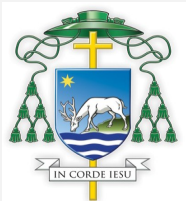


THE MESSENGER

Serving the Parish of Our Lady and The Saints of Guernsey

PUBLICATION OF CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH NO. 1199568 - GUERNSEY REGISTERED CHARITY CH263



Diocese of Portsmouth

Bishop Philip Egan

Eighth Bishop of Portsmouth

Dean and Parish Priest:

Fr Marcin Drabik

Assistant Priests:

Fr Benedict Ndikum (Day off Friday)

Alderney

Priest in Charge: Fr Paul Dzwig

Presbytery: 01481 822105

Priest in Retirement:

Canon Gerard Hetherington KCHS

Deacon: Rev Mark Leightley

St Joseph & St Mary (St. J)

La Couperderie, St Peter Port

Notre Dame du Rosaire (ND)

Burnt Lane, St Peter Port

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Delancey (OLSS)

Rue des Monts, St Sampson

Le Platon Home (LP)

Clifton, St Peter Port, Guernsey

Parish Office: **CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

Open Hours 9.30am - 1.30pm weekdays

Amphill House, Cordier Hill, St Peter Port,
Guernsey GY1 1JH

Phone Number: 01481 720196

Email: office@catholic.org.gg

Website: www.catholic.org.gg

Secretary: Mrs Yvonne Priaux

Assistant Secretary: Miss Dionne-Maire Black

Parish Safeguarding Ministers:

Bridget Cowens: 07781 467591

Ali Gregory: 07781 134311

Youth Minister:

Tom Saddington: 07781 129310

Email: youth@catholic.org.gg

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday:

St Joseph 10.30am -11.00am

Our Lady Star of the Sea 5.30pm -5.50pm

Sunday:

Notre Dame Church 5.30pm-5.50pm

Or by appointment

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Name: CDP Guernsey

Sorting Code: 309304

Account number: 00879070

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in Mercy.

Sat 12th

THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY (OPTIONAL MEMORIAL)

St. J 10.00am Mass: J Ramirez & J De Barros &

Victims of 2 earthquakes in Venezuela

St. J 10.30am **Rosary**

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

OLSS 6.00pm Mass: Wilfred & Christopher Cochrane RIP

Sun 13th Sept

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WEEK 4)

St. J 8.00am Mass: Mary De Cruz RIP (FM)

OLSS 9.15am Mass: People of the Parish

St. J 10.30am Mass: Peter Meerveld RIP

ND 5.30pm **Rosary**

ND 6.00pm Mass: James John Fattorini RIP (FM)

Mon 14th

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, FEAST

St. J 7.30am Mass: Private intentions

OLSS 11.30am **Rosary**

OLSS 12noon Mass: Holy Souls

Tues 15th

OUR LADY OF SORROWS, MEMORIAL

St. J 9.30am Mass: Sister Dolores

Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am

Wed 16th

SS CORNELIUS, POPE & CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS, MEMORIAL

St. J 9.30am Mass: Fr William Charlton

St. J 6.30pm Mass: Holy Souls

St. J 7.00pm *Exposition, Rosary & Benediction for Vocations*

Thur 17th

St. J 9.30am Mass: Corey Le Fricc Good Intentions

Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am

OLSS 6.00pm Mass: Paula Gaudion & Family (FM)

Fri 18th

St. J 7.30am Mass: Sonia Hollowell Intentions

LP 11.00am Mass: Holy Souls

CFP 7.30pm **Rosary**

Sat 19th

St. J 10.00am Mass: Pat Devenport RIP

St. J 10.30am **Rosary**

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

OLSS 6.00pm Mass: The Deceased members of the
Wyatt and Devenport Families

Sun 20th Sept

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WEEK 1)

St. J 8.00am Mass: Patrick & Anne Le Tocq in Thanksgiving

OLSS 9.15am Mass: People of the Parish

St. J 10.30am Mass: Francesco Tersigni

ND 5.30pm **Rosary**

ND 6.00pm Mass: Catherine & Gordon Tostevin RIP (FM)

FM - Foundation Mass LP - Le Platon CFP - Centre for Peace

Fr Inna's Mass of Thanksgiving

A big **thank you** to all who came along to Fr Inna's Mass of thanksgiving and making it such a joyful parish occasion. Special thanks to all who worked so hard on the evening in so many ways. The servers, welcomers, musicians and those who prepared the garden and served our food and drink.

A special thank you to Ron for the incredible cake and to Helen Paul for embroidering our message to Fr Inna on behalf of us all on his stole. Both the cake and Stole can be seen on the parish web site or Face Book Page.

We welcome our new parish priest Father Marcin Drabik to our beautiful Island.

Please do give him a warm welcome and keep him in your prayers.



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

WELCOME

A warm welcome to everybody, please do join us for Tea & Coffee after the **8.00am & 10.30am mass in St Joseph's and after 9.15am Mass at OLSS.**

LEGION OF MARY

Meet Saturday mornings, 11am in the Parish Rooms. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Mary Baldry; 07781 128462

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

The Holy Spirit charismatic Prayer Group will be meeting on Monday September 14th from 7.30pm – 8.30pm in the Parish room at St Joseph's. Tea and coffee available from 7pm. Everyone is welcome! For more information contact Frank on 07781 108394.

ORBITAL GATHERING

Sunday 20th September, 6:30-8:30 pm, St. Joseph's Church Hall

Lots of fun, games, food and discussion. We'll be focusing on welcoming the new Y7s, helping young people get to know each other and we'll have a panel of different youth leaders sharing about why they love reading the Bible in preparation for launching our Bible Course in the Spring. Yr 7-13.

REMINDER

Fairtrade Fortnight from 21st September until 4th October A time to recognise and celebrate farmers and workers in developing countries and reflect on the issues of underpayment and exploitation. It is a good time to try some new Fairtrade products that are on sale in the supermarkets.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

It is important for Data Protection purposes and for pastoral support that the parish keeps an up to date list of all parishioners with their address and contact details. Thank you to all of those who have already registered at catholic.org.gg/register. The parish office will be able to assist anyone who needs help so please do call or email us.



JOINING THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Discovering Christ in the Catholic Church

Have you or do you know of someone that has considered becoming a Catholic? Perhaps you have never got around to being confirmed? You may be Catholic but have been away for a very long time and now feel called 'home'? You may have questions or simply wish to find out more. Please contact Shelley via the parish office on **720196** or email office@catholic.org.gg.

Our first session starts on the 13th October 2026.

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

If you, or any of your family or friends are in hospital or due to go to hospital, please let the parish office know. This is currently the only way that the clergy are aware of a Catholic being admitted.



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Laudato Si' Season of Creation Mass

**24th September 6pm at
Delancey,
with refreshments after.**

More details to follow

Enrolment for Our Catholic Primary Schools – September 2027

Do you have a child who is turning four during this academic year? Have you applied for their Reception place yet?

Applications are now open for children starting Reception in September 2027 at:

Notre Dame du Rosaire Catholic Primary School

St Mary & St Michael Catholic Primary School

Both schools provide high-quality teaching and learning within welcoming, inclusive communities where every child is known, valued and encouraged to flourish. Our strong Catholic ethos is at the heart of school life, helping children to grow academically, personally and spiritually.

If you are considering a school place for your child, we would be delighted to welcome you for a visit so that you can meet our staff and see our schools in action.

Please also share this information with any Catholic families you know who may have a child starting school in September 2027.

To find out more, email the schools or pop your head into one of the school offices to ask - we would be delighted to help.

ndp.office@education.gg mmp.office@education.gg

CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO OR ORGAN?

We are very grateful to all our musicians, but we are now desperate for players to join a rota for the 6pm Saturday Mass at OLSS. Perhaps you could help us once a month? Hymns are already chosen so can be given for practice in advance. Please if you can help contact the parish office or see Cathy Greening after mass. Thank you

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

The Holy Father Pope Leo XIV (born 14.9.1955)

Le Platon Home & all in residential & Nursing Care

All who are Sick and housebound in the parish

Those who do not believe In **GOD**

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

and all those whose anniversaries occur around now.

Patricia Hands whose Requiem mass will be at St. Josephs Church on Monday 28th September, 10.00am.

Ann Margaret Sumner whose funeral service will be on Wednesday 30th September at Our lady Star of the Sea, 11.00am
May they Rest in Peace.+

LE PLATON

Results of the August draw

1st 41 £100; 2nd 74 £50; 3rd 21 £25

OFFERTORY: £3397.00 (Inc standing orders and donations through the website and Dona card machines)

Attendance numbers: 580

This Weekend's second Collection is for Education Sunday

This Sunday, we will celebrate Education Sunday. Mary Robertshaw, Executive Headteacher, and representatives from both of our Catholic state primary schools—Notre Dame du Rosaire and St Mary & St Michael — will be speaking after each Mass. Education Sunday is an important opportunity to share news about the wonderful work taking place in our schools and to ask for the continued prayers and support of our parish community. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



Welcome Home — A Letter to My New Parish Family

My Dear New Parish Family,

There is an old story told of a traveller who came to a little village high in the mountains. As he approached, he saw an old man sitting by the roadside, so he stopped and asked: "Tell me, what are the people like in this village I am about to enter?"

The old man looked at him gently and said: "Tell me what the people were like in the place you left behind."

The traveller sighed and said: "Oh, they were cold, selfish, and difficult — I was glad to leave them."

The old man nodded and said: "Then I am afraid you will find them much the same here."

Another traveller came along a little while later, carrying a bundle on his back and a smile on his face. He too stopped and asked the same question. The old man looked at him and asked once more: "Tell me — what were the people like in the place you left behind?"

The traveller's eyes lit up: "Oh, they were wonderful — so kind, generous, and loving. It broke my heart to say goodbye. I only hope I may be blessed to find such good people again."

The old man smiled warmly and said: "Then you will find them much the same here."

Because, You see — home is not simply a place You arrive at. It is a place You build together, one gentle step at a time. And that is exactly how I feel as I arrive among You.

It is with a heart full of gratitude and a little bit of holy excitement that I write these words to You — your new parish priest, arriving from across the water, stepping onto this beautiful island and into the warmth of your welcome. Thank You — from the very depth of my soul — for making me feel so at home already. Your kindness has touched me deeply, and I know already that I have come to a good and holy place.

I want to say a special word of heartfelt thanks to Father Inna, who have loved and served this parish so faithfully. Thank You for handing on the torch of faith so beautifully — You have laid a good foundation together with all the previous priests ever served here, and I pray I may build upon it with the same care and devotion. And to our wonderful, hardworking secretaries — thank You ! I already know that You are the heartbeat of this parish, and I am so grateful for your help, your wisdom, and your patience already. You are truly a gift to us all.

As we begin this journey together, I ask You simply for a little patience. Think of me as someone walking through a beautiful garden for the first time — I need to walk slowly, to look closely, to learn the names of the flowers, to understand the soil and the seasons, before I can help tend and grow it with You. I want to get to know You — slowly, genuinely — to meet the wonderful people who serve God here in so many different ways: in our pastoral work, in our schools, in our care for those in need of God and peoples love, and in our friendship with other churches and communities across this island. I will come — I will listen — I will learn — and in time, please God, we will walk forward together.

Most of all, I ask for your prayers. Because I know, with Jesus, what Saint John wrote is true:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." — John 15:5

That is my prayer for us — that we may be branches firmly rooted in Christ, connected to one another, and bearing fruit that lasts. We are not perfect gardeners, but the Gardener Himself walks among us — and that is enough.

Please also accept the little card I attached to this Newsletter for You — a prayer written by Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, blessing all priests. I beg You to pray for me, for Fr Benedict and for all the priests we have ever met on the journey of faith. May Mary, our Mother, hold us all close in her heart, and keep every one of us faithful to her Son, Jesus Christ - True God and True Man.

So here I am — your brother, your priest, your friend — with open heart and open hands. Let us walk together, pray together, and grow together — one gentle step at a time.

Welcome home — to all of us.

With my love, my prayers, and every blessing,

Father Marcin Drabik 