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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

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

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**Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46**

**1 Corinthians 10: 31 to 11: 1**

**Mark 1: 40-45**

The first reading comes from the *Book of Leviticus*, written by Moses and sometimes called the *Third Book of Moses*. It includes what God told Moses and his older brother Aaron and is quite difficult to read with tedious repetition, strange laws and ancient format. This extract seems quite shocking to us today with the way lepers should be treated, being “*declared unclean*”, “*must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered*” and “*cry out Unclean, Unclean*”. Moreover, lepers were obliged to live apart from the rest of the community. The Old Law reflects how the Jews feared this contagious disease. In St Paul’s message to the Corinthians in Greece he asks them to use him as their model for live as he models himself on Christ. He is keen to emphasise how they must “*never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or the Church of God*”. His overriding concern is to be sensitive to people’s feelings, showing kindness, understanding and if necessary forgiveness. This section of his letter follows a discussion of the food offered in sacrifice to idols at pagan temples. He continues the discussion telling the Corinthians to do everything for the glory of God including what they eat and drink. In Mark’s Gospel the leper that asked for healing knew that Jesus had a choice and that Jesus could reject his request. He may have expected that Jesus would not help as the social taboos regarding leprosy certainly gave him little on which to base his hope. However, by choosing to heal the man with leprosy, Jesus shows God’s compassion for the sick and outcast and astonishes everyone by touching the leper which would make him ritually unclean. This means the man is not only cured of leprosy but can return to live with his family and the community. Jesus is now famous in his early ministry.

Mass times	Feast Days
6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass Xavier and Debbie 44 years of marriage	<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.
9.30 am Mass	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
6.30 pm Mass	<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> St Benedict of Aniane</b> Born in about 748 to a noble family in Southern France. Educated in Frankish royal court. Army officer in the reigns of Pepin and Charlemagne. Then embraced the monastic life. Founded many monasteries under the Rule of St Benedict. In the Aquitaine Empire he was great reformer of monastic life and demanded austere living. Considered the “new St Benedict” by many. Died on 11 <sup>th</sup> February 821 and buried the next day 12 <sup>th</sup> February.
10 am Mass Thomas Mathew Pichappillil RIP 5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pancakes after Mass	<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> St Modomac O’Neil of Ossory</b> Born about 500 in the royal O’Neil family in Ireland. With no seminaries in Ireland at the time he travelled to Wales to be trained for the priesthood by St David. Beekeeper for monastery. He took great care of them and spoke to them daily. The bees swarmed around his head as though replying to him. When he returned to Ireland a large swarm of bees followed him on the boat much to the horror of the passengers. Introduced a new fine strain of bees into Ireland. Parish priest who founded other churches. Bishop of Ossory. Founded Abbey at Timoleague. He ended his days as a hermit still looking after beehives.
10 am Mass  6.30 pm Mass	<b>Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> St Valentine</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> century priest in Rome. Great preacher who converted many to Christianity. When Roman Emperor Claudius II banned marriage for men in Rome so he could recruit them for his army with no ties, Valentine opposed him and secretly carried out weddings. Arrested first by a judge. Valentine cured his blind daughter. The judge, his family and 44 of his household converted to Christianity and released Valentine. Arrested again and found guilty by Emperor Claudius. Daughter of his jailor he had converted and secretly married to her husband. She took in food for him. Left a good-bye note to her “from your Valentine” before he was martyred by being beheaded by the sword. This is how St Valentine is associated with messages of love.
10 am Mass	<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> St Claude La Colombiere</b> Born 1641 in France. Studied theology in Paris. Priest in Avignon. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Superior of Jesuit house in Burgandy. Confessor to Sister Margaret Mary Alacoque and became special friend. Went to England as the chaplain to Duchess of York, Mary of Modena from Italy, in St James Palace during reign of King Charles II. She was the wife of his brother, the future King James II. Accused of “Popish Plot” to kill king. Became ill in prison. Found guilty. Saved by King of France. Died 3 years later in France.

<b>NO MASS 8 hours of Adoration from 9pm ending with Mass at 4am</b>	<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> St Gilbert of Sempringham</b> Born in 1083 in Lincolnshire. Gilbert's father was Lord of the Manor of Sempringham. Disability prevented his desired knightly career so chose clerical studies and teaching. Clerk to Bishop of Lincoln. Ordained a priest. Austere life style in poor parish and helped the poor. Became Lord of the Manor as well as parish priest of two parishes on his estate. Founded a double monastery and then the Gilbertine Order. It was only medieval Order to be founded in England. Order had 13 monasteries when Gilbert died in 1189 aged 106. Almost 30 monasteries when King Henry VIII closed all of them down in the 16 <sup>th</sup> century.				
<b>6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Lisamma Joseph Qurdana 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>	<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> St Finian of Lindisfarne</b> Born at beginning of 7 <sup>th</sup> century in Ireland. Monk on the island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland. Second Bishop of Lindisfarne in 651. Well educated and eloquent he was gentle persuasive in converting pagans. Three kings converted by him. King Oswy of Northumbria, King Sigebert of Essex and King Peada of Mercia. Appointed bishops for Essex and Mercia. Built churches including a cathedral at Lindisfarne according to Celtic customs in wood covered by sea-grass. Founded religious centres including Whitby Abbey				
<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Navin Nazareth RIP</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

**Pancakes being served after 10am Mass on Shrove Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

Shirley Keates is serving pancakes to everyone after the 10 am Mass on Shrove Tuesday

**This coming Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February: 8 hours of adoration from 9 pm to 5 am**

This third Friday of the month as usual we are having 8 hours of adoration from 9 pm to 5 am ending with Mass at about 4 am

**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. Margaretta 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 Margaretta. "

**Charity chosen by Fr Michael and Fr Thomas to support during Lent. Reaching the Unreached**

Reaching the Unreached was set up in Tamil Nadu in south east India in 1978 by De La Salle Brother James Kimpton. It was originally started to care for an orphaned family and he engaged a local widow to look after them. So started the "Children's Village" concept of caring for orphaned and abandoned children in small family houses with a foster mother. There are now four Children's Villages, 10 Hostels to give greater independence to older children so that around 1,000 children are in care. The first Primary School was opened in 1986. Now there are 8 Nursery Schools, 3 Primary Schools and a Secondary School for children in their care, as well as children from the most disadvantaged families locally. Other ventures include house building, nearly 9,000 built; bore well drilling, around 2,500 wells; Self Help Groups to empower rural women; affordable loans to start small businesses or borrow money for emergencies such as medical care so avoiding the high interest rates of money lenders.

**Please donate generously in Lent. There will be baskets in the church porch. Graham Churchill is the parish contact.**

**Next SVP Social is on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – 1pm to 3 pm**

This is another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Please come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes of 2 hours, whatever suits you. Renee and Pat.

**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 the top of the newsletter.

**Lenten programme for the next few weeks** Strove Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February: Mass at 10 am. Pancakes served after Mass

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. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February**

Parish Envelopes	Gift Aid	Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Church hire Lenten Retreat	Envelopes	Loose plate	TOTAL of all money
£106	£26.50	£127.20	£242.54	£51.98	£554.22	£50 £20	----	----	<b>£624,22</b>