

## 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time-24 September 2023

### Thought for the Week

Today's gospel is the parable of the workers in the vineyard when Jesus teaches us about God's generous mercy. The core message is that God's love and mercy is pure gift, freely given and not earned.

On the surface, the parable appears to be unfair, an offence to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more. If we consider the landowner unfair, we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified. This is not God's way!

A closer read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated and acted completely justly. The landowner is not simply just, but exceptionally just, even radically just. Those who laboured in the field for a full day were given their due pay. Those who worked a single hour were also given a full-day's wage. No one is cheated. A few receive abundantly just as we receive abundantly from God - more than our due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. As the Psalmist says: *"God's greatness cannot be measured. God is kind and full of compassion...abounding in love."*

Today is also **World Day of Migrants and Refugees**. History teaches us that the contribution of migrants and refugees has been fundamental to the spiritual, societal, and economic growth of our societies. Catholic communities like ours are enriched by the variety and diversity of people from other cultures and traditions. They can enliven our celebrations, open our minds to new horizons and offer us a privileged opportunity for experiencing more fully the catholicity of the People of God. Let us imitate the radical generosity of God in 'welcoming the stranger,' remembering words of Scripture: *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for in doing so, some have entertained angels without knowing it."* (Hebrews 13:2)

Sr Patricia, csb

### Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each Friday from 10:00 - 16:00. All welcome.

### 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

Holy Hour is held on the Second Sunday of the month at 15:00.

### Mass Times & Intentions 23 Sept – 1 Oct

Sat 23	18:00	Isobel Young - RIP
Sun 24	09:30	Kay & Jim Forkin 65 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary - <b>St Mark's</b>
	11:00	Rosanna Pediconi - RIP
Mon 25	10:00	Anne Auty - INT
Tue 26	18.30	Eucharistic Service
Wed 27	10:00	Amber and James King - INT
Thur 28	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Fri 29	12:00	Dominic Fernandes - RIP
Sat 30	18:00	Philip Thornton - RIP
Sun 01	09:30	People of the Parish - <b>St Mark's</b>
	11:00	Armando Mennone, Filomena & Antonio Esposito - RIP

### Parish Diary 23 – Sept - 1 Oct

Sat 23	12:15	Baptism - Honor French - O'Keeffe
	15:00	Confirmation Preparation - P/C
Sun 24	12:00	Tea & Coffee - P/C
Mon 25	18:30	SVP Meeting - St Brigid's Room
Tue 26	19:00	Alpha (in person) - P/C
Thur 28	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room
Sat 30	12:00	Baptism - James Lowe
	13:30	Wedding Tinaye -Tarirai Sango & Mikolaj Pawlikowski
Sun 01	11:00	Baptism - Elijah Delaney-Pacey
	12:00	Parish Tea & Coffee - P/C
		Macmillan Fundraising Event
	12:15	Baptism Preparation - St Brigid's Room

### Morning & Evening Prayer

Tue 12	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Wed 13	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's

### We welcome Fr Kevin

This weekend Fr David will be celebrating the Masses in the parish of Ascot, and Fr Kevin Bidgood, from Ascot will be celebrating the Masses in our parish. This is all part of the Bishop's 10-year plan for our two parishes to eventually become one.

### Fr David's Diary

Father David will be away for the week, attending the Diocesan retreat for clergy which takes place at Douai Abbey.

### First Holy Communion Programme 2024-2025

Applications are now closed for the 2023/2024 First Holy Communion programme.

If you wish your child to be added to the waiting list for the 2024/2025 First Holy Communion programme, please email the FHC team at [fhc@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:fhc@catholicwindsor.org)

## 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

## Macmillan Coffee, Cake & Raffle

Macmillan Cancer Support help those living with cancer and their families in many ways. Colette Molloy one of our parishioners has just finished 18 months of treatment for breast cancer, and in this time became aware that Macmillan are not just an add on support but a vital frontline service.

On **Sunday 1 October** there will be coffee and cake at both St Mark's, after the 09:30 Mass, and St Edward's after the 11:00 Mass to help raise funds for this important charity, supported by the UCM. Please help support by baking or buying a cake (*please bring any donations to relevant church that morning*).

Colette is also hosting a raffle on the day, with prizes donated from many local businesses including several restaurant meals. Suggested donations for the raffle are £1 a strip or £5 for 6 strips. These are available from Colette Molloy, 07881 626097 or [colette\\_molloy@hotmail.com](mailto:colette_molloy@hotmail.com). Colette's official Macmillan page is [justgiving.com/cm23031684](http://justgiving.com/cm23031684).

## HCPT

The Parish HCPT group are beginning their planning for a pilgrimage to Lourdes next Easter. Could you be one of our new helpers? Information re the HCPT pilgrimage is displayed at the back of both churches. If you think you may be interested please contact Pat Burke via the Parish office.

## Quiz Night

The Friends of St Edward's First School are raring to go this year and already have big plans for fundraising. Please join them to celebrate the start of the year with a Quiz Night **Friday 29 September 19:00-22:00** (Adults only) Please buy your tickets on: <https://www.ptaevents.co.uk/friendsofstedwardsfirst/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=66679>

## Season of Creation

The UCM Study Day for the Diocese of Portsmouth will focus this year on 'Reconnecting People and Nature: new hope from *Laudato si'*. The Study Day is on **Saturday 30 September**, at St Swithun's, Yateley GU46 6NH. The day will be led by Dr Sarah Gardner (Windsor) and will start with coffee at 10.00 am. For further information and booking (cost £3) call 01344 756806 or 07393 511247.

## VERY URGENT - Gift Aid Form returns

The next Gift Aid claim to HMRC is due as of 30 September. If you have a form which you have yet to return, please do so as soon as possible. Failure to do so will mean we cannot reclaim the relevant tax. If you have any questions please do get in touch. Rich Flisher, Finance Manager, [finance@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:finance@catholicwindsor.org)

## PA to Vicar for Clergy & Administrator for Clergy Support Team

A vacancy has arisen for a PA to work for 18 hours per week for the Vicar for Clergy and Clergy Support Team (Fr David). The role will be based at Windsor (2 days per week) and Sandhurst (1 day per week). In this role you will provide a full confidential administrative and secretarial service to the Vicar for Clergy and a sympathetic and efficient focal point for enquiries and assistance to the Clergy Support Team. If you would like to join our busy team and for job description details of how to apply please contact: [recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
**Closing date for applications: Friday 29 September 2023**

## CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal Friday 6 October



Donate to CAFOD today so that more families can get the expert help they need. Use the envelope in church or give online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). You could also include this QR code which supporters can scan on their phones to take them straight to CAFOD's website where they can make their donation: <https://youtu.be/NJr5jOvp1hU>

## Pastoral Area update: Come and Join us

As we continue our journey to build the new Pastoral Area for Windsor and Ascot a number of celebrations are planned for the coming months. It would be lovely to see as many people as possible join these celebrations so that we come together in prayer, community and faith.

**Pulpit Swap:** Next weekend Fr Kevin Bidgood will say the weekend Masses and preach in Windsor and Fr David will say Mass and preach at the weekend Masses in Ascot.

**Wednesday 4 October** - Solemnity of St Francis, Ascot; evening Mass followed by refreshments.

### Saturday 7 October - Walk in the Park, Ascot and Windsor

Tom Cornish of St Francis, Ascot will guide a meditative walk in Windsor Great Park as part of the celebration of unity between our two parishes. The pace will be moderate, but a good level of fitness is required as it will include inclines and narrow tracks. It will proceed whatever the weather, and walking boots, raincoats and water bottles are recommended. There is a car park at Savill Garden, and we will meet at the Obelisk at 10:00 for a prompt 10:15 start. Tom will wear a colourful rosary to identify himself and we will conclude by around noon. The walk with our fellow parishioners will be a good time for us all to reflect on the successful joining of the two parishes and Tom will be joined by Rev George Young, Deacon of St Edwards.

**Friday 13 October** - Solemnity of St Edward, Windsor; Mass at 18:30 followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. Please put these dates in your diaries. We hope to see as many parishioners attending the celebrations as we build our new Pastoral community - they are celebrations for us all, not just for one community or the other.

## 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.

## Starting school in September 2024

If your child's date of birth is between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, they are due to start school in Reception in 2024. You are invited to contact St Edward's First School to book onto one of their open mornings. Email [office@secfs.org.uk](mailto:office@secfs.org.uk) or visit the admissions section on the school website [www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk](http://www.stedwardscatholicfirstschool.co.uk)

## Vacancy - Organist and Director of Music

St Edward's seeks an organist and director of music to play at the Parish Church, and build and support music in the churches of the Parish.

The parish has a long standing and enthusiastic group of singers with a wide range of talent and is keen to expand their skills and musical range as well as encourage the differing congregations at the three weekend masses and celebrations throughout the liturgical year.

Reporting to the Parish Priest, the successful candidate will be a practising Christian, respectful of the teaching, ethos and values of the Catholic Church, a trained organist and capable singer with experience of playing in a church setting. This role will be on a self-employed basis, initially for 12 months. Application forms and full details are available from [office@catholicwindsor.org](mailto:office@catholicwindsor.org)  
**Closing date for applications is 31 October 2023.**

## Deceased

Please pray for the response of the soul of **Josephine Bolger** who died recently.