# 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

**'We are one Family under GOD'**



## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
**8th NOVEMBER 2026**
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: FOR YOU MY SOUL IS THIRSTING, O'LORD MY GOD.**

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|---|---|---|---|
| Sat 7th | **OUR LADY ON SATURDAY** | | |
| | **St. J** | 10.00am | Mass: Sister Carmel RIP |
| | **St. J** | 10.30am | **Rosary** |
| | **St. J** | 2.00pm | **Meeting with Altar servers** |
| | **FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY** | | |
| | **OLSS** | 6.00pm | Mass: Wilfred & Christopher Cochrane RIP |
| **Sun 8th Nov** | **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter week 4)** | | |
| | **St. J** | 8.00am | Mass: Gerald & Mello Fitzmaurice RIP † |
| | **OLSS** | 9.15am | Mass: People of the Parish |
| | **St. J** | 10.30am | Mass: Dead of all wars |
| | **ND** | 5.30pm | **Rosary** |
| | **ND** | 6.00pm | Mass: Rev Auguste Boone RIP (FM) |
| Mon 9th | **THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA, FEAST** | | |
| | **St. J** | 7.30am | Mass: Private Intentions |
| | **OLSS** | 11.30am | **Rosary** |
| | **OLSS** | 12noon | Mass: For the Deceased whose names are entrusted to our Parish to pray for. |
| Tues 10th | **ST LEO THE GREAT, POPE, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH, MEMORIAL** | | |
| | **St. J** | 9.30am | Mass: Brian White RIP (FM) & Paula Gaudion & Family (FM) |
| | Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am | | |
| Wed 11th | **ST MARTIN OF TOURS, RELIGIOUS, BISHOP, MEMORIAL** | | |
| | **St. J** | 9.30am | Mass: Josette Schueller & Fred Hitchon RIP |
| | **St. J** | 6.30pm | Mass: Lorraine Murphy |
| | **St. J** | 7.00pm | *Exposition, Rosary & Benediction for Vocations* |
| Thur 12th | **ST JOSAPHAT, BISHOP, MARTYR, MEMORIAL** | | |
| | **St. J** | 9.30am | Mass: Our Lady of Fatima |
| | Exposition of the blessed sacrament until 10.30am | | |
| | **St. J** | 11.30am | **Requiem Mass:** Valerie De La Fosse |
| | **OLSS** | 6.00pm | Mass: Ann Martin RIP |
| Fri 13th | **St. J** | 7.30am | Mass: Fr Phillip Law |
| | **LP** | 11.00am | Mass: Joan Alliss & Cindy GE (FM) |
| | **CFP** | 7.30pm | **Rosary** |
| Sat 14th | **OUR LADY ON SATURDAY** | | |
| | **St. J** | 10.00am | Mass: Deceased Members of The Legion |
| | **St. J** | 10.30am | **Rosary** |
| | **FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY** | | |
| | **OLSS** | 6.00pm | Mass: Brian Devenport |
| **Sun 15th Nov** | **THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Psalter week 1)** | | |
| | **St. J** | 8.00am | Mass: Stephen & Bina Lee RIP † |
| | **OLSS** | 9.15am | Mass: Holy Souls |
| | **St. J** | 10.30am | Mass: People of the Parish |
| | **ND** | 5.30pm | **Rosary** |
| | **ND** | 6.00pm | Mass: John & Mary Sigwart RIP (FM) |

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

# PRAYER VIGIL
## with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST, 7PM-10PM**
**at Delancey Church**
**PRAYING FOR OUR PARISH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY THE YOUTH.**
**JOIN US FOR HYMNS, PRAYERS, AND TIMES OF SILENCE.**
**COME FOR A SHORT TIME OR THE WHOLE EVENING.**



**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 charismatic Prayer Group will be meeting on Monday November 9th 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

**UCM**

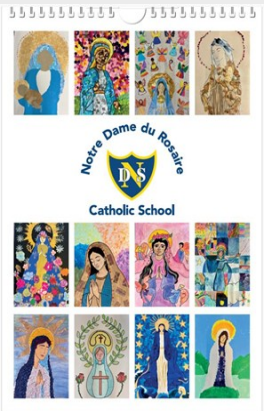
The UCM will meet on Tuesday November 10th at 7pm in the parish room. They are having a greener Christmas with 'The Greenings' you need to wear your Christmas Jumpers please bring any colourful material bits and scissors.
There will also be a raffle

**COFFEE MORNING – THIS WEDNESDAY - 11th NOVEMBER.**

The Parish room at St Joseph's will be open for tea/coffee and cake on WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11th and on every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Drop in any time between 9.30-11.30am. **Everyone is very welcome!**

**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




**CALENDERS**

**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







**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR**

**Bishop Philip (Born 14.11.1955)**
Father Phillip Law for healing
Le Platon Home & all in residential & Nursing Care
All who are Sick and housebound in the parish
The Dead of the Wars
For the Homeless

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED & ANNIVERSARIES**

**Valerie De La Fosse** whose Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 12th November at 11.30am in St. Josephs

**Helen Dyke** whose Requiem Mass will be on Saturday 5th December at 12noon in St. Josephs Church.

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

**OFFERTORY: £3830.00** (Inc standing orders and donations through the website and Dona card machines)
**Attendance numbers:589**
**Bamenda Sunday: £1936.00**

**WINGS (World in Need Group)**

collection on Saturday/Sunday 14th and 15th November. Thank you all so much for your continued generosity. The Holy Family Children's Home in Bethlehem and CAFOD Venezuela Earthquake appeal each received £950 from the last collection. Your donations this time will go to the

**CAFOD Advent Winter Appeal**

CAFOD Partners Caritas Jerusalem work in the camps supporting vulnerable families such as Yasmine, a mother with a small baby with essential supplies and mobile medical clinics

**Yasmine's family have been forced to flee more than once and now live in a camp in Gaza. Without the supplies they need to stay warm, or access to proper medical care, many families are at real risk from serious illness in the winter months. You can see more on this appeal on CAFOD.org.uk. Thank you again for your generous support and your essential prayers for all those working in dangerous situations to support our brothers and sisters.**

**Thank you for your continued generosity!**

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

My heart overflows with thanksgiving for each one of You: for our Parish Family, for the gift of faith that unites us, and above all for the Lord Jesus, truly present among us in the Holy Sacraments, especially in the Most Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian life.

This past week brought many moments of grace, and I would like to share some of them with You (I wish I will have space to tell You everything).

One of the greatest joys was meeting the parents and children who are beginning their journey towards the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. It was a profound privilege to spend time with these families and to witness something the Church has always taught: that parents are the first, the best and most important teachers of the faith. I often think of parents as the first gardeners of the soul. The Church and our Catholic schools provide guidance, support, and nourishment, but it is within the home that the seeds of faith are first planted and lovingly nurtured. It is there that children learn to pray, to trust in God, and to recognise His presence in their lives. It is there that they begin to discover that Jesus did not simply leave us a teaching, but gave us Himself in the Holy Eucharist. I was deeply moved by the openness, generosity, and enthusiasm of the parents. The response to our gathering has been extraordinary. Many families have written to express their gratitude and their commitment to this sacred journey. This fills me with hope. The promises made at Baptism were never meant to be a burden but a beautiful calling: to lead children towards Christ, who waits for them with love in Confession and at the altar. May the Holy Spirit strengthen these families, and may Our Lady watch over every child preparing to receive her Son, and our every catechist, who dedicate their time and skills to lead them.



***We also give thanks for the beautiful Rosary Procession on the final Saturday of October***. Walking together from the Little Chapel to Blanchelande Cemetery beneath an unexpected autumn sun was a wonderful way to conclude the Month of the Rosary and to enter November, the month in which we remember and pray especially for the Holy Souls.

On All Souls' Day (last Monday), Fr Benedict and I were privileged to celebrate three Holy Masses each for the faithful departed. This special permission, granted by the Church on that day alone, reflects her deep maternal desire that the fruits of Christ's sacrifice may be applied abundantly to those undergoing purification. From the earliest centuries, Christians have entrusted their beloved dead to the prayer of the Church and, above all, to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There is no greater gift we can offer them than to place them into the merciful heart of Christ, who alone saves and sanctifies. We are equally grateful for the people who gathered at Le Foulon Cemetery to pray for the deceased. Together we blessed graves, remembered loved ones, prayed for priests who served the Church in Guernsey before us, and honoured the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy who rest there. It was a moving reminder that death does not break the bonds of Christ's family. We remain united in Him: one Church in heaven, on earth, and awaiting glory. After a full and busy day, it was a grace simply to rest in the presence of the Holy Spirit and to allow the Lord to renew our hearts through prayer and song, with our Holy Spirit Group, who gather every Monday evening. ***I would also like to express my sincere gratitude for the many Mass cards***, prayers, and messages I have received since my installation as your Parish Priest. Knowing that Holy Mass is being offered for me in churches and chapels across the world is a gift beyond measure. In the Eucharist there are no distances. We are joined together in the one sacrifice of Christ and in the communion of His Church. Thank You for praying that I may always strive to be a faithful and holy priest according to the Sacred Heart of Christ.





***Finally for this time, last week we welcomed the Diocesan Estates Team*** for a three-day visit to our Parish. Together we reviewed our churches, presbyteries, schools, halls, meeting rooms, and all the buildings entrusted to our care. They assessed their condition, identified future priorities, and helped us gain a clearer understanding of the work that lies ahead. As they walked through our Parish properties, I found myself reflecting on the image of the faithful steward from the Gospel. A wise steward does not think only of today; he prepares for tomorrow. Our buildings are far more than bricks and mortar. They are places where children learn the faith, where families gather, where the Sacraments are celebrated, where the lonely find comfort, and where countless souls encounter Christ. This visit has given us a clearer picture of both our blessings and our responsibilities. In the coming weeks, our Finance Committee will present a fuller report so that together we can understand our situation and discern the next steps.

Yet none of this is simply about buildings. It is about people. It is about You, Dear Friends. For You are the living stones of this Parish. You are the ones who pray, who serve, who give, who sacrifice, and who keep the faith alive from generation to generation. The Diocese offers its expertise, the Estates Team their professionalism, and the Finance Committee its guidance, but it is the whole Parish Family that shares in this sacred responsibility.

We care for these buildings not for their own sake, but because they are instruments of God's work among us. We preserve them so that future generations may find here what we ourselves have found: a home in Christ, a place of prayer, a community of love, and a pathway to Heaven through the Holy Sacraments.




These coming weeks we'll commend to God's mercy beloved parishioners who have been called from this life during this time. Their places in our pews may seem empty, and their voices may be silent among us, yet they remain close to our hearts and present in our prayers. As Christians, we do not simply say "goodbye"; rather, we say, **"Until we meet again."** In Christ, who conquered death and opened the gates of eternal life, every farewell is transformed into a hope-filled promise.

We entrust our
Dear + Valerie De La Fosse RIP
and our
Dear + Helen Dyke RIP to the loving embrace of the Father.

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

