

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27 August 2023

Thought for the Week

Who are you?

There was a story told by a grandmother, who said to her grandchildren – “if anyone ever asks you who are, tell them you are a child of God.” Fundamentally that is who we are, children of God, adopted by him and given new life in the waters of Baptism. But in our secular society, it is not always how we see ourselves. If it were, would life be different for us? The followers of Jesus are asked two questions today – firstly who do people say that He is? That is the easy question; they just have to report what they have heard others saying. Then the hard question comes, “who do you say that I am?” That is putting them on the spot, asking them to make their own minds up, to get off the fence, as it were.

Peter is the only one who answers, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” This is not something he could know on his own; this is divine knowledge, given to him by the Father. It is a statement made in faith. Answering in the way that Peter answers involved the commitment of faith, there’s no sitting on the fence here. It is sometimes difficult today to admit being a person of faith, to tell others that we believe in God, more difficult still to admit that we come to Mass. But if we are God’s children, then how can we not respond to his love and gather in his name as a family. So, we pray to the Spirit for the wisdom to discern who we are as God’s children in the world today and the courage to shout it out to the world!

Sr Teresina

Canon David will be away from Thursday 31st August until 13th September

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will commence again this Friday 1st September from 10.00am until 16.00 pm.

The Rosary

The Rosary is prayed after the 12:00 Mass each Friday, please join.

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Edward’s:

Saturdays: 17:30 - 18:00

Tuesdays: 18:00 - 18:30

Holy Hour

Holy Hour will commence again on **Sunday 10 September** .

Mass Times & Intentions 26 Aug - 3 Sept

Sat 26	18:00	Philip Thornton - RIP
Sun 27	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark’s
	11:00	Rosanna Pediconi - RIP
Mon 28	10:00	Helen Courtney - INT
Tue 29	18:30	Michael Davies - RIP
Wed 30	10:00	George Francis Riley - FM
Thur 31	10:00	Eucharistic Service - St Mark’s
Fri 01	12:00	Eucharistic Service
Sat 02	18:00	Billy Kenneally - RIP
Sun 03	09:30	Norman Long - RIP
	11:00	People of the Parish

Parish Diary 27 Aug - 3 Sept

Sun 27	12:00	Tea and coffee in Parish Centre
Thurs 31	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid’s Room
Sat 02	10:00	Fr Kevin - Talk on Creation - P/C
	13:00	Wedding - Holly Rattley & Maciej Tajs
Sun 03	12:00	Tea and coffee in Parish Centre
	12:15	Baptism Preparation - St Brigid’s Room

Morning & Evening Prayer

Tue 22	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward’s
Wed 23	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward’s

Offertory

S/O - DD £ 1,848.08 Envelopes £ 266.68 Loose £601.27

Sacrament of the Sick

The next anointing of the Sacrament of the Sick will take place on **Friday 8 October**, then continue on the second Friday of each month. If anyone would like to receive this Sacrament outside of these times, please contact Fr David.

On-Line Shopping to benefit the Parish

If you do not already use Give As You Live online shopping please consider now. Simply download the app using the address below and it will automatically divert your online shopping via ‘Give as you live’ to your normal supplier. The cost to you is nil; the benefit to the Parish is huge.

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

office@catholicwindsor.org

Richard Flisher: Finance Manager

finance@catholicwindsor.org

Sharon Cole-Blows: Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

Pat Burke: Safeguarding Representative

safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org

Pastoral Team

Canon David Hopgood: Parish Priest

canondavid@catholicwindsor.org

Rev George Young: Deacon

georgeyoung@hotmail.com

Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

Presbytery: 44 Alma Road, Windsor Berkshire, SL4 3HJ

Phone: 01753 865163

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth – Charity No. 1199568

For everyone who signs up before the end of August the Parish will get £5.00. So sign up now and donate for nothing!
<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/st-edwards-r-c-church>

First Holy Communion Programme – 2023 / 2024

The team are now accepting registrations for the 2023-24 First Holy Communion programme. Further details plus application forms can be found on the Parish website. Kindly send completed application forms and **a copy** of your child's baptismal certificate to fhc@catholicwindsor.org.

To enrol, please fill in an application form that can be found on our website. The introduction and the unfolding of the programme will be on **Thursday 21 September at 18:30 in the Parish Centre**.

At this meeting of parents, you will receive a 'Record Card' that needs to be stamped when you attend Mass. Further dates will be given at this meeting.

Please note the closing date for all applications is Monday 11 September. Any application received after this date will be put forward for the 2024/2025 programme.

Your Church Donation with Gift Aid

With the Summer holidays here and everyone having busy lives I am concerned that some of you have not seen the parish emails, or newsletter notice regarding Gift Aid.

Due to the change in the Diocesan charity number, we will not be able to meet HMRC requirements on Gift Aid, worth an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, **unless a new form is completed now**.

If you are a taxpayer and give to the church through your bank as a standing order or through the envelopes we need a form completed in order for us to claim the extra Government donation worth approximately £30,000 per annum to the Parish community. There are forms on display at the back of each church as well as on our website. Alternatively please do get in touch via the Parish Office or email finance@catholicwindsor.org.

Many thanks. Rich Flisher Finance Manager.

Monthly Talk for September - Creation

Dr Judith Thomas will be presenting a Talk on creation as follows:

Sat 2 September at 10:00 St Edward's Parish Centre, Windsor
Monday 4 September at 10:00 St Edmund Campion Church, Maidenhead

Wednesday 6 September at 18:30 St Joseph's Parish Centre, Maidenhead

The talk lasts for 1 hour and there is no charge - just come along, listen, be encouraged and inspired!

The Love Languages Course

The Love Languages were discovered by Dr Gary Chapman so couples could learn how to make each other feel most loved. This course is for all couples to learn each other's Love Language! The couples who attended this course last year really learned about each other and enjoyed the course! We would love for you to attend! It will be held **Friday 22 September from 19:00 until 20:30** in St Edward's Parish Centre!

Please contact Kathy on kathyarundale@hotmail.com to register!

CAFOD

CAFOD Portsmouth is hosting a meeting so that volunteers and supporters can find out more about our work. The meeting is on Saturday 9th September at St Bedes Church hall, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX from 10:30 am to 12:30pm at this meeting Philippe Mougin CAFOD's Emergency Response Leader will talk about our work in Pakistan after last year's floods. Please book

your place so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo at jlewry@cafod.org.uk

Pastoral Area update: Come and Join us

Over the next few weeks and months you are invited to experience our broader community and join in sessions at each other's parish. The first invitation is from Maureen and Mohan at St Edward's:

'Mass Readings Explained Sessions' by Dr Brant Pitre - facilitated in S. Brigid's Room at St Edward's Church, Windsor on Thursdays 18:30 - 20:00.

Dr Pitre's reflections on Mass Readings always give wonderful explanations that help us connect the Old Testament with the New Testament and suggest how the Old is fulfilled in the New. The explanations are eye opening and give a wonderful understanding that we have never had before. Our appreciation of the gospels has blossomed with these videos and the discussions afterwards.

A testimony from one of our parishioners:

"The Mass Readings Explained sessions opened my eyes to the Scriptures and I found it to be a wonderful and enlightening experience. It has shown the endless connections between the Old and the New Testaments and answers to many questions I had. This has opened my eyes to understand what God is telling me through 'His Word' at Mass each Sunday. The knowledge I acquired through these sessions has further deepened my faith". We welcome you to come, taste and then decide.

For more information you may contact Mohan or Maureen on 07517453338 or e-mail: ecmak1@aol.com

St Francis of Assisi - Ascot

If you would like to start receiving Ascot's Parish Newsletter, please subscribe using this link:

<https://dashboard.mailerlite.com/forms/328304/80177558794011978/share> It is usually sent on Thursday or Friday, every week.

Good news, Alpha is returning in September!

This year, we are going to offer the course both **online** and **in-person**. Many people find it difficult to secure childcare or prefer to meet others whilst in the comfort of their own home, so by offering an online version, we hope you will give it a try. If meeting in-person is your preference, that is still a great option too.

Start dates are as follows:

Monday, **18 September, Alpha Online**, 19:30 - 21:00

Tuesday, **19 September, Alpha In-Person** at St Edwards Parish Centre, 19:00 - 21:00

Alpha is a 10-week course that explores life's big questions, in an open, non-judgmental and safe place. We'll be discussing questions like: Is there more to life than this? Does God exist? Why did Jesus have to die? and, why is there so much suffering in the world?

To RSVP, please follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/miZUsLvKeFs2LMRf7>

If you have questions about joining, inviting others, or joining our team of volunteers, please email Ryan Greig at:

alphawindsor316@gmail.com

Urgent Lost Property

Please check out the lost property box in the porch for any items you may have left in the church recently. There are a number of glasses an umbrella, an attractive child's jacket etc. These will be removed at the end of August.