

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:

Canon Christopher Rutledge KHS (Day off Tuesday)

Assistant Priests:

Fr Inna Reddy Gade (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:

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 Priaulx

Assistant Secretary: Mrs Elaine McKay

Parish Safeguarding Minister:

Bridget Cowens: St Joseph

(01481) 701398 : 07781 467591

Youth Minister:

Tom Saddington: 07781 129310

VESPERS

Sunday 4.30pm at St. Joseph's Church

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday's:

St Joseph from 10.30am

Our Lady Star of the Sea 5.30pm-5.50pm

Sunday:

Notre Dame Church 5.30-5.50pm

Or by appointment

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Name: CDP Guernsey

Sorting Code: 309304

Account number: 00879070

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th April 2024

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE ON US, O LORD

Sat 13th	St. J 10.00am	Mass: Legion of Mary
	St. J 11.15 am	Baptism: Thomas Gerardo Lee-Priore
	St. J 2.30 pm	Legion of Mary Acies Service

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

OLSS 6.00 pm Mass: Wilfred & Christopher Cochrane RIP

Sun 14th April

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER,

Psalter Week 3

Organ

St. J 8.00 am Mass: Irene & Charles Horan RIP & Deceased Members & Friends of Shaw Family

Music Group

OLSS 9.15 am Mass: Manuel José & Antonio RIP

Sung/ organ

St. J 10.30 am Mass: Chidi & Geneviev Maduka for God's Divine Intervention

Organ

St. J 4.30 pm Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction

Mon 15th

ND 6.00 pm Mass: People of the Parish

Tues 16th

St. J 7.30 am Mass: Ananias Dos Reis Figueira RIP

Wed 17th

OLSS 11.30 am

Rosary

Thur 18th

St. J 9.30 am Mass: Maria Fatima Gonçalves RIP

Fri 19th

St. J 11.00 am **Requiem Mass:** Beryl Guezo

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

Sat 20th

St. J 9.30 pm Mass: M Isabel F Da Luz RIP

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass till 10.30am

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St. J 7.30 am Mass: Margaret McMahon-Keaveney G.E

LP 11.00 am Mass: Holy Souls (FM)

CFP 7.30 pm

Rosary

St. J 10.00am Mass: Jack Cotterill RIP

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

OLSS 6.00 pm Mass: Bridie Harnden RIP

Organ

Sun 21st April

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalter Week 4

Quiet Mass

St. J 8.00 am Mass: Josephine Plant RIP

Music Group

OLSS 9.15 am Mass: People of the Parish

Allegro

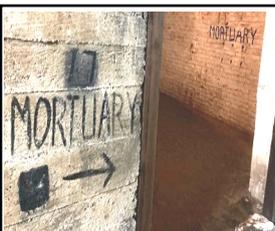
St. J 10.30 am Mass: Michael Tanguy RIP (FM)

Organ

St. J 4.30 pm Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction

ND 6.00 pm Mass: Beryl Guezo RIP

FM - Foundation Mass **CFP** - Centre For Peace



IMPORTANT MESSAGE – From Bishop Philip

The island is gearing up for elections and currently there is a concerted campaign to make legal assisted suicide and euthanasia. First of all, I wish you a very Happy Easter. I wish you many graces and blessings from the Lord. The death and resurrection of Christ gives us hope for our lives here on earth and the promise of eternal life with God in heaven.

I write because dark clouds are threatening the beautiful island of Guernsey. The Lord's death and resurrection remind us of two fundamental moral truths: 'Thou shalt not kill' (Ex 20: 13) and 'Love thy neighbour as thyself' (Mk 12: 31). These are commandments Jesus taught in His life on earth and of which He gave us a wonderful example. These commandments, 'Thou shalt not kill' and 'Love thy neighbour as thyself,' form the bedrock not only of Jewish and Christian morality; they are the teaching of all religions. To continue reading the article please go to the E-news at portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or pick up a copy at the back of the Church .



PARKING RESTRICTION

Please note that there will be no parking in the area behind St. Joseph's Sacristy on Tuesday 16th April to enable scaffolding to be erected for repairs to St. Joseph's Church roof. Thank you.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to all visitors who join us this week. Tea & Coffee are available after the **8.00am and 10.30am Masses** in St. Joseph's Parish Room and the **9.15am Mass** at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

OFF ISLAND

Canon Chris will be away 15th-17th April with his Support Group.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Through Him the children of light rise to eternal life and the halls of the heavenly Kingdom are thrown open to the faithful"

(Preface II of Easter)



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome in baptism at St Joseph's Church **Thomas Gerardo Lee-Priore**. Please remember him, his family and his Godparents in your prayers.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

The seminars are starting on Monday April 15th with the 1st of the 7 weekly sessions, entitled 'God's love' – 7.30pm in the parish room at St Joseph's with tea and coffee available from 7pm. Everyone is welcome. Do come along whether or not you were able to attend the introductory evening.

LAUDATO SI

Meet on Monday 15th April at 7.00pm St Yves Room at St Joseph's.

MOTHERS PRAYERS

Friday 19th April 11am (tea/coffee from 10.30am) Venue Christine's house: christineguernsey2014@gmail.com or 259995
www.mothersprayers.org

LIFE CHANGING MINISTRY

Ecumenical Breakfast (£8.00) at Les Cotils Christian Centre Saturday 20th April, commencing at 8.30am. Speaker Rev Jan Le Billion
The title of Jan's talk will be "**Flying High on the Wings of a Dove**"
Reserve your place with Jan by Wednesday 17th April, revjanleb@gmail.com or 07781 435420

DIVINE WILL PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday 23rd April 8.00pm at **Maud's House**.
Wednesday 24th April 10.45. **St. Joseph's Parish Room**.

COFFEE MORNING

The Parish room at St Joseph's will be open for coffee/tea, cake and a chat on WEDNESDAY APRIL 24th and on every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Drop in any time between 9.30-11.30am. This is a chance to enjoy a cup of coffee and meet up with others. Everyone is welcome!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS ROTA ST JOSEPH'S

Rotas for the period 21st April - 9th June 2024 are now available for collection just inside the Sacristy. **Please wait until the end of Mass before collecting the rota**. Thank you.

GUERNSEY PRAYER WALK 2024

Date: Saturday, May 18th, 2023 **Theme:** All Nations
Scriptural reference for 2024: Psalm 86:9 - All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. Further details to follow.

VOCATIONS

"Now by this we may be sure that we know Him, if we obey His commandments." Jesus makes Himself known to you through the vocation He chose for you. Do you hear a call to the priesthood or consecrated life? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke.
vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

IMPORTANT NOTICE - SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

TO ALL CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

AND ANYONE THAT IS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING

TRAINING EVENT

CHILD PROTECTION AND WORKING WITH ADULTS AT RISK

Julie Minal, the Diocese Safeguarding Training Officer, will be holding this event on

Saturday 11th May, 10.00am – 4pm at St. Joseph's Parish Room.

This is to receive updated training in relation to safeguarding matters with content being tailored to your roles in ministry. This is in accordance with the National Safeguarding Standards training which **must** be completed every 2 years.

There will be a mid-morning tea break and Lunch at 12.30; please bring a packed lunch.

Please confirm your attendance by emailing the Parish office or Bridget Cowens directly. 07781 467591 -

email: safeguarding.gueols@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you all.



AED Update

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have already spotted the bright green cabinet on the outside wall of the sacristy at St Joseph's.

The AED (defibrillator), which was located along at the organ, has now been moved into the cabinet and is ready to use as and when it may be required. This move means the AED is now available 24/7 rather than just when the church is open and so is available to the school and parish groups as well as the wider community. Also, by next weekend over 30 additional parishioners will have completed training on using the AED and as those trained come from all the Masses as well as the many different parish groups, somebody trained in using the AED should be as close to hand as the AED should the need arise.

Thank you to all who volunteered to attend this important training.

THE ISLAND PRAYER SCHEME

This week asks prayers for Parish church of Ste Marguerite de la Forest & Forest United Methodist Church.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

: Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child
: Parish Finance Committees
: The sick of the Parish
: Le Platon Home & all in Residential & Nursing Care

ANNIVERSARIES

Fran Henry, Mark Lynch, Phyllis Troalic and for all those whose anniversaries occur around this time. **May they Rest in Peace.+**

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Marie Maclure and all those who have recently died.
Beryl Guezo whose Requiem Mass will take place at 11.00am Wednesday 17th April at St Joseph's Church.
May they Rest in Peace.+

OFFERTORY

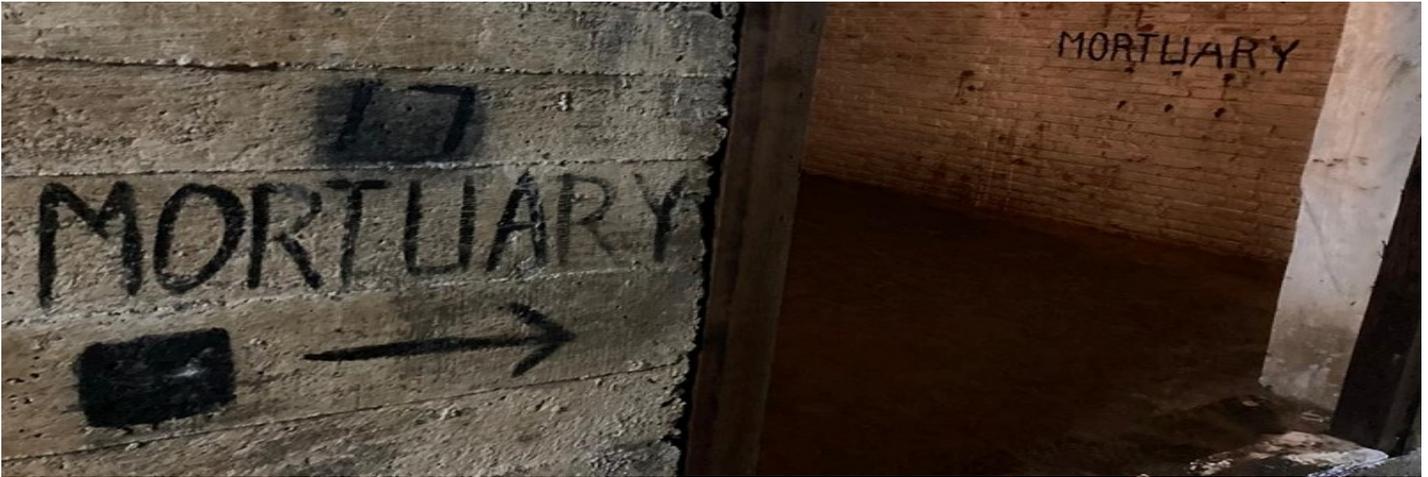
7 April £2,743.41 (Inc. Standing orders, BACS & Donate Button)

RETIRING COLLECTION

The retiring collection **Next** weekend is for Clergy Training Fund. Each year we make an appeal to support the Clergy Training Fund in response to the ever-increasing costs of training priests and deacons to serve in our Diocese. There is no state funding for seminaries or for the formation of permanent deacons and so the money required to provide each student with accommodation, living costs and tuition for a number of years needs to be found from the generous support of people who contribute to this fund. The Clergy Training Fund is also used to finance the on-going formation of diocesan clergy, whether it be for professional studies or to support the educational costs for those on sabbatical. Give As You Live Donation Page: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/clergy-training-fund-second-collection-2024>

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Message to Guernsey – Beware your life is in danger



9th April 2024

I have just issued the following hard-hitting Message to the Parish of Guernsey. The island is gearing up for elections and currently there is a concerted campaign to make legal assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Dear Canon Christopher and Parishioners of Guernsey,

YOUR LIFE AND YOUR WELL-BEING ARE UNDER THREAT

First of all, I wish you a very Happy Easter. I wish you many graces and blessings from the Lord. The death and resurrection of Christ gives us hope for our lives here on earth and the promise of eternal life with God in heaven.

I write because dark clouds are threatening the beautiful island of Guernsey. The Lord's death and resurrection remind us of two fundamental moral truths: 'Thou shalt not kill' (Ex 20: 13) and 'Love thy neighbour as thyself' (Mk 12: 31). These are commandments Jesus taught in His life on earth and of which He gave us a wonderful example. These commandments, 'Thou shalt not kill' and 'Love thy neighbour as thyself,' form the bedrock not only of Jewish and Christian morality; they are the teaching of all religions. More, they are instinctive principles written into every human heart and they ground the laws governing every civilised society on earth. Yet there are now dark forces at work in Guernsey in the media and public life actively seeking to undermine these principles. I refer here to the campaign to legalise euthanasia, or mercy-killing, and assisted suicide. (I don't use the term 'assisted dying.' I call it by the name of what it actually is: suicide).

Assisted suicide is gravely wrong for at least four reasons. First, it places an intolerable and immoral demand on medical staff, doctors and nurses. It asks them to ignore the Hippocratic Oath they take to preserve life, in order to extinguish life. Many a vet will speak of their grief at putting down a beloved family pet – "putting it out of its misery" - yet surely, we cannot treat an elderly relative in the same way? Assisted suicide would place medics in an impossible dilemma. It would ultimately undermine the trust we place in them. How would we know any more whether the doctor is working in our best interests?

Secondly, to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide would undermine palliative care and the work of care-homes. After all, it is easier and cheaper to kill someone than to care for them. Yes, frailty, pain and infirmity are a difficult trial and the terminally ill can experience despair. Yet, thanks be to God for the amazing advances medical science has made. Britain is a leader in palliative care with methods and drugs that can manage pain right to the end. The Church always works to relieve suffering but as a Christian, I would add that in union with Christ, it is possible to find from Him all the patience and energy we need to sustain suffering – to ‘carry the cross’ (Mt 16: 24) - and to turn it into a positive good for others. This is the meaning of Easter, when Jesus underwent death at the hands of those who had decided it was better for society to have Him extinguished.

Thirdly, the possibility of assisted suicide puts intolerable pressure on the sick and the elderly. It makes them feel they are a burden on their family and a financial burden. Yet when we love someone, efficiency and cost-saving is irrelevant. How can helping someone to commit suicide ever be compassionate? It is evil masquerading as a kindness. As one of your Deputies said recently in the newspaper: “Considerable savings could be realised if assisted dying was to be introduced here in the island”. Seeking to justify himself, he added “Many people don’t want to keep on living, and I think we need to put a figure on that.”

And fourthly, as in Belgium and elsewhere where assisted suicide and euthanasia have been legalised, the legislation gradually keeps creeping forward, expanding to cover more and more categories: sick children, people with autism, those with dementia, the depressed, the mentally ill, the handicapped and others whose lives someone else decides are not worth living. In Canada, almost 5% of deaths are now by lethal injection. Recently, I read about a Canadian doctor boasting that she had helped hundreds and hundreds of people to die: she said it was the “most rewarding work she had ever done.” This is chilling stuff.

I write to you now because your local politicians and pressure groups are raising the question of legalising assisted suicide and this is likely to gather momentum in the next few months before the formal election campaigns begin. I want to appeal to all people of common sense and good will to reject these alarming proposals, and to redouble the compassionate care of those who are terminally ill. Let there be no death-clinics in Guernsey. Don’t let Guernsey become a destination for suicide tourism. The right to die would inevitably become the duty to die - and the right to make another die.

I appeal to Catholics to mobilise. Don’t be persuaded by emotional pitches in the media. Speak out against this sinister proposal. Raise it with the candidates in the forthcoming elections. It is never permissible to use an evil means to do good. Suicide is a mortal sin and helping someone commit suicide is a mortal sin. For we believe in assisted living, not assisted dying. Death is not pain relief; it is the transition to a glorious new life in heaven with God our Father and Creator.

In Corde Iesu,

+Philip

Bishop of Portsmouth