



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

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

17th and 18th October - Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time—Mission Sunday

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The dynamics of today's encounter of Jesus with the disciples of the Pharisees and some Herodians are as instructive as the issue itself of paying taxes to the emperor. One thing that is remarkable is the questioners' hypocrisy, as they start by flattering Jesus, who calls their bluff: *why you hypocrites... show me a coin*. The Pharisees were purists and purists were not supposed to carry with them Roman currency, though they would keep it at home to pay their taxes. But the most striking element of the encounter is Jesus' masterful answer - Houdini would have admired it: *give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar*, a statement most of us would have no difficulty accepting, since people do pay taxes, abide by the laws of the land and vote to elect leaders. It was the second part of Jesus' answer that makes people baulk: *give to God what belongs to God*.

An interesting detail in the first part of the answer is the fact the Jesus' reply is prompted by the emperor's image being carved in the coin. If we recall the creation narrative, we are reminded that *God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him* [Gen. 1: 26]. We are reminded that we bear God's image in ourselves. If we bear God's image, we belong to God and we must *give back to God what belongs to God*. We are called to return *ourselves* to God, whose image we bear, and to help others to return themselves to God, whose image and inscription they also bear.

L.R.

DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS: 18TH OCTOBER - 24TH OCTOBER

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:** *All Doctors, Surgeons, Nurses and Healthcare staff; Community of St Luke, Theale.*

Monday: *All engaged in medical research; Community of St Philip Howard, Fareham.* **Tuesday:** *All artists, architects, craftsmen and designers working for the Church.* **Wednesday:** *Parishes, Communities and Schools of the Great Park Pastoral Area.* **Thursday:** *Journalists and Editors in the service of the Church.* **Friday:** *Day of Prayer and Reparation for Life.*

Saturday: *Sisters of Bethany (Jersey).*

Universal Mission Sunday: 18th October 2020

Missio ignites God's love by helping missionaries to work alongside communities globally that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Together we are enriching today's global Catholic community, training tomorrow's generation of Priests and Sisters, and giving hope to the world's poorest children. This Sunday is the celebration of Mission Sunday and an obligatory, special collection is to be taken.

More information can be found at www.missio.org.uk.

World Mission Sunday is vital to the growth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel in predominately impoverished and remote areas overseas. The funds raised build much-needed infrastructure, from chapels and schools to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries. Requested by the local community, the support from Missio transforms lives and creates a hub from which the young Church can flourish and grow. World Mission Sunday is one of only three Papal collections and has been especially chosen by the Holy Father to support the mission of the Church in the world.

We can't collect your red boxes at the moment, please support us today.

By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sr Nilcéia share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church.

A separate collection basket will be available after Mass.



CAFOD HARVEST FAST APPEAL

Thank you all SO much for your generous donations to the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day appeal.

As committed supporters of CAFOD, we were worried that lack of publicity and restricted Masses would impact on the collection - but no! You gave **£1,214.00** with a possible £135 Gift Aid claim. Thank you!

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FROM 17TH OCTOBER - 30TH OCTOBER

Confessions by appointment - please contact the Parish Office.

Sat. 17th ANDOVER MASS 6.00pm Olivia Johnston - in Celebration of her First Holy Communion (92 places)

Sunday 18th October - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WHITCHURCH MASS 9.00am Emmanuel Fernandes - Birthday Blessings (51 places)

Farleigh School 10.00am (40 places only, please contact the School Office by Friday afternoon to register)

Mon. 19th Closed Mass Marcus Aires and Regina D'Souza RIP

Tue. 20th ANDOVER MASS 10.00am Anthony Stefano and Alfred Coveney RIP (92 places)

Wed. 21st No Mass or Service

Thur. 22nd WHITCHURCH MASS 10.00am Jacob and Joquinna Baretto RIP (51 places)

Fri. 23rd Closed Mass Patricia Rinaldi RIP

Sat. 24th ANDOVER MASS 6.00pm Olivia Johnston - in Celebration of her First Holy Communion (92 places)

Sunday 25th October - THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [Remember the clocks go back one hour this morning!]

WHITCHURCH MASS 9.00am Patrick White RIP - Anniversary

Farleigh School 10.00am (40 places only, please contact the School Office by Friday afternoon to register)

Mon. 26th Closed Mass Margaret Cunningham RIP - Anniversary

Tue. 27th ANDOVER MASS 10.00am Margarita Hardiman - Birthday Blessings (92 places)

Wed. 28th No Mass or Service

Thur. 29th WHITCHURCH MASS 10.00am (51 places)

Fri. 30th Closed Mass For the People of the Parish (51 places)

At Mass, please help the stewards by only sitting in seats appropriate to the number in your group. So, if you come to Mass on your own, please only sit in a place where there is a single cross, unless they are all occupied.

Please pray for: Patrick Pacini, Audrey Francis, Audrey Stephenson, Esmé Coveney, Doreen Burke, Rita Lane, Valerie Muir, Mary and Alan Daws, Tom Wilkins, Mary Bullough, Sam Hearn, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Allan Wickens, Di Mussert, Lisa Ramage, Christine Budden, Diane Cooper, Myra Thompson, John Mills, Sheila Muir, Jo Hibberd, Therese Ayres, Sheila Roberts, Mary Hathaway, Rachel McGarvie, Chris Kirby, Rosemary Gallagher, Eileen Dickie, Annie Maxwell, Judith Everett-Heath, Christopher Brown, Geoff Hall and Lilian Charlton

HELP A LOCAL CHILD THIS CHRISTMAS

'The people who have donated gifts have given some of the most vulnerable children in Hampshire the gift of waking up to presents on Christmas Day' – Social Worker Last year the Andover foodbank distributed over 900 Christmas gift boxes to local children in need. 2020 has been a very difficult year for many families in our community, we invite you

to help make this Christmas happy for a local child by donating a gift box or by donating money.

The scheme is very simple. Key workers at local agencies and schools identify children for whom a gift box can make a real difference and request a box for a boy or girl of a certain age from the Andover foodbank.

How you can help: We need you to donate a gift box or a financial donation

Our A5 leaflet, which you can print out, gives details of how to make up a box, labels and gift ideas.

Gift boxes must be delivered to the foodbank by **Friday 6th November 2020**.

You can donate on line via our website www.andoverfoodbank.org.uk – £15 helps us produce an exciting box of gifts for a child. Thank you for your support.



BACK 2 BASICS – Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession)

The Formation for Mission team have created an online group input that will help all adults wanting to know more about their faith, especially parents whose children are preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Our Back 2 Basics offers 6 sessions that aim explore the beautiful meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation, the sacrament of God's infinite mercy. We will be looking at this sacrament using artworks, group activities and discussion, and offer an introduction to Catholic morality, looking at topics such as the dignity of the human person, grace, sin, freedom, conscience, human happiness, and the call to holiness.

This online course is open to everyone: all adults, parents, grandparents and catechists.

The Back2Basics Reconciliation will be presented this November, every Monday from 7.00 pm to 9 .00pm We will finish each session with a time of prayer, with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. To Register for this course:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZArcuusrDkuH91xaOhE8B_Kzyj2Q3yGpk7V

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.