



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-  
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area

## EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

St Mary's Church, East Hendred  
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley  
[www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk](http://www.hendredcatholicparish.org.uk)

Office: [hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Parish Priest: The Revd Mgr Andrew Burnham  
01235 835038 or 07976 437979  
[aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

<p><b>Sunday</b> 22<sup>nd</sup> December</p>	<p><b>ADVENT 4</b> <i>O Rex Gentium</i> <span style="float: right;"><b>Psalter Week 4</b> [PURPLE] <i>Pro populo</i></span>  <b>Mass: 9.30am St Mary's</b>  <b>Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's</b>  <b>Mass: 6pm St Mary's</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>FM Charles Gorton 1937</i></span></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> 23<sup>rd</sup> December</p>	<p><i>O Emmanuel</i> <span style="float: right;">[purple]</span>  School Mass: 9.15am St Mary's</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> 24<sup>th</sup> December <b>Morning</b></p>	<p><i>Christmas Eve</i> <span style="float: right;">[purple]</span>  Mass 9.30am St Mary's  Confessions: 10am St Mary's</p>
<p><b>CHRISTMAS</b> Christmas Eve</p> <p><b>Christmas Day</b></p>	<p><b>NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b> <span style="float: right;">[GOLD]</span>  <b>Crib Service: 4pm St Mary's</b>  <b>Office of Readings and First Mass of Christmas: 8pm St Mary's</b></p> <p><b>Sung Mass: 9.30am St Mary's, East Hendred</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Pro populo</i></span>  <b>Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's, East Ilsley</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Pro populo</i></span></p>
<p><b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<p><b>St Stephen, Protomartyr</b> <span style="float: right;">[red]</span>  Mass: <u>11am St Mary's</u> [<i>Archconfraternity of St Stephen</i>]  <span style="float: right;"><i>FM Canon Luck 1919</i></span></p>
<p><b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<p><b>St John, Apostle, Evangelist</b> <span style="float: right;">[white]</span>  Mass: <u>9.15am St Mary's</u> <span style="float: right;"><i>FM Sybil Clarke 1958</i></span></p>
<p><b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<p><b>The Holy Innocents</b> <span style="float: right;">[red]</span>  <i>No Mass at St Mary's</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	<p><b>The Holy Family</b> <span style="float: right;">[white]</span>  <b>Mass: 9.30am St Mary's</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Pro populo</i></span>  <b>Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's</b>  <b>No 6pm Mass</b></p>

**Confessions: as advertised or by appointment**  
[www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

# TODAY AND LOOKING AHEAD

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

*Corrected*

### CHRISTMAS EVE

9.15am Mass

4pm Crib Service (Ecumenical)

8pm Christmas Vigil and the First Mass of Christmas

### CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Solemn Mass at St Mary's

11.15am Sung Mass at St Patrick's

No Evening Mass

### SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

9.30am Sung Mass at St Mary's

11.15am Sung Mass at St Patrick's

No Evening Mass

## SEASONAL CHEER IN ARDINGTON

Ardington and Lockinge singers welcome you to Ardington Church on **Monday evening 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.30pm** for their Seasonal Cheer concert. Supported by a brass quintet. They will be performing a cheerful mixture of seasonal songs, carols and a whole host more. Admission is free but there will be a collection for the church and local charities."

## CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE

Children and their parents are warmly invited to the Crib Service at 4pm. Children dress up as characters from the Nativity Story and, roughly speaking, we run through the plot and sing a few carols. This is an ecumenical event with families from St Augustine's also invited.

## CHRISTMAS EVE REFRESHMENTS

Following the Mass at 8pm there are refreshments served in St Mary's Parish Rooms. Please come along: celebration and merriment, a very warm occasion.

Visit our website [hundredcatholicparish.org.uk](http://hundredcatholicparish.org.uk)

advancing slowly with more information.

Find us on  

## PARISH COLLECTION

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December collection raised £1,288.97 of which 75% was Gift aided.

**NEWSLETTER** | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to [hundred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hundred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) by **Wednesday 10 am**. Please see the noticeboards at St Mary's for changes of service times made since the Newsletter went to press.

# WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS



## BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

## THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

*Sr Catherine, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Jadryga Adasko, Angus Clark, Karen Greig, Kitty Teasdale, Mary Mc Nichol, Katherine Eyston, Antonia Breakspear.*

## THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Isabelle Langley, Helena Rea, Mary Agnes Hunt, John Stibbs, Winifred Anns, Thomas Eyston, John Champ, Kathleen Cavan, Sybil Clerk, May Mulford.*

**HOLY FATHER'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION** - May every country take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

## CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Christmas Offering is for the personal use of Fr Andrew, forming part of his income. If you are a tax payer, please use the gift aid envelopes which are at the back of the church.

## GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

As part of our participation in The God who Speaks-Year of the Word 2020 we shall be meeting on **Tuesdays, January 7th and February 4th**. At our January meeting, we shall be reading John's gospel, chapter 13 to help us learn, discuss and pray; 7.30 in the parish rooms.

## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING CALENDARS 2020

The Diocese of Portsmouth has released the training calendar for **January 2020** in Child Protection awareness, Vulnerable Adult awareness and Combined Refresher Training. More info in the porch board or go to [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or email to [elearning@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:elearning@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## PILGRIMAGES

**LOURDES** ✘ Portsmouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes with Bishop Philip from **15 -19 July 2020**. Cost £695 per person sharing. Call Sue on 07780 221686 or email her at [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Volunteer should also contact Sue, a Youth pilgrim is £545 pp and rooms are shared with three others.

**SOUTHERN ITALY & PADRE PIO** ✘ Father Des Connolly, will be leading a pilgrimage to Southern Italy from **Sunday 16 - Friday 21 August 2020**. For more information please call Gill from Tangney Tours on 01732 886666.

## COFFEE AFTER MASS

Please join us for a cup of coffee at St Mary's Parish Rooms. Please note there is No coffee after Mass at St Patrick's.

# The Four Last Things

**ADVENT** is the time of year when we focus on ‘**The Four Last Things**’ – **Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell**. In a series of talks at his Wednesday general audiences, twenty years ago, (July and August, 1999) Pope St John Paul II offered brief commentaries on the options that will face us after death, heaven, hell and purgatory.

**Heaven**, he said (21<sup>st</sup> July 1999), ‘is not an abstraction nor a physical place amid the clouds, but a living and personal relationship with the Holy Trinity. When this world has passed away, those who accepted God in their lives and were sincerely open to His love, at least at the moment of death, will enjoy that fullness of communion with God, which is the goal of human existence’

A week later, he told his audience that damnation, the ‘tragic situation’ of eternal separation from God, is not God's initiative, but a self-imposed punishment of those who refuse His love and mercy. He cautioned against a too literal interpretation of biblical imagery about **Hell**. The ‘inextinguishable fire’ and ‘burning oven’ of which Scripture speaks ‘indicate the complete frustration and vacuity of a life without God,’ he pointed out. Whether or not any human beings are in hell ‘is not something we can know,’ the Pope said, but damnation ‘remains a real possibility.’

In his talk on **Purgatory** on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1999, Pope St John Paul said that ‘before we enter into God's kingdom, every trace of sin within us must be eliminated, every imperfection in our soul must be corrected. This is exactly what takes place in purgatory.’ He called purgatory ‘the process of purification for those who die in the love of God but are not completely imbued with that love.’

Christ intercedes for us with an offer of mercy, the Pope said, but that offer ‘does not exclude the duty to present ourselves pure and whole before God.’

*(from the ‘Catholic Matters’ website)*