

## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 20 August 2023

### Thought for the Week

In our readings this week we hear of welcome, inclusion, joy and God's mercy. Isaiah speaks of the foreigner who respects the laws of the covenant being welcomed in God's temple; 'they will be joyful in God's house of prayer' which 'will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples'. Saint Paul speaks of God showing mercy to all. Jesus in his discussion with the Canaanite woman engages in a robust debate before granting the woman's request; she shows her 'mettle', she is not going to be deterred because she is not of the House of Israel. Her strong will and determination give Jesus the opportunity to show not only God's mercy but also that the hope of salvation which he promised was not limited to the House of Israel.

In recent days, the real-life sign of the spread of God's message and His welcome of all was clearly seen amongst the huge crowds gathered in Lisbon for World Youth Day. Although billed for 'youth', the age spread was from Peruvian babes in prams to pensioners from all nations. All ages, all nations were welcome and present, all were included; peoples from the largest to the smallest of nations, from close neighbours to far distant lands. All heard Pope Francis speak of joy, of joy being 'missionary' and of each person's responsibility to help lift up those who have fallen. The joy of so many together was both genuine and infectious – all were truly joyful in the house of prayer which was indeed for all peoples. Each one there was a visible inheritor of the grace and mercy which Christ extended to the Canaanite woman. That inheritance of course is not limited to those gathered in Portugal, it is for all who, however disparate they may be in language, culture, or tradition, share the faith, share the joy and share the responsibility to lift each other up.

*Stephen Patterson*

### Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

There will be **NO** Adoration during the month of **August**.

### 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:* 11:00 - 11:30 and 17:30 - 18:00

*Tuesdays:* 18:00 - 18:30

### Holy Hour

There will be **NO** Holy Hour in the month of **August**. It will resume again on **Sunday 10 September**.

## Mass Times & Intentions 19 - 27 August

Sat 19	18:00	Jon Underwood - RIP
Sun 20	09:30	Mary & Richard Davis - RIP - <b>St Mark's</b>
	11:00	People of the Parish - RIP
Mon 21	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Tue 22	18:30	Max Connolly & Family - INT
Wed 23	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Thur 24	10:00	Eucharistic Service - <b>St Mark's</b>
Fri 25	12:00	Zdenka Iaticno - RIP ( <i>Sacrament of Sick - during Mass</i> )
Sat 26	18:00	Philip Thornton - RIP
Sun 27	09:30	People of the Parish
	11:00	Rosanna Pediconi - RIP

## Parish Diary 20 – 27 August

Sun 20	12:00	Tea and coffee in Parish Centre
Mon 21	18:30	S.V.P. Meeting – St Brigid's Room
Thurs 24	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room
Sun 27	12:00	Tea and coffee in Parish Centre

## 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 £ 372.46    Loose £556.99

## Sacrament of the Sick

The next anointing of the Sacrament of the Sick will take place on **Friday 25 August**. Following on from this, it will be 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.

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>

## Live Streaming

This is now back up and running after a few connectivity problems we encountered.

**Catholic Windsor - website** [www.catholicwindsor.org](http://www.catholicwindsor.org)

### Parish Office

**Patricia Brown:** Parish Secretary

[office@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:office@catholicwindsor.org)

**Richard Flisher:** Finance Manager

[finance@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:finance@catholicwindsor.org)

**Sharon Cole-Blows:** Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

[YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org)

**Pat Burke:** Safeguarding Representative

[safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org)

### Pastoral Team

**Canon David Hopgood:** Parish Priest

[canondavid@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:canondavid@catholicwindsor.org)

**Rev George Young:** Deacon

[georgeyoung@hotmail.com](mailto: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

## **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](mailto: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 fast approaching and everyone having busy lives I am concerned that some of you may not have 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 soon**.

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](mailto:finance@catholicwindsor.org). Many thanks. Rich Flisher Finance Manager.

## **A Gallery of Unofficial Saints!**

We have an unusually tall visitor in the Lady Chapel – the Adelante Gallery. Bracknell parishioner Hugh Gibbons made this to mark the official sainthood of Oscar Romero, based on his call to go forward: Adelante! But it also celebrates unofficial Saints - people of all sorts helping others' lives go forward in some way. The four faces offer many examples, from Windsor Foodshare to The Skateboard Hero. There's much to surprise and enjoy: an A-Z list that includes You; reconciliation in a fragment of WWII history unearthed in our pastoral area at Winkfield; a touch of a Quaker school's weekly silence to take away; Fairtrade socks by Churches Together in England; and a great poem on Small Kindnesses. See Guide at [www.just1.org.uk/adelantegallery](http://www.just1.org.uk/adelantegallery)

## **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](mailto:kathyarundale@hotmail.com) to register!

## **World Youth Day**

Catherine, Elisa, George, and Lilly have returned safely from Lisbon following a tiring but inspiring few days as part of a group of 50 from Portsmouth diocese - along with 1.5 million other young Catholics from all corners of the globe. They are very grateful for the support of the parish which helped them attend and witness the amazing phenomenon of World Youth Day. In the coming weeks they will speak at all the masses one weekend about their memories and experiences.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:alphawindsor316@gmail.com)