



The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk



Third Sunday of Advent (Psalter Week 3)

Sunday 15th Dec	8.30am	Inwards Family Intention
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Monica & Billy O'Sullivan
Monday 16th	9.30am	John Mariner RIP
	7pm	Adoration
Tues 17th	9.30am	Robert Cowan RIP
Weds 18th	Midday	Funeral Service —David Beckett
Thurs 19th	9.00am	End of Term Advent at ST. Anthony's (Parishioners welcome—please park in Primate road and report to school office on arrival).
	7pm	Sandra Ong RIP
Fri 20th	9.30am	Sydney & Christiana Munnery RIP (Thank you to Fr John Adikwu celebrating Mass today)

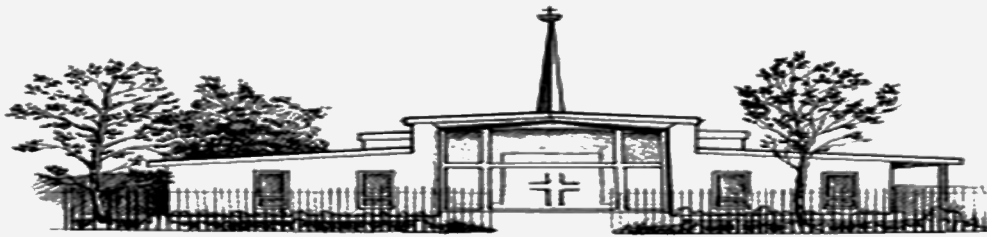
Fourth Sunday of Advent (Psalter Week 4)

Sunday 22nd Dec	8.30am	Annie & Gregory Bonavia RIP
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	3pm	St. Philip Howard, Fareham Combined Carol Service with choirs of Park Gate & Fareham
	6.30pm	Fr James Boyle MHM RIP

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

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

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



Please note: Fr Ansel's day off is changing to Friday 20th this week. Many thanks to Fr John Adikwu for coming to celebrate Mass today. For any urgent sick calls on Fr Ansel's day off, please call Sacred Heart, Fareham on 01329 318869.

Advance Notice: Fr Ansel is on holiday from Weds 1st Jan to the 17th Jan. Normal Sunday Masses will take place on Sunday 6th and Sunday 12th January. Normal Adoration will also take place on Monday 6th and Monday 13th—many thanks to Dcn Brian Stoker for covering this.

Advance Notice: Christmas Mass Times.

Please see separate notice detailing all the Christmas Mass times and some other dates to note in your diary.

The Catholic Bishop conference of England and Wales have released a Pilgrim Prayer book which can be downloaded from the Diocese Jubilee year website. <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year-2025>

Christmas Collection for Fr Ansel

The Christmas and Easter collections are a good way for parishioners to thank Fr Ansel for his ministry at St. Margaret Mary. These collections form a significant part of his income and I know you will want to be generous in your support for him. There are three easy ways you can make your Christmas offering.

1. There is a dedicated page on Give as you Live which enable online donations and our dedicated
2. Christmas collection page is: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/park-gate-st-margaret-mary-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2024>
2. Between now and the Feast of Epiphany, you can donate using the Dona machine at the entrance to Church.
3. The collection at Mass on Christmas Day.

If you use option one or two, you can gift aid your offering and this will also go to Fr Ansel.

Thank you from the Finance Committee.

Short Reflection on this weeks' Gospel - John's Message to Individuals. Luke 3 v 10-18

a. What shall we do then? John's instructions were quite ordinary. He demanded that people share, that they be fair with each other, and that they not be mean and cruel; that they be happy with what they get. Integrity in the ordinary things is still a mark of true repentance. We sometimes think God requires us to do great or impossible things to demonstrate repentance. Often, He instead looks for integrity in the ordinary things.

John did not see tax collecting or soldiering as inherently evil. He did not command these to quit their professions, but to conduct themselves honestly in them.

All reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not: John made such an impact that people logically wondered if he was the Messiah. Instead of cultivating his own popularity, he gave it all to Jesus.

John pointed to **One mightier than I.**

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire: John said that the Messiah was coming with a different baptism. The Holy Spirit's outpouring was promised as part of the New Covenant. We are promised an immersion, an overflowing of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This was often experienced as people were prayed for with hands laid on them (Acts 6:6, 8:17, 9:17, 13:3-4, and 19:6).

His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor: The Messiah would also bring a baptism of fire, fire that would both purify and destroy what is lacking, like fire burns up the worthless chaff. God's power is always a transforming power, a purifying power.

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



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.

Advance Notice: The Parish office will be closed Monday 23rd-Friday 27th Dec.

Week beginning 30th December, the office will be open Mon 30th, Tues 31st Dec and Friday 3rd Jan. Please bear this in mind if you have any items for the Newsletter. Any emails received while office is closed will be responded to asap when office is open. Normal hours resume on Mon 6th Jan.

The newsletter issue on Friday 20th Dec, will be the last one until Friday 3rd Jan.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next meetings are Sunday 15th December and Sunday 26th January 2025 at 7.45pm in the Church.

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 on 07487 659277.

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



Friday Coffee Morning — Come for a drink and chat after Mass in the Paray room.

CAFOD World Gifts for Christmas. Purchase World gifts at worldgifts.cafod.org.uk or pick up a catalogue in Church.

Car Parking—Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Due to the numbers and visitors expected on these days, we are asking for volunteers to steward the car park at all the Masses. If you can help, please speak to Fr Ansel or contact the parish office. Thank you.

Starting School in September 2025?

If you have a child who will be 4-years old between 1st Sep 2024 and 31st Aug 2025, the 'application for schools' web-site is now open. www.hants.gov.uk/admissions Closing date for applications is Monday 15th January 2025. If you are applying to ST. Anthony's you will need to fill in a supplementary information form as well as the online form. For more details or to arrange a personal school tour, please call 01489 579100.

Repository—Please call in and see the range of Christmas cards and other Christmas items for sale.

Housekeeping – Thank you for your assistance with the following.....

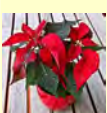
Key Safes—if you are a holder of the codes for the key safe boxes, please make sure they are closed after use. Key safes have been found left open on a couple of occasions. All keys must be returned and the code scrambled.

Side door in Church. If you leave via the side door of the Church, please make sure it closes properly as you leave. It has been found partially left open on a few occasions recently.

Church Hall heating — the heating has been left on overnight a few times now, and obviously this is a cost to the Parish. If you use the hall please can you or a member of your group check the heating has been turned down as per the instructions which are by the control panel as you leave.

Hire of Parish Hall — If anyone knows of anyone who wants to book the hall, please could they refer them to the parish office to check availability.

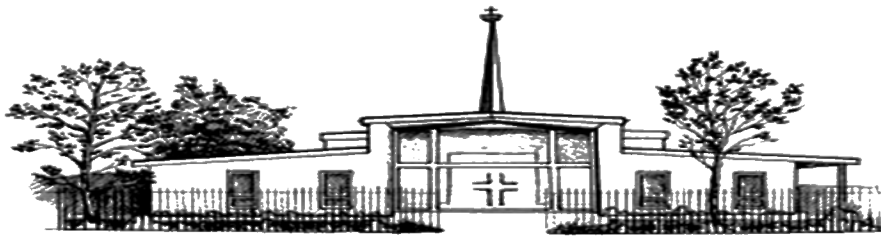
Missio --Red Boxes Any more donations for this year must be banked before Christmas. Please make sure any Red boxes, envelopes or bags containing cash are clearly labelled with your name and left safely in the Repository. For more information or help, please contact Local Missio Secretary Marguerite on 07751 435487 or at margieboulter@aol.com



It is almost that time of year to decorate the Church for Christmas. If you can help with this and donate a Poinsettia that would be appreciated. If you can, please bring them to Church week beginning 15th December. Thank you.

Electronic Newsletter. We've had a few reports recently stating that some people have not received the Newsletter via email from our PAMIS database. We have contacted PAMIS and our own IT dept to resolves this issue. To this end, they are trying to resolves the issue but have had little success so far. A number of hard copies are made available each week and there are the notice board copies and copy on our website. Apologies, we hope that this problem will be resolved soon.

Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorie - A 20% discount for early booking has been extended to 20th December. Please see poster on notice board.



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

SVP Christmas Hamper Appeal

Last year, with the help of very generous donations from parishioners, we were able to provide 84 hampers and 3 food vouchers, for local families. These families were identified by local schools. The average cost of a hamper was £40. From initial contact with the schools, there will be considerably more families in need of support this Christmas. Also the cost of the hampers will have increased. We appreciate how generous you have been in previous years, and hope you can be equally generous this year. Envelopes and gift aid forms will be available. If donations can be Gift Aided, they would be increased by 25%. Donations via or BACS: B170413 SVP ST MAR SC: 60-60-04 ACC 46076646 or by cheque to B170413 SVP St Margaret Mary Park Gate.

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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