SACRED HEART PARISH

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Reg. Charity No. 1199568



TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A - 18 October 2026 - P. 143

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-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
			Intentions of Mary Rose
	12:30 pm	Baptism	**Mary McDonagh**
Mon 19 Oct	9:30 am	Mass	

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 24 Oct	6:00 pm	Mass	**Joanna's Intentions**
Sun 25 Oct	10:00 am	Mass	**Damian Maranzano & Vincent Licence RIP**
			Adrian Gardner
Mass 26 Oct	9:30 am	Mass	

CONFESSIONS & SACARAMENT 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**
- **There is also a machine at the front 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

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Maggie Wood and Jan Hughes are our representatives

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 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-Ninth Sunday in ordinary time

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95
Give the Lord glory and power

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
Consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

ADoRE

ADoRE spiritual mini-retreat 24th October 9:30am - 3:30pm in-person at English Martyrs, Reading. Theme: **"THE HEART OF HOLINESS IS LOVE"** - how sainthood is for ordinary people! Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring talk from speaker **Judith Aylmer**. Register in advance for in-person attendance at **bit.ly/ADOREOCT2026REG** or join the YouTube livestream 10.00-1.00 at **www.youtube.com/@englishmartyrs3732** More details www.altonrenewal.com/2026.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 2026

Invitations. Have you ever refused an invitation? I am very grateful to Anthony, my Godson, for allowing me to share this story. Anthony's parents were fellow students of mine at university. Bernadette and Steve married. Anthony was only a toddler when I received the news that Steve had tragically died. The funeral was booked and I was informed of the date. At the same time, my sister Anne had booked a holiday for me and her, as we were both going through tough times. I chose to miss the funeral...Very soon indeed, I realised the calamity of my mistake. I was ashamed and embarrassed, which became even more entrenched! I lost touch with Bernadette and my Godson for decades. Then I heard in 2018 via the grapevine that Bernadette had also died.

God got a grip of me. I contacted the family and attended the church to concelebrate Bernadette's funeral Mass. I approached Anthony in the church. He said nothing preferring to give me a big hug instead. Even on this gravest of occasions, he chose to become **the Forgiving Father, whose invitation never ceases.** By Grace, we have kept up ever since.

As long as there is blood in our veins, we are invited to live in God's Kingdom, which extends into our daily life down here. Yet, we have a choice. We can choose to accept the invitation, to live radically – by the root – to live and love like Jesus. Or we can choose to reject the invitation in favour of other 'sensible' priorities that are far more important. Embarrassment and shame, like me, might be among them.

Most of us, I suspect, are somewhere in between. We do understand the hope, the expectation, God has of each of us. We might want to choose His Rule in our hearts. Yet, our heads claim to be more sensible. We compromise, endlessly, to do the 'normal' thing blending in with everyone else to look after number one. God knows what we are like. Thus, He chooses to keep on extending the invitation to us no matter what, in the hope that one day we turn around to say yes with our heads, as well as our hearts. God give us the Grace to RSVP, **to accept the invitation that leads to life over death**; the Way that loves like Jesus above anything and everything else, in our heads, and our hearts.

Matthew 22:1-14 Fr John C

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.

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 everyone who has already registered. We encourage all parishioners, especially families with children preparing for **Baptism, First Holy Communion,** or **Confirmation**, to register with ChurchSuite as soon as possible.
If you have any difficulties with the registration links, please contact the Parish 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:

STELLA MARIS

Here at Sacred Heart, we are supporting Stella Maris, the seafarer's charity, at their Southampton Office. Seafarers can spend around nine months at a time away from their homes, families and friends, while ensuring that we receive food and other goods from around the world. Stella Maris chaplains provide practical, spiritual and emotional support.
For nearly two years we have been knitting woolly hats (really welcome for your head if you are on a ship in cold weather). We have collected chocolates for Christmas and Easter eggs and, more recently, we have been making small woollen toys that seafarers can take home for their children on their return. Our annual money collection for Stella Maris takes place on Sea Sunday in July.
We are now starting to collect boxes/tubs of chocolates for this Christmas (please ensure the 'Best before' or 'Use by' date stretches into 2027!) If you would like to knit hats, copies of the pattern will be available from the Welcomers Table (or online at https://stellamaris.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Stella-Maris-Woolly-Hat-Patter1.pdf).
Small soft toys (maximum length about 10 inches) would also be very welcome (there are a wide variety of knitting and crochet patterns on the Internet!). Please leave all contributions at the back of the church or with the Sisters in the Convent. If you have any questions, please contact Brita (Saturday) or Penny (Sunday) after Mass or via the Office.
Many thanks for your help, prayers and contributions, Brita, Penny, the chaplains and the seafarers.

ON THE WAY - WEEK 3 - B.E.C.O.M.E.: ENCOUNTER CHRIST

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 first E in B.E.C.O.M.E. is Encounter Christ.
At the heart of parish renewal is a simple conviction: people are not only looking for information about faith. They need opportunities to meet Jesus Christ and to respond to His call. Bartimaeus first hears that Jesus is passing, but then he comes before Him personally. Jesus stops, listens and asks what he wants. The encounter gives Bartimaeus new sight and a new direction for his life. There is already much in our parish life through which people can encounter Christ. The Eucharist, celebrated at Mass, remains at the heart of our communities. We have different traditions of music and prayer, the Rosary, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, often called Confession, times of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and established prayer groups. Alpha is a course where people can explore Christian faith and ask questions. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, usually shortened to RCIA, accompanies adults who are considering becoming Catholic, while preparation for Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation supports many others. Our Local Mission Plan asks us to make these opportunities easier to discover. It also asks us to look honestly at liturgy, prayer, preaching, music, hospitality and participation across our churches. Becoming one parish gives us an opportunity to recognise what is particularly life-giving in each community and to share that learning without losing the character of each church. Testimony will also have an important place. People are often moved deeply when they hear what Jesus has done in another person's life. A real story can help someone recognise that Christ may be calling them too. The aim is not uniformity or a busier calendar. It is a parish in which worship, prayer and community increasingly help people encounter Christ and follow Him.
Where is Christ meeting you at present, and who might you gently invite to come closer to Him?
Next week: Commit to Growth.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND LIVE STREAMING

You may be aware that photographs are occasionally taken at church and parish events. These images may be used on the parish website and social media pages.
If you do not wish to appear in any photographs, please let us know and we will do our best to respect your wishes.
Please also note that Sunday Masses are live streamed. We take care to avoid showing members of the congregation whenever possible. However, those seated in the first few rows on the left-hand side of the church may occasionally be visible on camera. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.