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
Email: mdrabik@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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
Ampthill 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 Priaulx
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:
Friday: After 7.30am Mass
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

Congratulations to Simon & Sharnna who got married last Saturday at Delancey
We keep them both in our Prayers

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
25TH OCTOBER 2026
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: I LOVE YOU, LORD, MY STRENGTH

Sat 24th	**OUR LADY ON SATURDAY**		
	Guernsey & Sark: St Magloire, Bishop, memorial		
	St. J	10.00am	Mass: Esther O'Connor (FM)
	St. J	10.30am	**Rosary**
	OLSS	2.30pm	**The Annual Service of Healing and Blessing**
	FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY		
	OLSS	6.00pm	Mass: People of the Parish
Sun 25th Oct	**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (PSALTER WEEK 2)**		
	St. J	8.00am	Mass: For the Souls in Purgatory
	OLSS	9.15am	Mass: William Judd RIP (FM) †
	St. J	10.30am	Mass: Lawrence & Phyllis Troalic RIP (FM)
	ND	5.30pm	**Rosary**
	ND	6.00pm	Mass: Alfie Hollowell
Mon 26th	**St. J**	7.30am	Mass: Renouf Family (FM)
	OLSS	11.30am	**Rosary**
	OLSS	12noon	Mass: Dugmore Family (FM)
Tues 27th	**St. J**	9.30am	Mass: Sheila Smith RIP (FM)
	Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am		
	St. J	1.00pm	**Requiem Mass:** Janet Carnachan
Wed 28th	**SS SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES, FEAST**		
	St. J	9.30am	Mass: Margarida Silva RIP & Family in Purgatory
	St. J	6.00pm	**Father Marcin's Installation Mass**
Thur 29th	**St. J**	9.30am	Mass: Mary De Cruz RIP
	Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am		
	OLSS	6.00pm	Mass: Private Intentions
Fri 30th	**St. J**	7.30am	Mass: Brenton Bray RIP
	LP	11.00am	Mass: Holy Souls
	CFP	7.30pm	**Rosary**
Sat 31st	**OUR LADY ON SATURDAY**		
	St. J	10.00am	Mass: Josette Schueller & Fred Hitchon RIP
	St. J	10.30am	**Rosary**
	LC	2.00pm	**Service for Our Blessed Mother Mary**
	FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY		
	OLSS	6.00pm	Mass: Vivian Hewlett RIP
Sun 1st Nov	**ALL SAINTS, SOLEMNITY, OFFICE PROPER**		
	St. J	8.00am	Mass: Deceased Convent Benefactors †
	OLSS	9.15am	Mass: People of the Parish
	St. J	10.30am	Mass: The Banton Family
	ND	5.30pm	**Rosary**
	ND	6.00pm	Mass: Elliott & Esme for safe travelling

FM - Foundation Mass LP - Le Platon CFP - Centre for Peace LC - The Little Chapel



SERVICE FOR OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY

THE LITTLE CHAPEL

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER - 2PM
Parking is available at Blanchelande College
(Drive through from the main entrance as gates will be open)

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.**

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

The Holy Spirit Prayer Group will be hosting an evening of ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT on MONDAY OCTOBER 26th from 7.30-8.30pm in the Parish room at St Joseph's. Tea and coffee is available from 7pm. There will be some hymns followed by silent 'Adoration'. Prayer ministry will also be available. If you need prayer for anything at all, this is an opportunity to come and receive prayer. EVERYONE is welcome, either for the whole evening or for part of the time.

COFFEE MORNING – THIS WEDNESDAY - 28th OCTOBER.

The Parish room at St Joseph's will be open for tea/coffee and cake on WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28th and on every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Drop in any time between 9.30-11.30am. Everyone is very welcome!

ALTAR SERVERS FROM ALL THREE CHURCHES

Father Marcin would like all the Altar servers from all three churches to attend a meeting at St. Josephs church on Saturday 7th November at 2pm. Thank you so much for all you do.

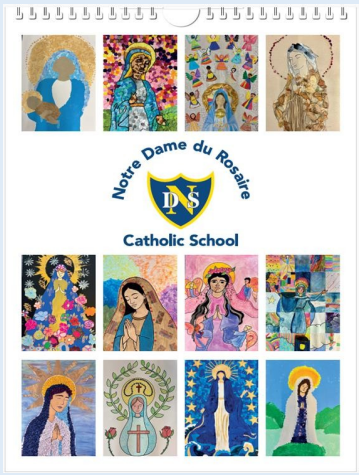
THE LITTLE LANTERN WALK

Blanchelande Nursery and Infant department are hosting an afternoon called **Little Lantern Walk** on **Sunday 15th November from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at Blanchelande College** and would like to extend the invitation to the Parish. Booking is essential to reserve your free space email Scarlett at **lepages@blanchelande.sch.gg**

PARKING FOR FATHER MARCIN'S INSTALLATION

On Wednesday evening for Father Marcin's installation mass we will have parking at Vauvert school as an overspill.
We kindly thank the headteacher of Vauvert for allowing this.
Father Marcin is looking forward to seeing everybody.





Dear Parishioners,

The children of Notre Dame du Rosaire have created a beautiful Our Lady of the Rosary calendar for 2027. As you can see from the accompanying images, they have worked so hard on their artwork, and we are very proud of the results!

If you would like to purchase a calendar, please follow the link below and complete the order form. We will then arrange to get your calendar to you.

Order here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/m5fuX0NdN3

We may also sell some calendars at the back of the church later in the year, but ordering in advance will guarantee you a copy.

All money raised will go towards supporting our school. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

MUSICIANS NEEDED

If you can play any instrument or sing then why not consider joining The Delancey Music Group? We play each Sunday at the 9.15 Mass and are always pleased to welcome new members of any age. We also need some extra people to go on a rota for operating the projector. If you can help in any way or would like to find out more, please contact Angela - acgaudion@cwgsy.net, Judy - jharvey12020@outlook.com or Louise - Perrio.louise@gmail.com, or speak to us after Mass on a Sunday.

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

A parishioner is seeking a room to let. This is for a catholic lady who is returning to the island in Mid-November. Please if anyone has a spare room available or does know of one please do contact the parish office in the first instance. Thank you so much.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

Our Holy Father 'Pope Leo' for healing
Father Marcin on his Installation Day
Le Platon Home & all in residential & Nursing Care
All who are Sick and housebound in the parish
For the poor and homeless

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Janet Carnachan whose Requiem Mass will be at St. Josephs Church on Tuesday 27th October at 1pm
Roger Fallbrook (Alderney)

ANNIVERSARIES

Lawrence Troalic
and all those whose anniversaries occur around now.
May they Rest In Peace. +

LE PLATON

Results of the September draw
1st 94 £100; **2nd 16** £50; **3rd 03** £25

OFFERTORY: £3772.00 (Inc standing orders and donations through the website and Dona card machines)
Attendance numbers: 620
World Mission Sunday: £1193.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Our Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ, my Friends, my Dear Parishioners and warmly welcomed visitors,

I simply cannot find enough words to express my deep gratitude for all those who came forward this past week to care so beautifully for our churches. To everyone who swept, polished, dusted, wiped, arranged, and tidied — thank You. You make our house of God shine with a warmth that no number of candles or flowers could ever achieve on their own.

There is a lovely story about Saint Francis of Assisi. Wherever he travelled, he would carry a little broom with him. After preaching in a church, he would stay behind and gently sweep it himself. One day a farmer saw him at this humble work and asked, "Brother Francis, why do you — a man so loved by all — spend your time sweeping floors?" Francis smiled and said: "This is not just stone and wood I am cleaning. Every corner of this church holds the presence of Christ. To care for His house is the greatest privilege of all." He would often say that the invisible sweat of those who clean the house of God rises like sweet incense before the altar. Their work may go unnoticed by many, but it is always seen by the One who dwells there. And that is exactly what You do. You may not always hear applause, but every bench you wipe, every window you brighten, every corner you tend — you are preparing a place where souls will meet the Lord. You are making the welcome visible before anyone even speaks a word. Thank You for your dedication, your gentle care, and your loving hearts. May the Lord bless You a hundredfold for every speck of dust You have lovingly swept away.

As we approach the end of October, it is wonderful to remember the real Christian roots of what many know as "Halloween." The word itself is a Scottish shortening of "Allhallow-even" — literally meaning "All Holy Evening" — the night before All Saints' Day. These origins go all the way back to AD 610, when Pope Boniface IV consecrated the Pantheon in Rome — once a temple to all the pagan gods — and dedicated it instead to the Blessed Virgin Mary and all martyrs. Before a building used for false worship could become a house of God, the Church performed a solemn prayer of exorcism, casting out the spirits of darkness to make way for the true Light of the World.



In this beautiful sense, the very first "All Hallows' Eve" was a triumph: Christ conquering darkness, truth overcoming falsehood, and light shining where shadows once dwelt. All Saints' Day, then, is not about ghosts or fear. It is about heaven rejoicing. It is about the men and women who walked this earth and now shine like stars around the throne of God. As the old missal reminds us, this feast celebrates "Christ's triumph over the false gods of the pagans." Darkness does not win. Light does.

So, I am very happy to announce a special All Saints Challenge for Our Children! This weekend, as we celebrate All Saints' Day, I would like to invite You to take part in a very special and exciting challenge!

As we have seen, the true meaning of Halloween is not about darkness, fear, monsters, or frightening things. Its Christian roots remind us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, and that we are all called to become saints. So, at the Saturday Vigil Mass and all Sunday Masses, I invite every child to come dressed as your favourite saint, with an important condition! Each child should be prepared to tell us: • Who they are dressed as, and • Why this saint inspires You

You do not need to give a long speech. Just a few sentences will do. Tell us something special about your saint: a virtue, a courageous deed, a kind heart, a great sacrifice, or a beautiful love for Jesus. At the end, we will choose the saint presentation that is the most inspiring, meaningful, and heartfelt. Remember — we are not looking for the most expensive costume or the most elaborate outfit. We are looking for children who help us discover the real meaning of Halloween - beauty of holiness and the joy of following Jesus. The saints were the greatest adventurers in history. They crossed oceans, served the poor, defended the faith, cared for the sick, faced dangers bravely, and trusted God completely. They show us that the most exciting adventure of all is becoming the person God created us to be. So this year, let us leave behind everything that celebrates darkness, fear, ugliness, or evil. Instead, let us choose light, goodness, courage, faith, and holiness.

✨ Dress as a Saint. ✨ Tell us your Saint's story. ✨ Inspire the Parish. Who knows? Perhaps one day you will be a saint too! ***I am delighted to share that 17 people*** have already expressed their interest in joining our pilgrimage to Poland next year in September — thank You! Full details will follow very shortly, but here is a first

glimpse of this beautiful journey: We will travel together as foot passengers by ferry from Guernsey to Cherbourg in France. From there, a coach will take us across the border into Belgium, then onward — three days travelling through some truly remarkable, lesser -known places across Europe — before arriving in Poland, where we will spend seven days visiting beautiful, famous, but also unseen places that few tourist companies ever reach. We will then make the return journey together – again visiting a fascinating places and arriving back in Cherbourg for the ferry home.

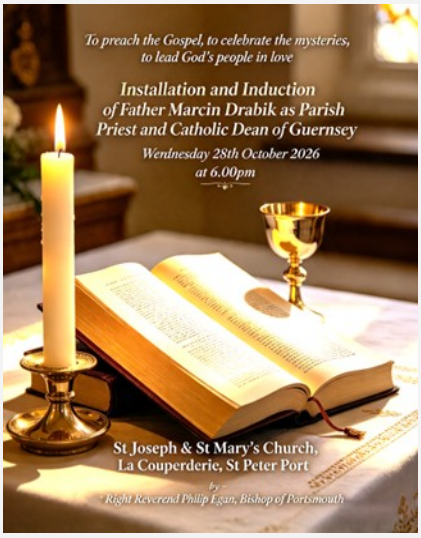


The faithful Fiat Panda that belongs to the Parish and was driven by Fr Inna many years is still waiting for a new home. If You would love to have this gentle reminder of him and continue its service in our community, please get in touch very soon. If we don't find a new owner among us, it will sadly be passed on to a garage to be sold elsewhere. It would mean so much for it to stay right here among those, who love Fr Inna so much

This coming Saturday — 31 October — at 2:00 pm, we'll gather at the Little Chapel, Les Vauxbelets, to pray the Rosary together. Then we will walk in procession — singing, praying, carrying our lights — to Blanchelande Cemetery, where we will begin the Month of the Holy Souls in prayer and thanksgiving. Please bring your lanterns or battery candles — let us walk together as a Procession of Light. ALL are very welcome.

On Monday 2 November - Holy Souls Day we'll gather at 4:30 pm at Le Foulon Cemetery for a special service of prayer and blessing of the graves. It will be a beautiful moment to remember our beloved deceased, to pray beside their resting places, and to entrust them once more to God's loving care. Everyone is most warmly welcome.

You may have heard that the Church offers something very special during these first days of November — the gift of a Plenary Indulgence. But what does this truly mean? Please, think of it this way: when a loved one is journeying home after a long, difficult time away, we don't just wait — we go out to meet them. We prepare the way. That is what the Church does for our faithful departed. A plenary indulgence is not something we "earn" — it is a gift of Christ's mercy, won for us on the Cross, which the Church applies through her prayers to souls still being purified in God's love. From All Saints Day through 8 November, the Church grants a plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in Purgatory, to the faithful who: • Visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed - • Go to Confession - • Receive Holy Communion; - • Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (one Our Father and one Hail Mary); - • Are free from all attachment to sin, even venial sin. It is one of the most beautiful things we can do for those we love — to walk with them in prayer, to help them home to God. As Saint John Paul II said: "The Church on earth, the Church in heaven, and the Church still on the way — they are not divided. They are one great family." Let us love one another across the threshold of death. It is the love that never ends.



It has been such a blessing to walk with You these past weeks. Many of You have been away or travelling, and I know life is busy — but from my heart, I want to extend to each of You a warm, open invitation: on Wednesday 28 October at 6:00 pm, in the Church of St Joseph & St Mary, I will be formally installed and inducted by Bishop Philip Egan as your Parish Priest of Our Lady and the Saints of Guernsey, and also as Catholic Dean of Guernsey — including our beautiful parish of St Anne and St Mary Magdalene in Alderney. It will be a joyful evening — with our Bishop, clergy from across our islands, and representatives from our community. But most of all, it will be a moment for us — for our family of faith — to pray together, to give thanks, and to begin this new chapter hand in hand. Whether You have been here a lifetime or are just finding your way home — You are welcome here. Come, bring your smile, your prayers, and your heart. I would be truly, deeply delighted to see You there. Let us rejoice together as one family in Christ.

With our love, our prayers, and our gratitude - Fr Marcin & Fr Benedict