherever possible, leave our conversations until after Mass.

Thank you for your kindness and consideration, and for helping to maintain a prayerful atmosphere in our church.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Twenty-eighth Sunday in ordinary time

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 22

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever
Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!



HOLY HABITS QUESTIONNAIRE

Bishop Philip is inviting us all to take a few moments to complete a **short, anonymous questionnaire** about our **Holy Habits**.

Your response will help provide valuable feedback, so we would encourage as many parishioners as possible to take part.

To complete the questionnaire, please follow the link below:

<https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/QTBWYRP>

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 2026

Gentle Guidance. On recent travels, after completing my required 'steps' for the day, I ended up in a local hostelry where I saw a beautiful thing. I walked a father and son. It was the son's 18th birthday, so for the first time he was able, legally ☺, to buy his dad a pint. It was, indeed, a significant and a beautiful moment. A few moments later I saw the two of them chatting. The son was clearly listening and learning.

Today, the Lord gives us an opportunity to listen and learn, to be **gently guided**, at the feet of Our Father. Today's Gospel concerns a father and his two sons. One son publicly aligned himself with his father and the family business, "yes, I'll go," but didn't. This son's alignment turned out to be a pretence. It wasn't true. The other son, from the get-go, publicly admitted his non-alignment, but he was given the time and space to reconsider. He changed his mind - he had a change of heart. He repented, in other words, to commit himself to his father's business.

Today, as His Sons and Daughters, we too are being given the time and space to reconsider our position. Are we going to pretend? On the outside I will align myself to Christ, I will come to Church, do the talk, claim the label Christian, but out there I'll just blend in with the world. Or will I take the time and space today to acknowledge, publicly, that I am not all that; that I have been pretending to an extent, that I do need God's Grace to help me change my mind, to go into the Vineyard and to wholeheartedly get to work bringing heaven down to earth.

The tax collectors and prostitutes – public sinners – were ahead of the Chief Priests and Elders of the Temple – God's public associates – because they did not pretend! They were overtly humble, honestly reaching out for the hand of the Gentle Shepherd in the midst of their evident failures. As a consequence, God challenged and changed them to become His closest genuine associates.

Brothers and sisters, God meets us where we are, not where we would like to be. God deals in reality, not pretence. We pray for the Grace to be real before our Heavenly Father, to **accept His gentle guidance** to have a change of mind, a change of heart, to go into the Vineyard whole heartedly, to love like never before.

Matthew 21:28-32

Fr John C

PARISH MERGERS CONSULTATION

Father John Chadwick has been asked by Bishop Philip to provide his response on the effect that the proposed parish amalgamation may have on the **good of souls within our Pastoral Area**.

In particular, he has been asked to consider how the proposed amalgamation might, or might not, ensure:

- the best provision of the **Sacraments for the People of God**;
- the **mission of the Church**; and
- the **effective administration of parish goods**.

As part of this process, Father John has also been asked to consult with the parishioners of **Sacred Heart** and to seek your views in relation to the Diocesan Mission Plan.

A copy of our **Local Mission Plan** can be found on our website at:

www.sacredhearthook.org/our-mission

Printed copies are also available on the **Welcomers' Table** in the church.

We would be very grateful to receive your comments and views by Tuesday 20th October.

Responses can be submitted:

- **In writing** to the Parish Office; or
- **By email:** hello@sacredhearthook.org

Your views are important, and we would encourage as many parishioners as possible to take this opportunity to respond.

POPPY APPEAL

Calling all knitters and crocheters! Last year we had a fantastic response to our Poppy Appeal, and we are hoping to make it even bigger this year!

Our aim is to add at least two more poppy panels to display over the hedge, but we need your help.

If you can knit or crochet some poppies, please speak to Maggie Wood or Candy Head. Patterns are available, so everyone is welcome to get involved.

Donations of red wool would also be very gratefully received.

Thank you for helping us create another wonderful display of remembrance.



Parish Database System - ChurchSuite

Thank you to all those who have already registered. We strongly encourage everyone, especially families whose children will be receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, to register on this new database, ChurchSuite, as soon as possible. If you have problems with the links, please email the office.

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:



World Mission Sunday: 18th October (from Fr Anthony Chantry, Missio Director)

The theme for this year's World Mission Sunday is 'One in Christ, united in mission.' It marks the 100th anniversary of this global celebration. In his message for this day, Pope Leo says: 'Your prayers and practical support, on World Mission Sunday, will be a great help in bringing the Gospel of God's love to everyone, especially the poorest and those most in need. Every gift, no matter how small, becomes a meaningful act of missionary communion. I renew my heartfelt gratitude for everything you will do to help me help missionaries throughout the world.' Please do all that you can to encourage your parish communities to celebrate this special day in solidarity with the whole Church. For more information, please visit missio.org.uk/wms.

There will be a second collection for World Mission Sunday (Missio) next weekend.

HOOK UCM

The next UCM meeting is on Saturday 24th October at 10:30am in the Parish Hall
TUESDAY CRAZY CRAFTERS

Please do join us on the Tuesday mornings at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.

We are hoping to make hats/blankets, etc to go to hospitals and care homes or anyone in need, so do please come along. All welcome. If anyone has some spare wool, they would like to donate, it will be gratefully received.

ON THE WAY - WEEK 2 - B.E.C.O.M.E.: BELONG IN COMMUNITY

If you are joining the series here, B.E.C.O.M.E. is our simple way of describing the journey from spiritual curiosity towards following Jesus and helping others follow Him: Belong in Community, Encounter Christ, Commit to Growth, Ongoing Renewal, Missionary Led and Evangelising Witness.

The B in B.E.C.O.M.E. is Belong in Community.

Belonging often begins quietly. A name is remembered. A conversation continues after Mass. An invitation is offered. Someone realises that they have been noticed and that their presence matters.

Over time, belonging should become something deeper. It means being known and cared for, having a voice, discovering that our gifts have a place and sharing responsibility for the life of the community.

This is especially important as our five church communities move towards one parish. The aim is not to make every church identical. It is to become one parish with strong local communities and a shared mission. We want to treasure the relationships and character of each church while allowing new relationships to grow across previous boundaries. Our Local Mission Plan is helping us look more carefully at welcome and hospitality, particularly for people who are new, returning or unfamiliar with the Mass. The developing parish website should provide an easier front door, a shared calendar should make parish life easier to discover, and the parish-wide consultation will help every community to be heard.

ChurchSuite, the digital system the parish plans to use for contacts and communication, may help us stay in touch more thoughtfully with newcomers, people exploring faith, families we meet through Baptism, First Holy Communion or Confirmation, and volunteers. Yet no system can create belonging. It can only support the attention, friendship and care that we offer one another.

Bartimaeus begins at the roadside, unheard by many. Jesus stops and calls him forward. Our communities deepen when we learn to notice, listen and make room in the same way.

Perhaps this week we might learn one new name and begin one new conversation.

Next week: Encounter Christ.