



The Catholic Church in Park Gate St Margaret Mary

www.stmargaretmary.co.uk



Matt 13 v 44-52

Sunday 26th

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter Week 1)

8.30am	Fr Shaun Budden RIP
10.30am	Jane Swales RIP
6.30pm	People of the Parish

Monday 27th

9.30am	Ritchie O'Callaghan
7pm	Adoration

Tuesday 28th

9.30am	Rory Edwards RIP
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Thursday 30th

7pm	Matthew Davy RIP
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Friday 31st

9.30am	Jim Shearman RIP
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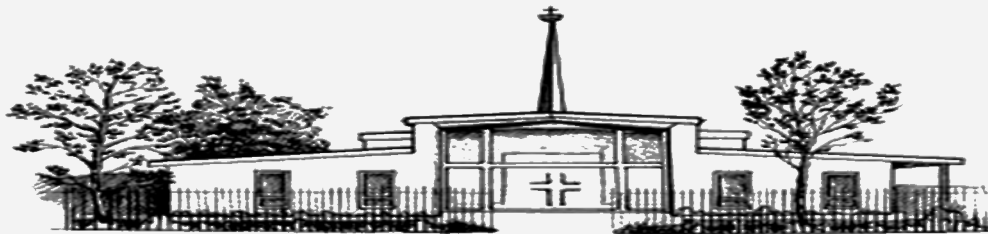
Sunday 2nd August

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter Week 2)

8.30am	People of the Parish
10.30am	Philippa Staley RIP
6.30pm	Clare & George Grima RIP

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

2026



Fr Ansel's day off is Wednesday, so 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.

Reminder that the Church will be closed on Wednesday.

The prayer garden will be open during office hours, Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9am-3pm and Sunday morning.

Reflection on this weeks Gospel—Matt 13 v 44-52

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field: The field is the world, but the man does not represent the believer, because we have nothing to buy this treasure with. Instead, Jesus is the man who gave all that He had to buy the field.

And for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field: The treasure so wonderful that Jesus would give all to purchase is the individual believer. This powerfully shows how Jesus gave everything to redeem the whole world to preserve a treasure in it, and the treasure is His people.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls: Again, Jesus is the buyer and the individual believer is the pearl that He sees as so valuable that He would happily give all to have it forever.

One pearl of great price: It seems crazy for a merchant to sell all that he had for one pearl, but for this merchant it was well worth it. That shows how much he valued this pearl of great price, and how much Jesus values His people.

The verse Matthew 13:44 presents a beautiful metaphor about the kingdom of heaven. It compares the kingdom of heaven to a treasure hidden in a field. This treasure is immensely valuable, but it is often overlooked by many. The joy of discovering such a treasure leads the man to sell everything he owns to acquire it. In essence, finding the kingdom of heaven offers such immense worth that it surpasses any material possessions we might have.

When we look deeper into this verse, we see that it is not just about the treasure but also about the man's response to this find. His joy and willingness to give up everything showcase the dedication and prioritization of spiritual wealth over worldly riches. It teaches us that the kingdom of heaven demands a genuine commitment and sacrifice in our lives. This parable illustrates that the kingdom of heaven is something to be valued above all else. The man's actions symbolize our response to discovering spiritual truth. Before coming to Christ, we often chase after things that ultimately do not satisfy us or hold lasting value. Once we experience the grace and love of God, our perspective shifts. When we find something truly valuable, we must understand the joy and excitement that come along with it. This excitement propels us to act, just like the man who sold everything he owned to buy the field. This act is a reflection of our personal relationship with Christ. Through faith in Jesus, we gain foundational wisdom and a new way of living. It inspires growth in us and encourages us to seek further knowledge of God's teachings.

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.

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 **Tuesday** lunchtime.

Padre Pio Prayer Group —The next meeting is: Sunday 26th July @ 7.45pm

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



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

Michael Foley. The funeral for Michael will take place at St Agatha's Church, Portsmouth on Friday 31st July at 11.00am.

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 July from 2-4pm.

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

Knights of St Columba. The next meeting will be on Thursday 17th September at 7.30pm. All Welcome.

Grandparent's Prayer Group—Next Meeting 4th August 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.

Sunday 26th July is the World Day for Grandparents and Older People.

This is the sixth World Day, which always takes place on the Memoria of SS. Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV for this year is: "I will never forget you" (Is 49:15). It reminds us that God's unwavering love is the ultimate answer to the isolation and neglect so often experienced by the elderly.

End of Term report from St. Anthony's School.

St Anthony's has finished this school year on a high by celebrating some strong academic results for statutory assessments. We are delighted that 94% of our Year 6 Pupils reached age-related attainment in the Reading, Maths and Grammar Key Stage 2 SATS, which is excellent when compared with the national percentages of 74-75%. Our Year 4 pupils also performed strongly in their Multiplication Tables Check with 73% of the class scoring full marks. Our Early Years and Key Stage 1 results are also expected to be above average levels, although the national data has yet to be published. These results reflect the hard work and determination of staff and pupils alike.

Although academic success is important, we strive to deliver far more than this for our children and their families and this last summer term has been packed full of exciting experiences as part of our wider curriculum offering. Both our Year 4 and Year 6 classes have enjoyed 2-night and 4-night (respectively) residentials this term and we have organised school trips to Sir Harold Hillier Garden Centre, the local park, a local farm, the zoo and an outdoor study centre. At the end of June, we welcomed a range of visitors from the emergency services for our '999 Heroes' theme week that focused on how we all keep safe and how others help to keep us safe. Some of our classes learnt valuable first aid skills that included how to put someone in the recovery position, how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator and how to stem bleeding. This summer's heat waves lead to a few events having to be postponed, such as our music concert and early years sports day, but we were delighted to squeeze in our main sports day in the last week of term. It is a popular event for families. I have felt blessed to have our beautiful grounds for this term's hot weather. It meant we could stay open when other local schools shut because staff were able to take the children outside to learn in the shadier spots around our school. Staff were also wonderfully creative in keeping children cool with resources trays being adapted to become water trays for hot feet in the afternoons!

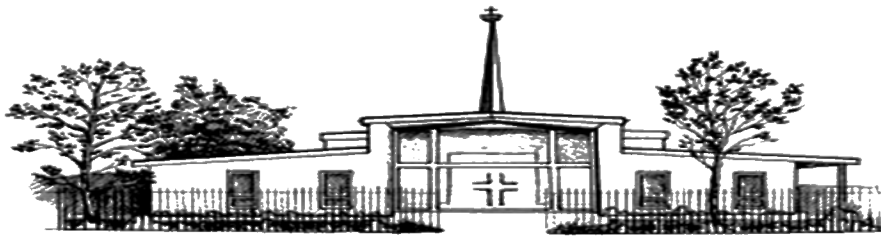
The Catholic Life and Mission of our school continues to thrive. This term, we held two masses including our annual St Anthony's Feast Day Mass in which children enjoyed what has become a traditional ice-lolly and extended shared playtime whilst parishioners and parents enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee. Fr Ansel also joined us for our Marian Procession and a Year 6 day of reflection. Fourteen of our children celebrated their First Holy Communion in local parishes.

Fr Ansel's support for our school has been invaluable. The staff are currently preparing to teach a new, updated RE curriculum from September that is being rolled out across the Diocese following a scheme of work called Lighting the Path. We are also thrilled to be welcoming a full cohort of 30 new Year R children in September and around 50% of them are baptised Catholics.

One of our greatest achievements this year, however, is a sporting success. Earlier in the year, our Dodgeball team won a district tournament for local schools that enabled them to compete at a county level. Remarkably, they went on to win the county competition earlier this term and so took part in the National Schools Dodgeball Finals in Kettering 3 weeks ago. We came away with bronze medals! To be third in the whole country is astonishing for a small, one-form entry primary school.

So it is an extremely proud headteacher who wishes you all a very happy summer holiday period. I hope it is a chance for families and friends of the school to rest and recover before we start it all again in September.

With best wishes Katrina Straker (Headteacher)



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.

The next second collections will be in September. Details to follow.

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, Tuesday and Friday—9am-3pm.

Out of hours please get in touch as below

Email: office@stmargaretmary.co.uk Tel: 01489 572797 (this number is linked to Office & Presbytery, please leave voicemail message when office is closed)

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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St Margaret Mary website

stmargaretmary.co.uk/

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