Welcome to Fr Michael Peters who is celebrating Mass today, and to Fr Deva from India who will be celebrating Masses during the week.

Harvest Sunday: Today is Harvest Sunday when we thank God for the Harvest and the food we eat, and remember those in need. Please bring your gifts of food for Basics Bank and Poitiers Care to the altar following the Offertory procession. The readings are the normal readings for the 26th Sunday of Year C

Society of St Vincent de Paul: Today is the Annual Collection for the SVP group in our parish. We have continued, throughout in year, in our quiet way, visiting the housebound and those in hospital; supporting families, the homeless and lonely; transporting people to hospital appointments; taking the isolated out to lunch; meeting bills some cannot afford to pay; providing practical help if we are able. We are currently supporting a failed asylum seeker, a lady in her 40s, from Africa, with paranoid schizophrenia. This lady has no income other than £10 from the Red Cross for which she has to queue every week. So money is tight with these kind of commitments. We won't let her down and rely on you to keep us solvent for the next year. Thank you, as always for your generosity. St Vincent de Paul said: " ......It is only because of your love, that the poor will forgive you for the bread you give them". New members are always welcome to join us. Tel: Anne Dempsey 80552064

Children's Liturgy: A reminder that there will be no Children's Liturgy until November. We encourage parents still to bring their young children to mass and to sit near the front so that they can see what is going on. The children have been learning to join in with the sign of the cross and the Our Father so please help them to join in. There will still be the children's sheets as you enter the church.

Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration for Creation Time and the Feast of St Francis: Tuesday 4 October at 7pm. All are welcome.

We have a Facebook page: Immaculate Conception Church, Portswood

Christmas Fair Saturday 19 November: Make sure this date is in your diaries! We will be collecting donations for the Fair from next Sunday, 2 October. If you would like to help, please contact Carole Pierce 8055 3500 caroleapierce@gmail.com

Pre Christmas Sale on Sunday 9 October after both masses. This will be an opportunity for people to order goods and purchase gifts from stall holders. Remember to bring your purses!

Bake Off at the Pre Christmas sale: Anyone can enter, but cakes must be home made and will be raffled following the judging. Cakes will need to be in the hall by the start of 10.30 mass on 9 October as judging will take place during mass. Anyone interested please see Moira after 10.30 mass any Sunday or phone or text 077666 72506.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day – 7 October: This Harvest Fast Day, we are invited to join 32 year old Nicanora from Bolivia on her journey from poverty to abundance. Let us stand alongside Nicanora as she learns new skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family. Please pray for our work at this time and give what you can. Envelopes will be given out with next week's newsletter

First Holy Communion 2017: Enrolment forms are available in the porch. If you would like your child to be enrolled for First Holy Communion in 2017 and have been registered members of this Parish since before 1st September 2016, please complete one of these forms and post through the presbytery door. The Enrolment Liturgy will be on the Feast of Christ the King, 20 November. First Reconciliation will be on 25 March and Frist Communion on 17 June.

Eucharistic Ministers’ Course: The dates of the training course to become a Minister of the Eucharist are Tuesdays 18th and 25th October and 1st November (after Mass at 7pm), 7.30pm in the church. Registration forms are available in the porch (on yellow A5 paper).
Dates for 2017 diaries
- Saturday 18 March - Pastoral Area Retreat
- Friday 23 June to Sunday 9 July (provisional dates) - Pastoral Area Mission / Festival of Faith. This now has a name: it will be called Rejoice!

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): A new RCIA programme will start at Christ the King and St Colman church on 27 September, Tuesday evenings, 7.30-9pm. A Journey in Faith is for anyone who might like to explore the Catholic faith and for those who wish to journey towards the sacraments of initiation (baptism and confirmation). It is also for those returning to the Church and wishing to know more. Perhaps you know of a family member or friend who might be interested. For more information please contact the Christ the King Parish office 8044 9088.

Walsingham: The Bishops of England and Wales have asked that all parishes take a special one-off national collection for the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham on the weekend of September 24 and 25 (the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham is on September 24). However, since we already have a collection today for the SVP, this will be deferred to a later date.

I.C.Cools Youth Group and Dance and Drama: A reminder that there will be no meetings until November, because Sue and Steve are unavailable.

First Sunday: Next Sunday is the first Sunday in October when we will have the usual CAFOD cake and preserve stalls in the hall after both Masses. Please take cakes to the hall before Mass starts.

International Choir Practice: Today, after 10.30 Mass, and this coming Friday at 7.30pm, preparing for 10.30 Mass next Sunday.

Healing Day with Little Way Healing Ministries: on Saturday 15 October, 10am – 4.30pm, at the Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, SO17 1AQ. Fr. Laurence Brassill OSA and Mrs. Pauline Edwards and team offer a day of teaching and healing. Please invite relatives, friends and neighbours, no need to be a churchgoer or even a believer. Come all day or just pop in. Jesus said: ‘Lay your hands on the sick and they will be healed’…Come and see.

Catechists’ Day: Are you a catechist? Involved with Children’s Liturgy? Interested in becoming a catechist? Come to Portsmouth Cathedral on Saturday 15 October from 10 to 4 for our Day for Catechists with Bishop Philip. The day will include:
- Pilgrimage through the Holy Door
- Keynote speech by Bishop Philip
- Mass of thanksgiving for catechists
- Lunch provided
- Practical workshops to discover and help the work of catechists
- Times for sharing and discussion
Register: 01590 681875
ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Music at 10.30 Mass

Entrance CH 462 For the healing of the nations
Offertory CH 461 For the fruits of his creation
Communion The Lord hears the cry of the poor *
Recessional Christ be our Light vv 3-5 *
*words on screens

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Baptism Preparation in the Pastoral Area: The dates for the last 2-session courses in 2016, for parents wishing to have their child baptised, are Sundays 9 and 16 October, in Christ the King church hall, 1.30-3pm.

Office organisation
- Hall bookings are made through the Pastoral Assistant, Christina; please arrange your bookings on Wednesdays or Thursdays, the days she works, between 9.30 and 12.30am.
- Newsletter items should be sent to the parish email address portsmouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk (or put through the presbytery door) and should arrive by early Friday morning.

Money!
- Main collection last Sunday: Cash in basket £301.50; Cash in Gift Aid envelopes (inc tax) £130.62; Standing orders (inc tax): £1004.15
- Second collection for Home Missions last Sunday: Cash in basket £224.95; Cash in Gift Aid envelopes (inc tax) £172.41;
- The second collection today is for the Parish SVP
- There is no second collection next week

Furniture needed: One of our parishioners is in desperate need of some basic furniture, and would be most grateful if we could help her with donations. Items needed are a dining table and chairs, and a wardrobe, as well as four single beds for her children, ideally two sets of bunk beds. Your generosity and kindness would be much appreciated in these difficult circumstances. Please contact Anne Dempsey (8055 2064) if you can help.

Portsmouth People: The latest edition of our free Diocesan magazine is in the porch. Please take a copy.

Birthdays: Theo Aburrow, Anthony Pytel, Hannah Litterick

Rotas for October

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8.30</td>
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<td>Mary Fairchild</td>
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<td>Trevor Delves</td>
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Tea & Coffee: Nurian Watson

The bidding prayers in October are prepared by Dudley and Francine Plunkett