



The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk

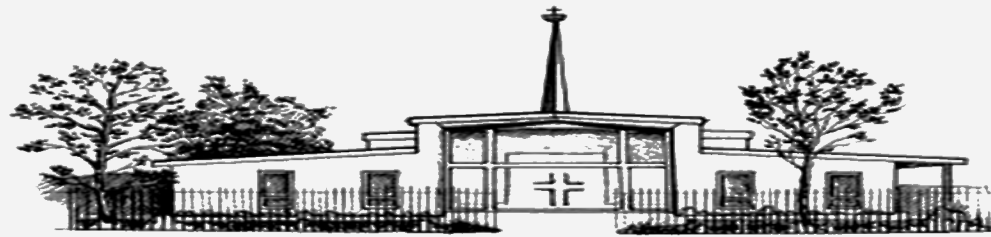


Fourth Sunday of Advent (Psalter Week 4)

Sunday 21st	8.30am	Sydney & Christina Munnery RIP
	10.30am	People of the Parish
Please join us in the Parish hall for a reception for Jack Ryan.		
	6.30pm	Mike Bryne RIP
Monday 22nd	9.30am	No Mass today
	7pm	Adoration
Tuesday 23rd	9.30am	Paddy Ryan RIP
Wednesday 24th	Christmas Eve	
	5.30pm	Vigil Mass (Private Intention)
	8.30pm	Midnight Mass—Mass & Carols (John Mariner RIP)
Christmas Day	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	
	9.30am	Mass (Flo Cowan Intention)
Thursday 26th	ST STEPHEN DAY	
	9.30am	Mass (Robert Cowan Intention)
Sunday 28th Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	
	8.30am	Tony Townsend RIP
	10.30am	Billy O'Sullivan RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 29th	9.30am	No Mass today
Tuesday 30th	9.30am	Aldo Belli RIP
Weds 31st	5pm	Adoration
	6pm	Private Intention
Thursday 1st Jan	7pm	No Mass today
Fri 2nd	9.30am	No Mass today
Sunday 4th Jan	SECOND SUNDAY after THE NATIVITY	
	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.30am	John Logan RIP
	6.30pm	Dina Rooney RIP
Monday 5th	9.30am	No Mass today
	7pm	Adoration
Tuesday 6th	9.30am	No Mass today
Thurs 8th	7pm	No Mass today
Friday 9th	9.30am	Knights of St.Columba Intention
Sunday 11th	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	

Refreshments are served in the Parish hall after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday.

2025



Fr Ansel's will be away from Thursday 1st Jan until Friday 9th January. For any urgent sick calls, please ring Cn John Cooke at Sacred Heart, Fareham on 01329 318869. The church will be open for private prayer between 9am-1.30pm while Fr Ansel is away except Thursday 1st, Friday 2nd, Thursday 8th and Saturdays.

Our thanks to Fr Andrew Moore who will celebrate Mass at 8.30am and 10.30pm on the 4th January and someone from ST.Boniface coming to celebrate Mass at 6.30pm on the 4th.
Our thanks also to Dcn Brian Stoker who will lead Adoration on Monday 22nd December and Monday 5th January.

Dear Parishioners

Although it's been a busy time, thank you for a great year.

Among the many things that have taken place over the last twelve months, we have undertaken Parish pilgrimages to both Medjugorje and St.John's Cathedral as part of the Jubilee year. Not only was this a prayerful and enjoyable experience for those who attended but we very much held the Parish community and school community in our prayers. As well as celebrating many beautiful liturgies in the Church we have also celebrated several liturgies at ST.Anthony's school which has been prepared with a great deal of thought and consideration by the children and staff.

We also began the development of the new Parish prayer garden which we hope will be completed soon. We have also carried out several other projects improving the church grounds and buildings. We have recently been improving the Parish website and this project continues.

In November we also began a Alpha programme in which we have had many people attend. We pray that this mission of outreach may continue to grow and flourish. We also thank the SVP and Knights of ST. Columba for both their outreach projects to the local community and schools. And we also thank the Padre Pio prayer group for their continued prayers for each one of us.

We are very grateful to all our volunteers who carry out many different ministries in the Church, very often many of these ministries require a great deal of preparation and go unnoticed. Thank you to all our volunteers who give up much time to help the Parish carry out its mission of being a witness to Christ in the community.

On ST. Stephens day many of the Altar servers will be renewing their vows. We thank them for their ministry of serving Jesus at the Altar, please do come and support them with your prayers.

Finally— I hope you have a wonderful day celebrating the birth of our loving Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and I wish you and your families a blessed and happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

Fr Ansel.

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 put all your details on envelope. The most important thing is that the sacrifice of Mass is offered, but we cannot guarantee the date. If you make a donation via BACS, please include reference of 'Mass Int'. Thank you. There are some Mass/Sympathy cards available to purchase in the main office, cash only please.

Parish Website.

We have recently been improving our website. The aim is to make it clearer and easier to find information. We hope that the changes useful. This work is ongoing.

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



You can also scan this QR code to donate online.

Park Gate Noticeboard For more information on all our activities, have a look on our web site:

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk

Please submit any notices for the Newsletter by Wednesday lunchtime.

The next newsletter will be issued on Friday 9th January.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next meetings are: Sunday 14th December and Sunday 25th January @ 7.45pm

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



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, in confidence, between 9am and 6pm on 07935 941686.

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

Friday Coffee Morning - The next coffee morning will be on Friday 9th January.

Shop (Repository) — Please call in and see the range of Christian gifts and cards available.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES.

There is no a full list of Mass times for the Christmas/New year period on the noticeboard and on our website.

Buckfast Abbey —You will find some leaflets in information racks detailing Guided retreats and a Catholic Marriage retreat being held throughout 2026. Please refer to this poster for more details and how to book if you are interested.

End of Term update from ST.Anthony's School

Like most schools, the last half term has been a very busy one so the children and staff at St Anthony's are looking forward to a well-deserved rest this Christmas holidays.

We have marked the season of Advent by making individual promises that were linked together to make one enormous paper chain of the whole school's promises. It has been a visual reminder of how we are getting ready for Christ's coming at Christmas, with our older children understanding that we also prepare for Christ's second coming.

Fr Ansel kindly arranged for Fr John Cooke and Deacon Larry Murawski to attend our Advent Reconciliation Service last week. Children in Years 5 and 6 were invited to attend confession afterwards with sacramental reconciliation offered as well as a conversation with a member of the clergy for those who had not made their first Holy Communion. It was moving to see so many children come forward for this voluntarily as Fr Ansel and I continue to work to dispel feelings that confession is something to be nervous of. Fr Ansel also celebrated an Advent Mass this week, led by our Year 5 pupils.

Our children have performed six wonderful nativity performances: two from our Early Years classes, two from our Years 1 & 2 and two from our Years 3 & 4. Once again, our carol service was held at St Margaret Mary and led by Years 5 & 6. The day before, these children joined the parish Mass before staying on to rehearse their carol service. Our church was such a beautiful setting for this event, which retold the simple nativity story with traditional readings. It has been fantastic to have two opportunities this term to bring our children to the church.

In RE lessons, the children concluded their learning about Catholic Social Teaching and how we are all called to make a difference to others before they moved on to explore Advent and its messages of preparation.

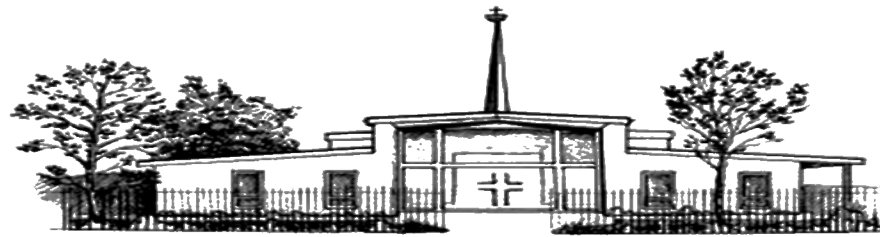
This final week of term has been full of festive fun with our whole school Christmas lunch, an Early Years Christmas party (with a children's entertainer), a trip to the pantomime for Years 1 to 6, an 'Elfridges' Christmas fayre for children to buy gifts for their families and a Christmas jumper day and assembly that included a visit from Fr Christmas.

On behalf of all the children and staff of St Anthony's, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and my very best wishes for a peaceful New Year. **Mrs Straker (Headteacher)**

Starting School in September 2026? If you have a child who will be 4-years old between 1st Sep 2025 and 31st Aug 2026, the 'application for schools' website is now open www.hants.gov.uk/admissions The closing date for applications is Thursday 15th January 2026. If you are applying to St. Antony's, you will need to fill in a supplementary information form as well as the online form. For more details or to arrange a school tour, please call 01489 579100.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

All DBS checked volunteers are required to undertake regular safeguarding training. An in-person safeguarding course has been arranged for Saturday January 17th between 0900 and 1300 in the hall here at St Margaret Mary. Please could you let us know if you are able to attend by emailing safeguarding@stmargaretmary.co.uk You may also have been contacted directly by the diocese regarding this training, in which case you can reply directly to them. Please take advantage of this opportunity."



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 contact the relevant
chaplaincy service:
Southampton General 02381 208517
QA Portsmouth 02392 286408

Second Collections

Crib Offering 2025— Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (Latin: Ordo Equestris Sancti Sepulcri Hierosolymitani, OESSH), also called the Order of the Holy Sepulchre or Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, is a Catholic order of knighthood under the protection of the Holy See. The pope is the sovereign of the order. The order creates canons as well as knights, with the primary mission to "support the Christian presence in the Holy Land"

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

Anita Fitzpatrick: 07743 481363 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)

Enquires: office@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

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Publication. News from Parishes, the Bishop,
the Diocese & the Vatican.

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St Margaret Mary website

stmargaretmary.co.uk/

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 1199568)
"Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church"