

PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER NORTH WEST HAMPSHIRE PASTORAL AREA

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

Office: Alexandra Rd, Andover, SP10 3AD Tel: 01264 352829

Father Austin email: agurr@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Office email: stjtb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk **Website:** www.catholic-andover.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Jackie Kelly: cp_stjohntb@btinternet.com

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.00am - 3.00pm. NB: CLOSED on Wed.

11th and 12th August - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

How many of us, at one time or another, have just felt like laying down and giving up as Elijah did in our first reading today? I know I have. Elijah had been running from the threat of death from Jezebel after having killed all of her priests! He was in the desert, weary from the heat and from travel. He had given up on himself and on God. But God had not given up on him. He sent his angel to provide for him. In this case he provided a cake and some water for Elijah that would sustain him for the long walk to Mt Horeb.

In our Gospel reading today we hear Jesus telling us that he is the bread come down from heaven. He tells us that our ancestors ate manna in the desert and still died. Just like with Elijah that food was to nourish the body. It would eventually be used up and the body would require more to continue on the journey. Jesus was telling us that he is the bread of life . . . the food that never needs to be repeated. His sacrifice to us was a sacrifice once for all. In our modern world we have all kinds of exotic foods available to us. Much more than simple bread and yet it only provides for the body. We will be hungry again tomorrow.

Jesus is calling on us to go beyond the body, to look for the food that will bring us to heaven. That food is Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. We who come to him will not hunger, as he told us. We all have challenges in our lives. Instead of relying upon our worldly capabilities, we need to turn to God for he is the only one who can give us true happiness. Give it a try. You will be surprised by the results!

WDL

DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS: 12TH AUGUST - 18TH AUGUST

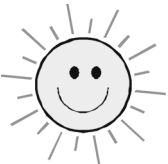
These are arranged so that in the course of a year we pray for each parish of our Diocese and the Catholic organisations within it. **Sunday:** *Diocesan Chancellery.* **Monday:** *Parish of Holy Cross, Eastleigh.* **Tuesday:** *Polish Chaplaincies in the Diocese, at Sacred Heart, Reading and Southampton.* **Wednesday:** *In thanksgiving to Our Lady, Mother of God.* **Thursday:** *Our Lady's Catechists.* **Friday:** *Parish of St Mary, East Hendred.* **Saturday:** *St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury.*

ARE YOU GOING INTO HOSPITAL OR KNOW OF SOMEONE GOING IN?

If so, here are some things to think about on how to prepare spiritually. Firstly, you will no doubt have time on your hands when you there so go in with your rosary, perhaps a favourite prayer book and anything else you can think of. It's a brilliant opportunity to pray and a time to be aware of the presence of God. I recommend an excellent small prayer book with some reflections, prayers and practical suggestions, produced by CTS called, '*A Catholic Patient's Guide to Hospital*'. Secondly, as with the NHS in general, a person has to opt in to see a Chaplain. Make sure you tell the staff when you enter that you are Catholic and would like to see the Chaplain. The Lord wants to be part of all that we do in life and this includes when we are ill and going into hospital. You can ask the priest/chaplain to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick especially if you are having surgery. You can also take the opportunity to make a good confession and you can receive the Lord in Holy Communion. Ultimately, this can be a time for you to entrust yourself to the Lord's care. Asking him to work in and through the medical staff and the Church so that your experience of going into hospital does not have to be frightening but one which is filled with hope and growth in our wonderful Catholic faith.

'Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.'

Fr John-Paul Lyttle, Catholic Chaplain to the Royal Berks NHS Hospital Trust.



The St John Fisher **SUMMER FÊTE** is on **Saturday 25th August**
at **2.00pm in the church grounds in Bell Street, Whitchurch.**

There'll be delicious cream teas, a tombola, lots of stalls, games, nearly new stall, toys, books and all manner of wonderful things! Guaranteed sunshine (*yes, really!*) so come along and have some fun. *Admission: 50p adults; children free!*

Donations for the fête can be brought to the Parish Office or taken to Whitchurch after Sunday Mass. Please only donate good quality goods that you would be happy to buy yourself!



MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FROM 11TH AUGUST TO 31ST AUGUST

Reconciliations each Saturday in Andover from 5.15pm - 5.45pm, and in Whitchurch before Sunday Mass.

Congratulations to Patrick Panopio who is to be baptised this weekend.

Sat. 11th **Andover Mass 6.00pm** *Clifford Ramsbag RIP - Memoriam*

Sunday 12th August - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Whitchurch Mass 9.00am *Des Warren RIP - Anniversary*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Mon. 13th **Andover Mass 10.00am** *Jim O'Leary RIP - Birthday Memoriam*

Tue. 14th **Andover No Mass** -

Whitchurch 7.00pm Vigil Mass for The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

For the Intentions of the Fiffield McCartney Family

Andover Prayers for Healing 7.00pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 15th - Feast of the Assumption of the blessed Virgin Mary - A Holy Day of Obligation

Andover Mass 9.30am *Jo Parker - Birthday Blessings*

Andover Mass 7.00am

Thur. 16th **No Mass**

Fri. 17th **Andover Mass 10.00am** *Bill Hayes RIP*

Congratulations to Henry Knight who is to be baptised this weekend,

Sat. 18th **Andover Mass 6.00pm** *William Moore RIP - 90th Birthday Memoriam*

Sunday 19th August - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Whitchurch Mass 9.00am *For the People of the Parish*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *Brian McAuley RIP*

Mon 20th August to Friday 24th August - No Masses or Services.

Congratulations to Matthew Timoney who is to be baptised this weekend.

Sat. 25th **Andover Mass 6.00pm** *Brian McAuley RIP*

Sunday 26th August - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Whitchurch Mass 9.00am *Hilary Allen RIP*

Farleigh School - No Mass

Andover Mass 10.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Monday 27th August to Friday 31st August - No Masses or Services

Please pray for . . . Eva Boshier, Patrick Pacini, Daphne Channing, Audrey Stephenson, Jo Parker, Nan Mundy, Esmé Coveney, Jess Dukes, Maureen Bennett, Doreen Burke, Rita Lane, Valerie Muir, Mary and Alan Daws, Tom Wilkins, Fr Gerry Mackrell SMM, Mary and Albert Bullough, Cynthia Manning, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Patricia Hillier, Ann Scicluna, Christopher Walter, Allan Wickens, Di Mussert, Lisa Ramage, Sam Hearn, Elaine Dempster, Christine Budden, Carol Casson, Derek Moss, Elizabeth Spyropoulos, Sheila Muir, Stan Tullett, Jose Taylor, Betty Bolton, Barbara Long, Antonio Ricci, Myra Thompson and Johnny Gordon.

BAPTISM COURSE.

The next Parish Baptism Course will be on **Tuesday 11th and Tuesday 18th Sept. from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.**

Registration forms are on the website or in the Church porch.

The **PARISH HOG ROAST** hosted by Andover Catenians will be held after Mass on **Sunday 16th September** (*Roast Pork, Rolls, Salad and Apple Sauce with a variety desserts*)

Tickets will be on sale from this weekend. Adults £8 per person; £5 for Children 7 - 16 years of age and Under 7s are free.

Soft drinks, beer and wine will be available for donations.

There will be a raffle too - proceeds to the President's Charity : **Mary's Meals.**