



The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk



Luke 14 v 1, 7-14

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter Week 2)

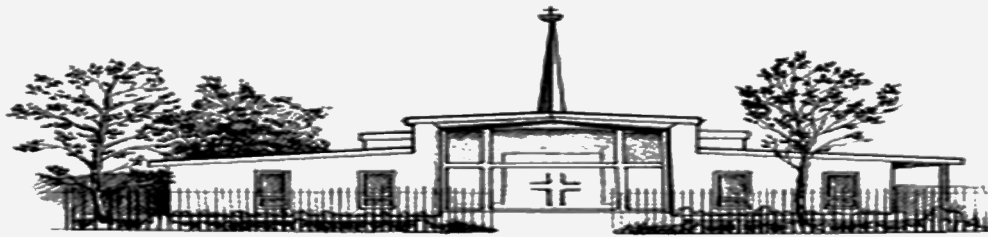
Sunday 31st	8.30am	Philomena Swatton RIP
	10.30am	Brian Jarvis RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 1st Sept	9.30am	Inwards Family Intention
	7pm	Adoration
Tues 2nd	9.30am	Helena Rimmer RIP
Thurs 4th	7pm	No Mass today
Friday 5th	9.00am	Start of Term Mass at St. Anthony's School (Parishioners are welcome to attend, please park in Primate road and report to school office on arrival).
Saturday 6th	12.30pm	Baptism Service

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter Week 3)

Sunday 7th	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.30am	Kevin Green RIP
	6.30pm	Philomena Swatton RIP

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

2025



Fr Ansel's day off is Wednesday so therefore unavailable. On this day if you have an urgent sick all, please call Fr Francis at Stubbington on 01329663435. The Church will open during Fr Ansel's absence for anyone wishing to come for private prayer from 9am-1.30pm.

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>

Short Reflection on this weeks Gospel

The Politics of the Table in Luke 14 v 1, 7-14

Now it happened, as He went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees to eat bread on the Sabbath, that they watched Him closely.

He went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees to eat bread on the Sabbath: Even though Jesus had some of His greatest disputes with the Pharisees, He still associated with them – not to be one of them, but to love them and show them a godly example.

They watched Him closely: Jesus was under constant observation. People wanted to know what He would do in different situations, and they formed their opinions about Jesus (and His God) based on what they saw.

When He noted how they chose the best places: At the home of the Pharisee, Jesus noticed how people strategically placed themselves so as to be in the best places; that is, the places of most honour.

In Jesus' day, the seating arrangement at a dinner showed a definite order of prestige or honour. The most honoured person sat in a particular seat, the next most honoured person in another place, and so on down the line.

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted: When we seek to take honour to ourselves, we will always be humbled – if not on earth, then for all of eternity. The promise of exaltation for the humble and humiliation for the proud is one ultimately fulfilled in eternity.

We don't have the same cultural situation for wedding feasts today; but we certainly do have the desire to grasp for a certain position or status. And we even learn how to do our grasping with a spiritual veneer.

We may choose the low place, and act meek and humble, so that others may notice how humble we are. This is a subtle form of spiritual pride that is very dangerous.

When we get our own position, either through outward or subtle pride, we can even say, "It was the Lord, it was the Lord" – but in our heart of hearts we know it was us, our own calculation, our own schemes, our own grasping. We should remember the words of George MacDonald: In whatever man does without God, he must fail miserably – or succeed more miserably.

Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted: Jesus was the perfect One to teach on this subject, because He fulfilled it perfectly. He is the ultimate example of someone who deserved the highest place, but took the lowest place, and was granted the highest place (Philippians 2:5-11).

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 Database. We now have confirmation of plans from the Diocese to move to a new database in the Autumn. The cost to us of the new database is dependent on the number of records we hold, therefore we need to make sure our current records are accurate. There will be a list at the back of the Church on Sunday's. If you can kindly find your name and annotate the list, this will be a great help. The list has now been broken down into smaller alphabetical chunks to make it easier.. 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.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next meeting is: Sunday 28th September

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 - come for coffee and chat after 9.30am Mass. (no coffee morning on 5th due to Mass at school)

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

Knights of ST.Columba — Next meeting Thursday 11th Sept @ 7.30pm. All welcome.

FAO of all DBS checked volunteers in the Parish.

It is a requirement of holding a DBS that you complete some form of safeguarding training on entering the role and then at least once every three years. With this in mind, we have arranged an in-person training session to be held in the parish hall on **13th September 2025 from 1300-1600**. This will be run by a member of the Diocese safeguarding team. If you are able to attend, please let the parish safeguarding team know by emailing

safeguarding@stmargaretmary.co.uk or speak to Fran Slater. Thank you.

We are running Alpha within our parish starting in mid-October 2025. Alpha is a series of evenings discussing the big questions of life. Alpha is for everyone, no matter your background or beliefs. Whether you're new to exploring faith or simply open-minded about it all, Alpha is for you. Everyone is welcome. We all bring different thoughts to the table, and at Alpha we want to create a space that's open for everyone to find what faith means for them. The short films are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. Each session includes some food and a short film which explores the big issues around faith and unpacks the basics of Christianity. Afterwards, in small groups, there's a discussion where everyone can ask questions, talk through issues, build relationships and experience more of what the Christian life is really like. Please spread the word amongst your family and friends. To register your interest please email office@stmargaretmary.co.uk or call the parish office 01489 572797. Further details will follow.

Chosen—our Pastoral Area Confirmation Group will be holding an information evening on Friday 26th September from 7-8.30pm at ST, Philip Howard Church, to which they invite all young people in Years 8 and above together with their parent/caer to come along and find out more about the group. **After the information evening,** please contact the parish office at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk who will provide you with an application form.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026

Applications for the FHC programme for 2026 are now invited.

The programme is a commitment of 20 weeks. The classes are held on a Saturday morning between 10-11am. It is also important that applicants regularly attend Mass. A starting date is to be confirmed, at which time the schedule of classes will be made available. Please contact the office at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk for application form.

The closing date for applications is Sunday 28th September 2025.

After this date, people will be contacted to arrange an appointment with Fr Ansel.

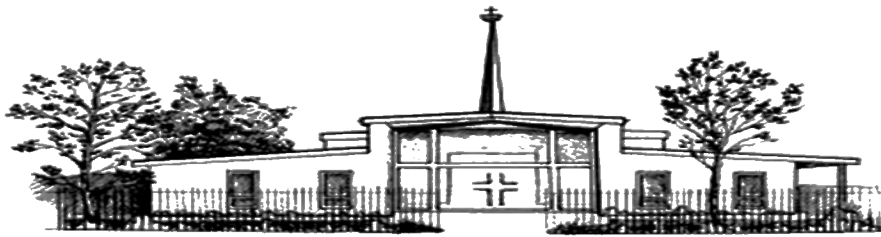
RCIA. The Catholic Church welcomes you. Are you looking for answers about the Catholic faith? If you are not a Catholic or you know someone who isn't, or who was baptised as Catholic but never confirmed, then we have the perfect course to attend. Our group starts on Wednesday 24th September and is set to meet in Sacred Heart church hall at 7:15pm. In the words of Christ, 'Come and see!' We talk about the evidence for the existence of God, how God speaks to us, the person of Jesus, Mary, Sacraments and other key beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church. To find out more please contact the parish office at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk

QUIZ NIGHT Friday 12th September—7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Guest Quiz Masters. All welcome. BYOB. The tickets at £5 each will be available after all Sunday Masses from the 3rd August or via maggie.raymont@gmail.com All proceeds will go towards furnishings for the Parish Prayer Garden.

Other dates for your diary: Patronal Feast – October 19th and Parish Social – November 8th – details to follow.

Join March for Life UK on Saturday 6th Sept in London! The right to life underpins every other right we have and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Abortion denies the most vulnerable in our society their most basic right, the right to life, which is why this year's theme is "Human Rights for All Humans". Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event where we recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion. Find out more at www.marchforlife.co.uk or email info@marchforlife.co.uk



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—September 2025

Sunday 14th—Catholic Education Service

We represent the Bishops' national education policy in relation to the 2,169 schools, colleges, academies and universities for which the Church is responsible in England and Wales.

Sunday 21st—Home Missions

The origins of this Sunday lie in the work of the Catholic Missionary Society, created by Cardinal Bourne in 1903. This special Sunday focuses on the evangelisation work that takes place in each parish and diocese, offering a theme and resources for reflection this Sunday and asking each parish to have a collection so that the national work of evangelisation could be supported through the Home Mission Office.

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)

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

stmargaretmary.co.uk/

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

"Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church"