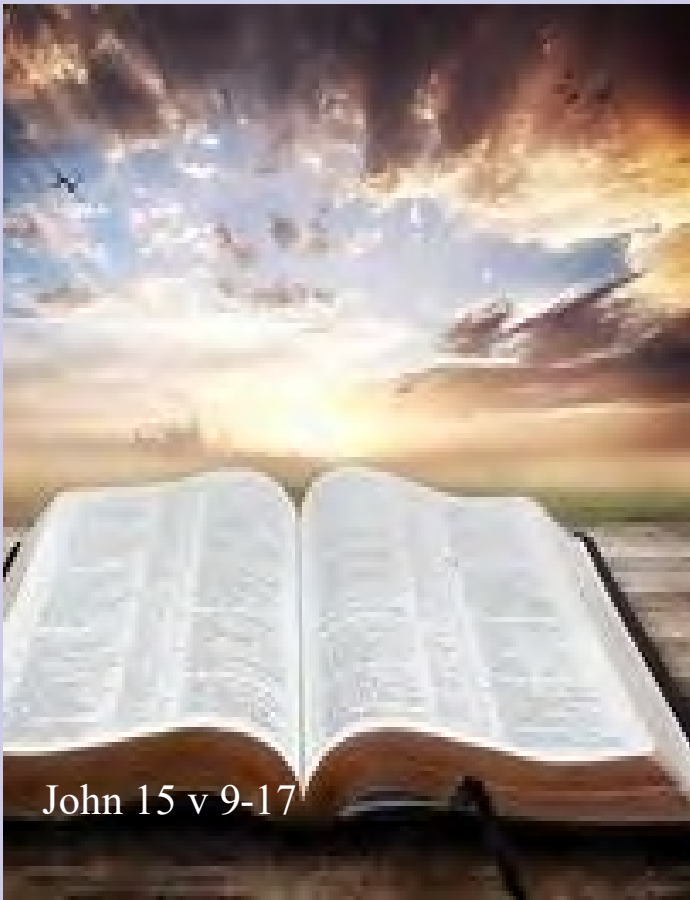




The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk



John 15 v 9-17



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 5th	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.30am	Private Intention
	6.30pm	Private Intention
Monday 6th	9.30am	No Intentions
	7pm	Adoration
Tuesday 7th	9.30am	Kathy Donohoe RIP

The Ascension of the Lord.

Thursday 9th May	9.30am	Mass Knights of St.Columba Intention
Friday 10th May	9.30am	Deceased Members of the Calleya Family RIP
Saturday 11th May	12.30pm	Baptism Service

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday 12th May	8.30am	Michael Dowling RIP
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	No Intentions

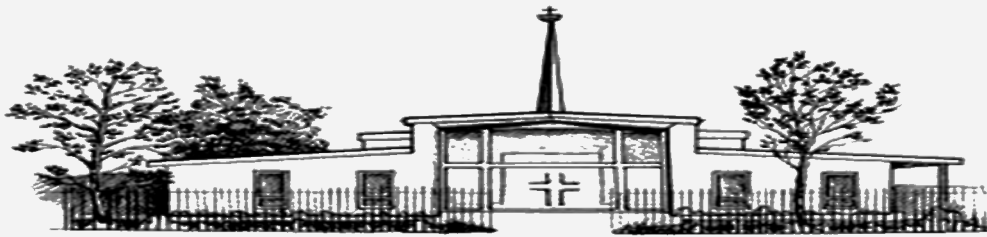
After the Sunday 10.30am Mass— Refreshments are served in the Parish Hall

Confessions

Please contact the Parish office on 01489 572797 to arrange an appointment or email office@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 1199568)

“Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church”



Fr Ansel's day off is Wednesday so he is unavailable on this day. For urgent sick calls on this day, please contact Sacred Heart, Fareham on 01329 318869. The Church will still be open from 9am-1.30pm, for private prayer.

The Ascension of the Lord.

The Bible says that after he rose from the dead, Jesus remained on Earth for a further 40 days before he was lifted into the clouds to return to his Father in Heaven—the event is known as the Ascension.

On this day, Jesus and his loyal followers were gathered at a place called the Mount of Olives.

A short time before, Jesus was already giving his disciples instructions to prepare them for when he went away. He told them not to leave Jerusalem right away, but to wait for a special gift from God. Even though the disciples didn't fully understand what was going to happen, they would have known that they needed to follow Jesus' words.

You know how in a relay race, one person hands the baton to another person so that they can continue the race for their team?

Well, some people look at the Day of Ascension as Jesus passing the baton on to his followers. It was now up to them to tell others about everything they'd seen and learnt from Jesus.

Even though Jesus was returning to Heaven, it was clear that he was not abandoning his disciples.

According to promises made in the Bible, Christians to this day believe God never leaves or abandons His followers.

Jesus' words on the Day of Ascension are a reminder of that.

Short Reflection on this weeks Gospel—John 15 v 9-17

You did not choose me," Jesus said to his disciples in today's gospel reading, "but I chose you." And it's true. Jesus chose his disciples. And when he did, he was continuing a long tradition that we see throughout scripture, and throughout the history of the church, of God choosing unlikely people to accomplish surprising tasks.

Let's go back to Genesis. There are many examples of people being chosen by God for surprising tasks, people like Noah, and Abraham and Sarah. But lets look at Joseph. One of Jacob's twelve sons, and the one that Jacob loved most. The one with the coat of many colours. The one the other brothers hated so much that they sold him to some people headed for Egypt. Joseph unexpectedly became quite successful in Egypt, and after a long journey with many twists and turns, including time in prison after being unjustly accused, Joseph became second only to Pharaoh, and helped Egypt prepare for a great famine. Why? Well, God had a plan for Joseph. As he explained to his brothers, "Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today." Joseph was chosen by God to preserve God's chosen people.

Chosen by God: Jesus' Disciples

Jesus was continuing a long tradition, started by his heavenly Father, of making surprising choices to do God's work. And the disciples were no different. Fishermen, tax collectors, not a religious leader among them. No experts in God's teachings, no scholars.

They only had one thing going for them: Jesus chose them.

Those disciples were chosen by God's Son for a particular purpose in this world. But they're not the only ones. In fact, if scripture tells us anything, it is that each and every one of us has also been chosen by God for a particular purpose in this world. We have been chosen to bear the fruit of God's love in this world, and to bear it in a way that no one else can.

The words that Jesus spoke to those first disciples, he speaks to every one of us today:

"You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you to go and bear fruit."

Mass Intentions.

To book a Mass intention/s please contact the Parish office by phone, email or in person. If you leave an envelope outside office hours please can you put all the details on the envelope, particularly your name and contact number. The most important thing is that the sacrifice of the Mass is offered, but we cannot guarantee the date. If you make a donation via BACS, please include reference of 'Mass Int'. Thank you.

Standing Orders and Gift Aid

Thank you for all you do to support your parish in many different ways.

If you haven't already done so, please consider donating via a standing order, and sign up for gift aid, in order to provide a more stable, and 25% extra, parish income. Forms available on the website, at the back of the church and from the Parish Office.

Contactless Giving—Available at the back of the Church.

Do you need our bank details?

CDP PARK GATE ST MARG MARY

Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account Number: 00883663

Park Gate Noticeboard For more information on all our activities, have a look on our web site:
www.stmargaretmary.co.uk

**Please submit items for consideration to Heather in the Parish Office by Wednesday lunchtime.
The office will be closed on Monday 6th May due to bank holiday.
Any emails received since Friday 3rd will be answered as soon as possible on my return.**

Other Ascension Mass times in our Pastoral Area.

St Mary's & St Columba's (Gosport & Bridgemary)

8th of May – 7:00pm (Vigil Service) at St Mary's

9th of May - 7:00pm at St Mary's

9th May—10am at Sacred Heart, Fareham

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next meetings are Sunday 19th May and Sunday 30th June at 7.45pm in the Church.

You are all most welcome. For more information, please contact David Walford: walford101@hotmail.com

St. Margaret Mary Prayer Group.

The St. Margaret Mary prayer group meet fortnightly, on Friday's after Mass. Meeting dates for May are 10th & 24th. All are welcome. If you would like any further details, please contact Bernadette Bray on 01489 603858.

SVP Notices



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

We are here to help. If you need help in any way, or are interested in volunteering some time to help, give us a call on 07487 659277.

Donation cheques to be made out to : B170413 SVP St Margaret Mary Park Gate

Men's Night – Saturday 18th May 7pm.

There is an opportunity for men in the Parish to get to know each other over a two course meal on Saturday 18th May. The evening will start at 7pm. The tickets will be available after Mass from Sunday 28th April. The cost is £15 and can be paid using the Dona machine. If you would like to book a place email Mark Hoban on markhoban@btinternet.com or message him on 07774486235.

Would you like to 'Go Deeper' in your faith, grow in prayer and develop your spiritual life? Why not join our Carmelite Group that meets on the third Saturday monthly for mutual support in spiritual growth. We have times of liturgical prayer and silent prayer, discussion of a Carmelite text and social time. We meet from 10.30-3pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Church Parish Centre, 26A Abbey Waters, Romsey, Hampshire.

For more information contact Samantha Harris on 07840 756078 or samanthaharris218@gmail.com.

Jesus Youth UK— Adoration

Jesus Youth UK will be holding their Adoration event at ST.Margaret Mary's from 10am after morning Mass on Friday 17th May through to 9am on Saturday 18th May. Local Jesus Youth members will make sure there will be volunteers throughout the 24 hrs in the church before the blessed sacrament, however, we like to seek maximum participation from the members of the parish as well. We had great support during the last two years from the parish community and many people volunteered to spend the time before the blessed sacrament both during the day and night hours. Sign-up sheets will be made available for anyone who can support this time.



Gosport Section of the Catholic Women's League are meeting at 1.30pm in the Hall of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Stubbington, on Wednesday 8th May. Jean Legg will be telling us about her father, who survived the sinking of the Titanic. We would welcome visitors, so do come along.

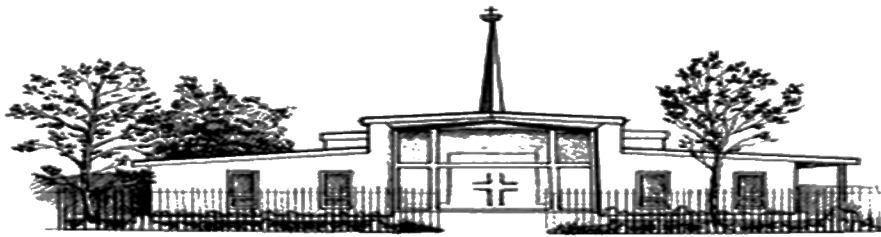
For further information, please contact Marguerite Boulter 01489 575663 margieboulter@aol.com
Maria Owen 07790378097 mariaeowen@gmail.com

Knights of St.Columba

The KSC will be holding their next meeting on Thursday 9th May starting at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Churches Together in Gosport.

Let's Pray Together. Every first Tuesday of the month, CTIG, a local ecumenical channel supporting and encouraging churches to work in unity, offers one hour of focused prayer from 07:00pm to 08:00pm. On the 4th of June Tuesday St Mary's Church in Gosport will be hosting the focused prayer. This invitation is open to everyone. Tea & coffee will be available in the hall afterwards.



If you are unwell and would like a Eucharist Ministry team member to bring Holy Communion to you at home. Please contact Nick Sadler on 07834 923585

If you are going in to hospital, please get in touch with the relevant chaplaincy service:

Southampton General 02381 208517

QA Portsmouth 02392 286408

Second Collections — May 2024

Catholic Communications Network— Sunday 12th May

The Catholic Network is the UK's leading provider of Catholic eNews, conversation and publishing support to the UK Catholic community. Run by a dedicated team of independent Catholic journalists and creatives, our work includes the editing, production and distribution of national weekly Catholic newspapers, magazines, brochures, and directories.

CAFOD—Sudan Crisis Appeal—Sunday 26th May.

The people of Sudan need our help urgently. We are launching an emergency appeal for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale we can muster. The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. Please stand with them today.

Contact Details: St Margaret Mary, Middle Road, Park Gate, Hants SO31 7GH

Parish Priest: Fr Ansel D'Mello

Tel: 01489 572797

Parish Administrator: Heather Skittlethorpe

Parish Office hours:

Monday to Wednesday 9.30am to 2pm Friday: 9.30am to 2pm

Out of hours please get in touch as below

Email: office@stmargaretmary.co.uk Tel: 01489 572797

Parish Gift Aid: Milton Hewins Email: accounts@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Safeguarding Co-ordinators: Contact: safeguarding@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Jodie McMenamin: 07768 751118 or Fran Slater: 07899 691094

Hall Bookings:

Email: hall@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Maintenance:

Email: facilities@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Repository (Greeting Cards, Books, Gifts and more)

Email: repository@stmargaretmary.co.uk (please see www.cbcdistributors.co.uk for items you can order)

Portsmouth Diocese Safeguarding Coordinator: Ruth Attfield 023 9421 6486

Email: rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

St Anthony's Catholic Primary and Pre-School Headteacher:

Katrina Straker, Primate Road, Titchfield Common, PO14 4RP 01489 579100

Email: office@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk www.saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk

Portsmouth e-News.

Sign up to receive this diocesan weekly Publication. News from Parishes, the Bishop, the Diocese & the Vatican.

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews



St Margaret Mary website

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