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Tuesday: 1 - 3.30pm Thursday: 1 - 3.30pm Friday: 2 - 4pm

**Website:** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-vincent-de-paul/> (To open: Select link then Ctrl + left Click)

**Link for vacancies throughout the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> **Pauline Clarke**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Mass on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February is at 10 am and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30 pm, not usual time**

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**Job 7: 1-4, 6-7**

**1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23**

**Mark 1: 29-39**

The readings this weekend cause us to reflect on the power of Jesus to heal us both physically and spiritually. In the first reading, Job laments his hardships. The image of the God of the Old Testament is very unflattering, poles apart from the loving Father of Jesus. Two of Job's so-called friends have conned God into believing that Job is a very bad man and God is punishing him severely. Job, not understanding why he has merited so much ill-fortune, rails against God in a very vociferous and robust fashion. Eventually, God learns of the injustice and returns him to health, wealth and good fortune and Job promptly forgives those who caused his suffering. This highlights the profound struggle of human suffering and the search for meaning of life's trails. Theme resonates with anyone grappling with pain, loss or hardship. Contrasting from human suffering, the Psalm emphasises God's compassion and healing power. We praise the Lord for his kindness and mercy as He restores and unites, heals the broken-hearted and uplifts the humble, humbling the wicked. The second reading gives us a rare insight into St Paul's feelings about preaching the Good News. He tells us that he has to do it or he would be punished. Interesting that "Catholic Guilt" goes all the way back to Paul. He redeems himself in the next couple of sentences however when he acknowledged that he has been called to proclaim the kingdom and that it is a responsibility which he is glad to be able to exercise. We are stewards of the Kingdom and so we have a responsibility to proclaim the Good News. If the world does not see Christ today it is because the world does not see Christ in us. Mark's Gospel shows the authority of Jesus over illness and evil forces, the transformative power in the ministry of Jesus. Jesus seeking solitude for prayer, despite the demands of his ministry, emphasises the importance of communion with God in prayer. A reminder of the need for spiritual nourishment and reflection, in the midst of our busy life and service.

Mass times	Feast Days
6.30pm Vigil Mass Mavery Augusthy Ouseph RIP	<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> St Blaise of Sebaste</b> Born in 3 <sup>rd</sup> century in what is now Turkey. Respected physician who was elected bishop by acclamation. Bishop of Sebaste. Popular for physical and spiritual healing. Became a hermit in hiding after Christian persecution. Befriended birds and wild animals. Cured a young boy with fish bone stuck in his throat. "Blessing of the throats" is now a ceremony of the Church on 3 <sup>rd</sup> February.
9.30 am Mass	<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> <b>Jean Sinpore RIP</b>
10 am Mass	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> St Agatha of Sicily</b> Born in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> century in Sicily into a wealthy Christian family. Deaconess who made a vow of virginity who became a beautiful girl who attracted the attention of the Roman Prefect of Catania. She refused his advances so he tried to change her mind with various tortures till she died.
10 am Mass Achamma RIP	<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> St Paul Miki and Companions</b> Jesuit missionaries, led by St Francis Xavier introduced Christianity to Japan in 1549. Paul Miki was born in 1562. Educated by Jesuits. Became a Jesuit novice and was very able and a very skilful preacher who converted many Buddhists. In 1593 Franciscan missionaries were sent to Japan by the King of Spain. When a local warlord was made regent to the Emperor, he started the persecution of Christians as he felt Portugal and Spain were using the missionaries to prepare the country for conquest and make Japan a colony. The Japanese Jesuit novice Paul Miki, 2 Japanese Jesuits, 6 European Franciscan missionaries, 16 Japanese laity and one lay Korean, were publically martyred by crucifixion at Nagasaki in 1597, by order of Toyotomi Hideyoshi, the local warlord who had started the persecution of Christians
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm  6.30 pm Mass Tessa Jomy 18 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> St Jerome Emiliani</b> Born 1486 to noble family in Venice. When his father died Jerome ran off and joined the army. In the war between the Venetians and the League of Cambria he was made commander of a fortress north of Venice for the Venetians. Captured and imprisoned. Escaped and turned to God and Our Lady. Escaped and gave thanks at a shrine to Our Lady. Returned to Venice to supervise his nephew's education. He found many orphans due to the war and started helping them. Studied theology to become a priest. Ordained in 1518 and concentrated on the care of orphans. During plague and famine in 1528 he cared for the sick and fed the hungry. Put in charge of the hospital for incurables in Venice. In Verona had a hospital and shelter for penitent prostitutes built. Founded orphanages all across northern Italy and another hostel for penitent prostitutes. Founded an Order to run them and instruct the children. First to create a "Catechism" with questions and answers. Died of the plague in 1537. Canonised in 1767. Made patron saint of orphans by Pope Pius XI in 1928.

<b>6.30 pm Mass</b>	<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> St Josephine Bakhita</b> Born in 1869 in Sudan. Her uncle was chief of the village. Seized by Arab slave traders. Sold to Arab chief. Badly assaulted by his son. Bought by a Turkish army general. Wife beat her daily. Inflicted wounds of 114 cuts on her body. Then bought by Italian Consul whose family treated her kindly. Back in Italy, given to a couple who owned an hotel. Nanny to their daughter. Legally released from slavery. Joined Canossian Sisters as Sister Josephine Margaret Bakhita. Her sanctity and charisma recognised by all who met her. Worked as cook, seamstress, sacristan and door keeper. Kind, gentle and with a calming voice for children. Book of her life story in 1931. Trained missionary nuns for work in Africa, work that was dear to her heart				
<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> St Miguel Febres Cordero</b> Born with crippled legs in Ecuador in 1854 and cured after a vision. Was educated by De La Salle Brothers of Christian Instruction. Very able academic. Joined Order as the first indigenous Ecuadorian despite opposition from his family. Distinguished writer of school textbooks. Skill in teaching religion with warmth and humour. Head of novitiate for the training of Brothers. Special devotion to the Sacred Heart. 1984 canonised by Pope John Paul II				
<b>6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass Xavie and Dellia 44 years of marriage</b>	<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> St Scholastica</b> Born about 480 east of Rome, the twin of St Benedict, daughter of a Roman noble. Dedicated to religious life. Started at home. Then moved to monastery near Monte Cassino that Benedict founded, the first Benedictine Convent. Became Abbess. Followed Benedictine Rule. 8 hours sleep, 8 hours prayer, 8 hours manual work, works of charity or sacred reading. Annually met her twin St Benedict for religious discussion. Died on 10 <sup>th</sup> February 543.				
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>				
<b>PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</b>					
<b>Your prayers are needed for the following people</b>					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Roy Perry	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden

### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

**Due to Fr Thomas attending a Retreat, Mass on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February is 10 am and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30 pm**

**Repository will be open this weekend after Mass on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

Available are many cards for various occasions including Mass cards and a huge variety of gifts including rosaries.

**SVP Social this Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – 1pm to 3 pm**

There is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along and bring your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of two hours, whatever suits you. Look forward to welcoming you. Renee and Pat.

**URGENT: For those gift aiding donations to the parish it is necessary to complete a new declaration form**

Due to change of name it is now necessary for all parishioners who gift aid their donations to complete a new declaration form. Margareta emailed out a copy of the form and there are a number of copies in the porch. Using CAPITAL LETTERS, please complete the form manually. Place the completed form in the box in the porch or scan it and send it by email to Margareta.

**Requiem Mass for Fr Andrew McMahon on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 11.30 pm at Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickam**  
Fr Andrew was well known as the founder of St Dismas and St Patrick's for the homeless and ex-prisoners, now "Two Saints".

**I have heard that Fr Shaun Budden, previous priest at SVP, is in Southampton General Hospital after suffering a stroke.**

**Safeguarding Officer for parish is Liz Challand. Contact on:** [safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.sousv@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk):

**Link for vacancies in the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs> **Pauline Clarke in HR**

**Sick and housebound parishioners who require Holy Communion taken to them**

If you or if you know of a "sick or housebound" parishioner who would like to be taken Holy communion please email the Parish Administrator on [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) who will organise for a visiting Eucharistic Minister or Father Thomas. If you are not able to use email, ring office mobile 07887452313 in office hours shown at top of newsletter

**Lenten programme for the next few weeks** Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Masses at 10 am and 6.30 pm

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March: Parish Retreat led by Dominican Sisters, 12 noon: Mass with Father Thomas. See below

Palm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: Mass at 9.30 am

Holy Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Reconciliation Service at 5.30 pm followed by Mass at 6 pm.

Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Washing of the Feet Service at 7.30 pm

Good Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> March: Stations of the Cross at 2.30 pm followed by Good Friday Service at 3 pm.

Holy Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass at 8 pm Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March: Mass at 9.30 pm

**All invited to Lenten Retreat for St Vincent de Paul on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 10 am to 4 pm**

The day will include talks, Mass, the Rosary and Adoration. Hot drinks and biscuits will be served during breaks. Participants should bring a packed lunch.. Donations of £10 per person should be made before the event to secure your place. To book your place and for payment details please contact [svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:svpoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish collection for last weekend 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January

Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Baptism Lenten Retreat	Envelopes	Loose plate	TOTAL of all money
£57	£14.25	£134.56	£242.54	£51.98	£500.33	£30 £70	----	----	<b>£600.33</b>