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

St Peter and St Paul

Sunday 30th June 2024

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Acts 12: 1-11

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-19

This weekend is the feast of St Peter and St Paul. These two saints are celebrated on the same day because Jesus founded His Church on St Peter and St Paul was the greatest evangelist in the history of the Church and together they built up the Church that Jesus Christ founded. We owe our Christian faith in a large part due to them. Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to Jesus by his brother Andrew, also a fisherman and Jesus gave him the name Peter which means "rock". Paul was not just a great missionary to the Gentiles but, through his letters in the New Testament, he is the first great theologian. According to tradition they both died as martyrs in Rome in the same year 64 during the persecution of Christians under Emperor Nero.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles clearly shows the awesome power of God in a seemingly hopeless situation. The night before Peter's trial in public before King Herod, just after the end of Passover week, he was chained up in prison with twice the normal restraints given to other prisoners and twice the guards as well. After the death of St James, Peter was expecting to be martyred but was helped to escape by the angel of the Lord.

The second reading from the second book of Timothy is thought to have been written by St Paul or a close follower of St Paul who was with him toward the end of his life. St Paul had tirelessly gave his life for Christ right up until the last moments of his life. *"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race to the finish. I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give."*

The famous and significant Gospel passage from Matthew has many resonances and connections. One thing to note is how the question Jesus asks is phrased in a very interesting way. Firstly He doesn't ask what people think of Him or His teaching, but He asks who people think He is. Secondly, he refers to Himself indirectly. He doesn't ask who people think He was, but *"Who do people say the Son of Man is."* Peter's recognition of who Jesus is, attributed to the revelation of the Father, is not a passive observer in events unfolding in the Gospels. Malcolm.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 29th St Peter and St Paul Two great saints who founded Church in Rome. Had different strengths and weaknesses. Peter was a tough fisherman chosen by Jesus to be the leader of the 12 apostles due to his strong personality, He was uninhibited, impulsive and demonstrative who at times was hot headed. He was courageous and practical due to life as a fisherman. He was a muscular thickset man with a curly beard. Paul was a highly educated intellectual academic who could speak Hebrew and Greek. He was present at the martyrdom of St Stephen. He was a convert who did not know Jesus personally. He was a Roman citizen who had been a strong supporter of Jewish Law. Paul had practical skills as a tent maker.. He was a great missionary, teacher and letter writer.. Paul was thin, bald, except at the sides of a long thin face with a long black beard. A leader and teacher with strong opinions especially with regards women and slaves
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 30th June St Peter and St Paul Elana – 15th Birthday
6.30 pm Mass	Monday 1st July St Oliver Plunkett Born in 1625 in Ireland to a wealthy, influential, noble family, some being prominent in the Irish rebellion of 1641 when Oliver was age 16. Studied at Irish College in Rome. Brilliant student. Ordained in 1654. Obtained a doctorate in canon and civil law. Professor of Theology. Appointed Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of Ireland in 1669. Due to penal laws, travel in Ireland as "Captain Brown", wore a sword and carried pistols. Soon was able to travel freely as a bishop. Radically improved the religious practice in Ireland. 10,000 Confirmations. Then implicated with others in the false "Titus Oates Popish Plot" to kill King Charles II. Martyred at Tyburn Tree, 1 st July 1681 after giving an inspiring speech. The last martyr for the faith in England.
10 am Mass	Tuesday 2nd St Bernardino Realino Born in 1530 in Italy. Started to study philosophy and medicine in Bologna. Then changed to study law. Qualified as a lawyer and began his career in Milan. Became a judge and Mayor of Felizzano near Milan. Noted for his legal ability and learning. Despite successful career, lost interest in worldly achievement. In Naples he saw the plight of the poor and applied to join the Jesuits in 1564 aged 34. He was ordained a priest and made Master of Novices although he was still studying theology. Devoted to help the poor and vulnerable around Naples, even visiting Muslim slaves on galleys in Naples harbour. Was moved to Lecce in the heel of Italy where he founded a new Jesuit house. In 1583 set up a sodality for diocesan priests to nurture their spiritual life and improve their competence to hear Confessions.

SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm 6.30 pm Mass	Wednesday 3rd St Thomas the Apostle The apostle that doubted the resurrection of Jesus. Thomas went evangelising in Syria and Malabar in India and started Christian communities in Syria and what is now Kerala. St Thomas Christians created the St Thomas Cross after Thomas was martyred. They kept contact with Rome through the Persian Church set up by disciples of St Thomas. St Thomas Christians became very strong and became known as the Syro-Malabar Church with its own rites and canon law. When the Portuguese Jesuits arrived the colonial power wanted the Syro Malabarians to accept Roman obedience and be subject to the Portuguese Archbishop of Goa. They refused and swore on the St Thomas Cross to stay faithful to the Syro-Malabar rite. Eventually Rome accepted the Syro-Malabar rite alongside the Latin rite.				
NO MASS Church being used for Election	Thursday 4th St Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal . Born in 1271 daughter of the King of Aragon in Spain. Named after her great aunt St Elizabeth of Hungary. Married the King of Portugal. Had two children. Her husband was uncaring and unfaithful. Queen Elizabeth of Portugal was a peacemaker and devoted to the poor and pursued regular religious practices despite her husband's bad behaviour. Took an active interest in Portuguese politics and brought peace to many conflicts. When her husband died and her son became King Alonzo IV of Portugal, she retired to a house alongside the Poor Clare nuns. Still kept control of the royal treasury. Did not trust her son.				
NO MASS	Friday 5th St Anthony Zaccaria . Born in 1502 in Cremona, Italy and baptised by his uncle at Cremona Cathedral. His father died when he was 2 years old. His mother taught him compassion for the poor and sick. Due to this he became a doctor in Cremona. Then decided to be a priest to heal souls as well as bodies. Spiritual advisor to Countess who, with his help, founded an Order to avoid poor girls in Milan falling into prostitution. Fr Anthony founded lay groups and an Order of secular priests to address the lax moral behaviour in Milan. Emphasised the Passion of Christ, the Eucharist and penance to atone for sin in their preaching. Ministered to the poor and sick. Encouraged reform of clergy practices later adopted in the Council of Trent. Second house in Vicenza near Venice. Introduced the ringing of church bells at 3pm on Fridays to mark Christ's death, exposing the Blessed Sacrament for 3 days and "40 hours of prayer". They preached in the open air, they cared for the sick and formed active groups of married couples with devotion to St Paul. Based at the Church of St Barnabas in Milan. Order known as Barnabites.				
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass	Saturday 6th St Maria Goretti Born in 1890 in Italy. Father a poor peasant farmer who had difficulty making it pay. Then worked with another poor family whose father was an alcoholic, mother was in a mental asylum and their young son Alessandro. Both moved to near Rome to work for wealthy Count. Maria was a holy Italian virgin who had no interest in men. When 20 Alessandro made advances to 11 year old Maria and tried to rape her. Maria fought him off so he stabbed her 14 times. Hospital chaplain enrolled her in the <i>Children of Mary</i> and given the blessed medal. After surgery she died the next day on 6 th July 1902. She forgave him before she died and in a vision.				
9.30 am Mass	Sunday 7th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time				
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION					
Your prayers are needed for the following people					
Sue Chandler	Hazel Sale	Joe Heatley	Trevor Delves	Fr Shaun Budden	Valerie Baker

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENT

No Mass on Thursday 4th July – General Election Day

There is no Mass at St Vincent de Paul next Thursday as the church is being used as usual as a Polling Station.

SVP Social this Wednesday 3rd July – 1pm to 3 pm

Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along and bring your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or two hours, whatever suits you. Look forward to welcoming you. Renee and Pat.

Excellent result of Religious inspection in May of St Anne's Catholic School by Portsmouth Diocese

We were delighted to welcome the Catholic School Inspectorate to St Anne's before half term. The school was described as a 'deeply loving community' with an outstanding culture of prayer and liturgy. The commitment to social justice is excellent. Non-Catholic students said they valued the school prayer as something that unites them all. Teachers are confident and committed and staff are overwhelmingly positive about their treatment as employees. Our young people enjoyed showing off the school and what they do and we were thrilled to be graded outstanding in the majority of judgements. There were a couple of things that needed improvement. The full inspection report is [here](#). For those new to the area, we are a state comprehensive school in the city centre for girls in years 7 to 11 and we have a mixed gender Sixth Form College. We have Open Mornings for Year 5 girls coming up in July and Open Evenings in October. Details of lower school events are [here](#) and the Sixth Form Open Evening details are [here](#). Visit the website for more details.

Parish collection for last weekend 22nd and 23rd June

Parish Gift Aid 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
£85	£21.25	£118.86	£242.54	£51.98	£519.63	----	----	----	£519.63