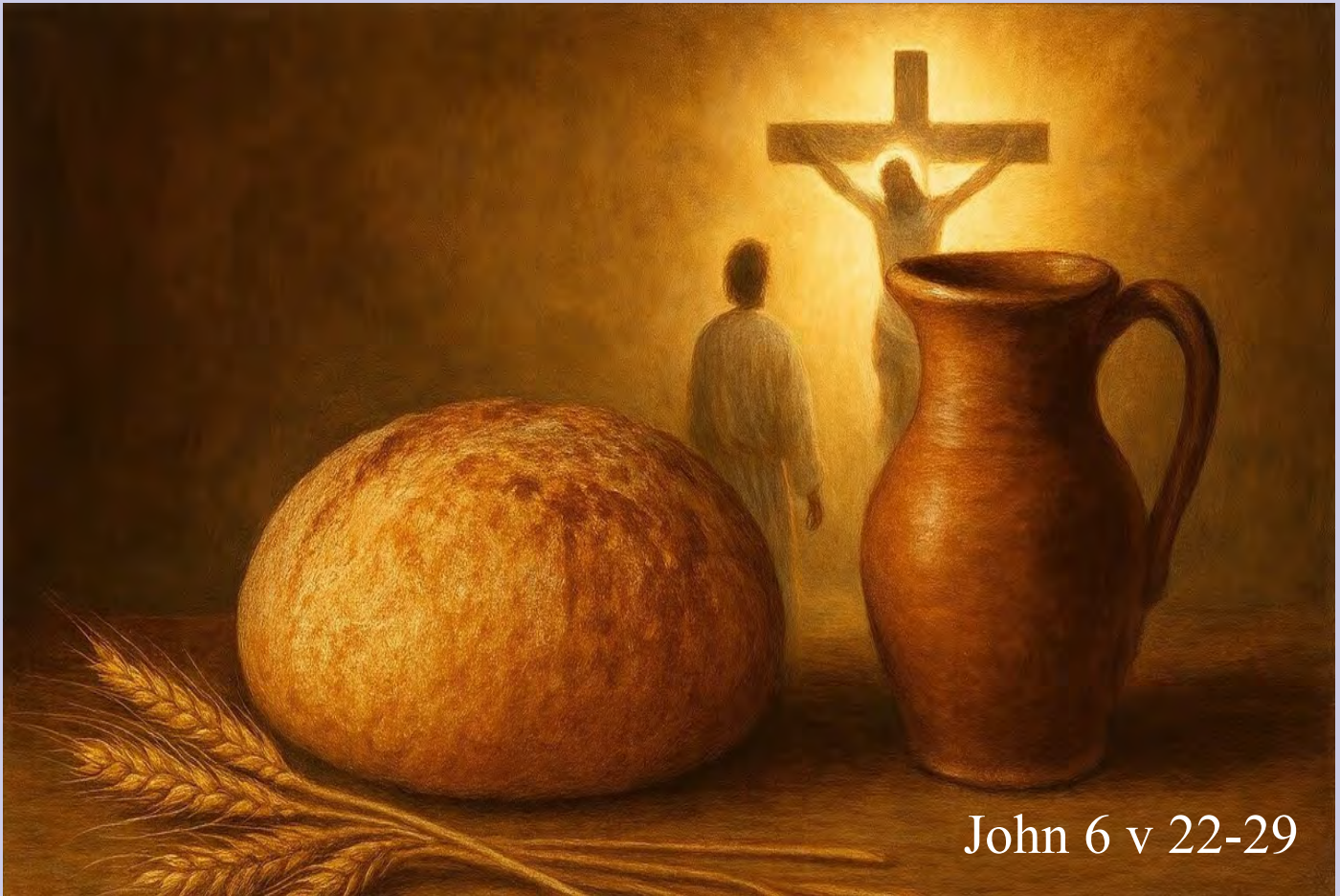




The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk



John 6 v 22-29

Sunday 26th April	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Psalter Week 3)
	8.30am Annie & Gregory Bonavia RIP
	10.30am People of the Parish
	6.30pm Margaret Mary Holland RIP
Monday 27th	9.30am Walford Family Intention
	7pm Adoration
Tuesday 28th	9.30am Private Intention
Thursday 30th	7pm House Selling Intention
Friday 1st May	9.00am First Friday Devotions
	9.30am Clare & George Grima RIP
Sunday 3rd	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Psalter Week 4)
	8.30am Maureen T and Family Intention
	10.30am Bridget McLaughlin RIP
	6.30pm People of the Parish

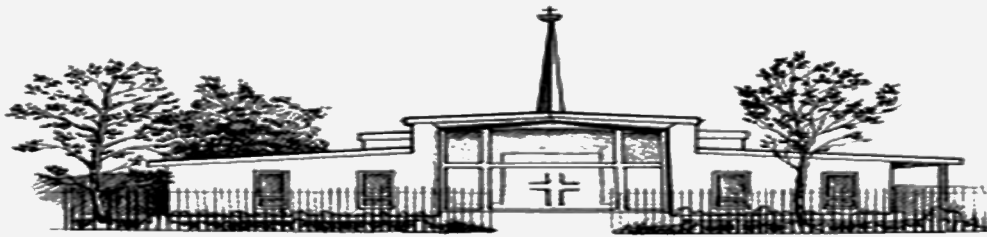
Holy Day of Obligation

Feast Day of the Ascension — Thursday 14th May

St Margaret Mary will be hosting a pastoral area Mass on this day at **7.30pm instead of 7pm.**

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

2026



Fr Ansel's day off is Wednesday, so he will be unavailable on this day.

For any urgent sick calls on this day, please contact Cn John Cooke at Sacred Heart, Fareham on 01329 318869. The Church will be open from 9am-1.30pm for private prayer.

Short Reflection on this weeks Gospel—John 6 v 22-29

You seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled:

Instead of telling them when and why He came, Jesus told them why they came – because they wanted more food miraculously provided by Jesus. Often we can learn more from understanding the reason we ask God a question than from the answer to the question itself. This was the case with those who followed Jesus around the sea of Galilee and asked the question.

Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures for everlasting life:

Those asking this question of Jesus went to a lot of trouble to follow and find Him. Yet their work was for the food which perishes – things that fill a stomach and rule earthly kingdoms. Jesus wanted them to labour for the food which endures for everlasting life. Jesus made a contrast between material things and spiritual things. It is almost universally true that people are more attracted to material things than spiritual things. A sign that says free money and free food will get a bigger crowd than one that says spiritual fulfilment and eternal life.

Which the Son of Man will give you:

They were rightly impressed at the miracle of bread worked through Jesus; but He wanted them to be more impressed for the spiritual food He brings by a miracle.

Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

What shall we do, that we may work the works of God? Jesus told them, Do not labour for the food which perishes (John 6:27). In reply, they used the same word Jesus used and asked, "How shall we labour for this?"

This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent:

Jesus first and foremost commanded them (and us) not to do, but to trust. If we want to do the work of God, it begins with trusting Jesus.

A parent does not only want obedience from their child; a relationship of trust and love is even more important to the parent. The hope is that obedience grows out of that relationship of trust and love. God wants the same pattern in our relationship with Him.

The first work is to believe in Him whom He sent, yet God is also concerned about our obedience. In this sense our faith in Him is not a substitute for works; our faith is the foundation for works that truly please God.

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 quite a few spare dates in May if you would like a Mass request.**

Please note: Works taking place in Parish Hall.

Works to replace fluorescent lights which are obsolete and causing the lights to trip are being replaced by LED lights on Monday 27th April. These works will take all day, so there will be no access to the hall.

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 office is closed 4th-8th May for annual leave. The Newsletter issued on the 1st May will be a two-week issue, so please bear this in mind if you have items to advertise.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next meeting is: Sunday 26th April @ 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 - Join us in the Paray room after morning Mass.

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

Vinnie's Café—Saturday 25th April from 2-4pm.

Come along for a friendly chat and cup of tea. All welcome. Free, but donations welcome.

Grandparent's Prayer Group—Starting Tuesday 5th May after 9.30am morning Mass.

This group will meet monthly on the first Tuesday of the month, led by Dcn Brian Stoker. This is an opportunity for grandparents to pray for their children and grandchildren's faith, safety and wellbeing. The group will be by sharing any prayer intentions members may have for their families. The Rosary will be prayed, followed by further prayer for grandparents and the elderly. The prayer session will finish with tea and coffee..

SPRING LUNCH SUNDAY 17th May 2026 - IN AID of the BAMENDA APPEAL

Our popular Spring Lunch will be held on **Sunday 17th May, 12-2pm in the parish hall.**

Come and enjoy a delicious two-course lunch and convivial company. while supporting our Lenten Charity.

Adults £15 and Children £7.50 (free for under 6s)

Tickets will be available after Masses from 19th April or email Gayeperry205@gmail.com to reserve your place.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME !

Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima and Nazare. 1st—7th October 2026. Full details and itinerary are on the noticeboard.

For everyone, but may be of particular interest to those booked on the Parish pilgrimage, there is a National pilgrimage of Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. 2nd/3rd May at the Cathedral of St. Michael & St. George in Aldershot.

See details on noticeboard.

The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth are organising two pilgrimages to Lourdes & Turin & Assisi.

There is a letter on the noticeboard or email lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for more details or to book.

Polling Station—Thursday 7th May—St.Margaret Mary Parish Hall

Fareham Borough Council are using our Parish hall as a polling station on 7th May. Please be aware the car park will be much busier than usual if you are attending 7pm Mass, with extra cars and people walking to and from the hall.

There is a public car park next to the Church site that can be used.

Saturday 9th May—Opening of the Parish Prayer Garden.

Please join us as we open the Parish Prayer Garden which is now complete. Our thanks to the many people who have worked very hard over recent months. Here is an approximate timetable for the afternoon.

3pm—Joyful mysteries of the Rosary

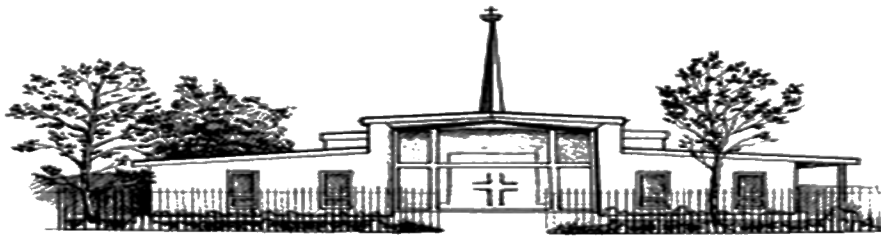
3.30pm—Placing of Flowers

3.40pm—Tea, Coffee and cake in the Parish Hall.

Flowers for Prayer Garden—The planting in the garden is complete and makes for a great display as well as making it a very welcoming space together with the Statue of Our Lady and Stations. If anyone would like to make a donation towards the flowers, pots, etc it would be much appreciated. There is a option on the Dona machine or monies in an envelope, but please mark your envelope. Thank you.

Sacred Heart, Fareham—Mass of Anointing—Wednesday 6th May at 1.30pm.

You are kindly invited to join this Mass.at 1.30pm followed by tea. If you are would like to attend, please email into the office here at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk by Friday 1st May, so we can let Fareham know numbers.



If you are unwell and would like a Eucharist Ministry team member to bring Holy Communion to you at home. Please contact Jane Green on 07528 948536

If you are going in to hospital, please contact the relevant chaplaincy service:
Southampton General 02381 208517
QA Portsmouth 02392 286408

Second Collections

Sunday 26th April—Diocesan Clergy Assistance Fund

The Clergy Training Fund supports our seminarians, including the 11 men currently in formation for the priesthood, for the duration of their six or seven-year journey to ordination.

Each seminarian brings to his training his own life experience, and then participates in a comprehensive programme of formation pastorally, intellectually, humanly and spiritually. These are the men who will baptize and catechize the coming generations, and care for us on our pilgrim way: our generosity today is a legacy to the Church of tomorrow. To sustain a single seminarian costs around £30,000 each year, so we ask your generous support for our seminarians in their journey by making a donation to this Fund.

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

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"