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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 28th April 2024

No Mass on Thursday 2nd May due to church being used as a Polling Station for Local Elections

Page 264 or 268 Acts of the Apostles 9: 26-31 1 John 3: 18-24 Gospel John 15: 1-8

This weekend's first reading takes us to the immediate aftermath of the conversion of St Paul. So fearsome had been his reputation as a persecutor of Christians that it took a long process of introduction to other disciples from his respected mentor Barnabas before his vigour and enthusiasm could be accepted into the mission of the Church. The Acts makes a great deal of Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus and it took time for the early Church to cope with Paul, something that perhaps continues to this day.

In last weekend's reading from John, God's love for us was emphasised. This weekend reading insists that the love we have received from God must flow from us to become a truly active loving in our own lives. We must show love to others but not with mere words, but a real and active love expressed in deeds. It must be a true love that will be a practical expression, along with faith in God, to satisfy our conscience and be evidence of living the truth of the Gospel. Obedience to God's commandments, especially the command to believe in Jesus and love one another, is central to our relationship with God. This obedience should not be a burden, but should be a natural outcome of our love of God and assures us of the guidance and protection of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel this weekend records some of the last words of Jesus to his apostles at the Last Supper, after Judas departed to betray Him. Jesus describes Himself as the true vine and His Father as the gardener. Branches not bearing fruit are removed while fruitful ones are pruned for more yield. He emphasises staying connected to Him, akin to branches on a vine, as key to bearing fruit. Without Him nothing can be achieved. Fruitfulness in believers in Him brings glory to God and proves that they are his true disciples and followers of Jesus. Malcolm. .

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 27th St Assicus Born in a wealthy Druid family in Ireland in 5 th century. Converted by St Patrick. One of his first disciples. Skilled metal worker in brass and copper. Also a very able silversmith and bell founder. St Patrick made him Bishop of Elphin and then Abbot-Bishop of Ireland. Felt he was unworthy and resigned to become a hermit for 7 years.
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 28th April Fifth Sunday of Easter Constantia Tomson RIP
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 29th St Catherine of Siena Born in 1347 in Italy to a large fairly rich family. Gave away family's food and clothing without permission. A member of a lay Dominican Third Order. Still lived at home and refused to marry. Cut off all her hair and used other means to make herself unattractive.. Mother then treated her like a household servant rather than a daughter. By age 21 was a mystic who experienced visions. Suffered stigmata. Tried to reform the Church that had become corrupt and decadence, bribery and faithlessness thrived. Encouraged Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome from Avignon. Attempted to solve the papal <i>Great Schism</i> with an anti-pope. Died aged 33 after a stroke caused by excessive fasting on 29 th April 1380. Canonised in 1461.
10 am Mass	Tuesday 30th Pope St Pius V Born in 1504 in Italy. Shepherd. Joined Dominicans. Very learned. Lectured in theology and philosophy at University of Pavia. Prior of monastery. Bishop of Sutri then Cardinal. Inquisition General in Italy. Too forgiving for Pope Paul IV. Criticised Pope Pius IV for appointing his relatives to clerical positions. Loved in his diocese for care of poor, sick and vulnerable but was a strict reformer with rich and powerful. Austere life style was an example. Elected the next pope. As Pope Pius V enforced reforms of the Council of Trent blocked by previous pope. Also his own reforms of the Roman Curia and papal court, reducing the size and removing relatives of previous popes and imposing strict sexual morality on clergy. Spread reforms in the religious orders, through Italy and the papal States. Redesigned the Church for the next 400 years
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm 6.30 pm Mass Joseph 13th birthday	Wednesday 1st May St Joseph the Worker This feast day celebrates St Joseph as a worker. He was told by an angel to settle in Nazareth and it is not clear whether he took over an already established business or started his own. Jesu was called " <i>the carpenter's son</i> ". However, the translation of Joseph's description in Greek as "tekton" implied much more than just a simple carpenter, but an artisan who was a skilled craftsman in other materials including stone and could have employed other workers. 1 st May is celebrated by many groups as a day for worker's rights and St Joseph is often their patron saint .

<p align="center">NO MASS Polling Station for Local Elections</p>	<p>Thursday 2nd St Richard Pampuri Born Erminio Pampuri in 1897 in Italy the tenth of eleven children. His mother died when he was 3 years old. Adopted by his uncle and aunt. Aged 10 his father died. Sister became a nun. Erminio wanted to become a priest and work in the missions and became involved in <i>Catholic Action</i> from a young age. Due to delicate health a doctor uncle persuaded him to study medicine in Pavia in 1915. Studies were interrupted by World War I in 1917. Worked in field hospitals. In 1920 resumed studies and qualified as a doctor in Milan in 1923 aged 26. Was a general practitioner in Pavia. Very generous to the poor. Called the "holy doctor". Became involved in helping his parish priest with Catholic Action Youth Club. Then joined the Hospitallers of St John of God in Milan as Brother Richard. He was appointed Director of dental clinic in Brescia, east of Milan. Died 1930 aged 33</p>				
<p align="center">NO MASS</p>	<p>Friday 3rd St Philip and St James In the 6th century the bodies of St Philip and St James were brought to Rome from the East and laid to rest in the Basilica of the Holy Apostles. St Philip, fluent in Greek and Aramaic, was one of the first of the 12 apostles called by Jesus the day after he called his first apostles Peter and Andrew. His brother was St Thaddaeus (St Jude). Philip was a married man with children who had been a follower of John the Baptist. He invited his friend Nathanael, also known as Bartholomew, who was also a disciple of John the Baptist, to join them. His reply was "Nazareth. Can anything good come from there?" Philip and Nathanael evangelised in Greece and Syria and were both crucified upside down and Philip preached from the cross. After an earthquake Nathanael escaped but Philip stayed and insisted to die as a martyr for Christ. St James the Less was a cousin of Jesus as his mother, Mary Cleophas, was the sister of the Virgin Mary. She is called <i>Mary of Clopas</i> in John's Gospel as one of the women at the foot of the cross. James had a similar appearance and manner to Jesus and it is claimed that Mary sometimes had difficulty telling them apart. James became the Bishop of Jerusalem and was stoned to death as a martyr.</p>				
<p>6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Elsa</p>	<p>Saturday 4th St Hilary of Arles Born in 401 in southern France to a pagan high class Roman family. A Christian in his youth. Left his honours and riches to join his relative St Honoratus in Lerins Abbey on an island off the coast which followed the <i>Rule of St Pachomius</i>. Hilary led a very austere life style. St Honoratus was made Archbishop of Arles. Hilary went with him to help him. Unfortunately St Honoratus died 3 years later. Hilary was appointed in his place as Archbishop at the age of 29. Known for his kindness and charity. Eloquent preacher. Presided over two Church Councils. Strengthened the discipline and orthodoxy of the Church.</p>				
<p>9.30 am Mass</p>	<p>Sunday 5th May</p>		<p>Sixth Sunday of Easter</p>		
<p align="center">PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION</p>					
<p align="center">Your prayers are needed for the following people</p>					
<p>Sue Chandler</p>	<p>Hazel Sale</p>	<p>Joe Heatley</p>	<p>Trevor Delves</p>	<p>Fr Shaun Budden</p>	<p>Valerie Baker</p>

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

SVP Social this Wednesday 1st May – 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.

Letter of thanks from Mo Houlden UK Co-ordinator of Reaching the Unreached (RTU)

Thank you so much for your recent gift from your Lenten collection for the work of Reaching the Unreached (RTU) in South India. It is very kind of you to give so generously during Lent and we are very grateful for your continuing support which enables them to run their life changing programmes for orphaned and destitute children that their care for in *Children's Villages* and the very poorest families in the remote rural villages.

I had great pleasure of visiting RTU in February with various groups of UK visitors and was so pleased to be back there again. At RTU's schools it is nearing the end of the academic year and the older children have set their State Board exams that they take at 16 and 18 years of age which will allow them to gain entry to the professional courses of their choice. RTU will support them through College until they are in employment and ready to lead independent lives. These young people will have spent most of their lives living at RTU and, despite the tragedy that brought them to live in the *Children's Villages* in the first place, they have great prospects for the future thanks to the love, care, security and first rate education that RTU can provide and the help of all of us who support their work. So thank you for your part in making this possible. With our blessings to you all and grateful thanks for all your help.

Invitation from Fr Innaiah Maddineni, Director of Missio (Pontifical Mission Society) in Portsmouth

Special Mass on Wednesday 8th May at 7pm at St Teresa's Catholic Church in Totton

Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite everyone to celebrate a special Mass for Mission at St Theresa's Church Beaumont Road, Totton SO40 3AL, on Wednesday 8 May at 7pm. Come and hear how the Red Box is supporting our global Catholic community through donations and prayerful support. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

All are welcome

Parish collection for last weekend 20th and 21st April

							Clergy Training Fund		
Parish Envelopes Easter Gift Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£137	£34.25	£123.46	£242.54	£51.98	£589.23	----	£90	£50.91	£730.14