

☆ Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi ☆

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Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: **Father Anthony Ikhenoba**

Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke



PART OF THE LODDON VALLEY PASTORAL AREA

30th November 2008

First Sunday of Advent

• Offertory collection

23rd November:

Envelopes £119.46

Loose cash £385.87

Standing Orders £650.00

Total: £1155.33

• Special collection for CAFOD Congo Crisis appeal

raised the wonderful sum of

£1334.22

Thank you so much for your very kind donations

TODAY marks the start of

Liturgical Year B

in which we will hear mostly the Gospels of

St. Mark

A worthwhile wait for the Lord

When you have put time, energy and your resources into achieving something nice and great, you would naturally expect the best or at least a good result. You put in so much because of the value you place on that object or whatever. In most cases you know your goal and you are prepared to pay any price for it. In order not to lose what you have worked very hard for, you will indeed need patience and endurance all the way, because the wait can be long and painful; it might result in an 'I don't care' attitude and you may easily give up.

The coming of the Lord promises a lot of blessings to those who wait patiently till the end. While waiting for the Lord, your anticipation should be characterized by joy, happiness and peace. Not frustration and hopelessness; all these negative attitudes will surely give rise to lack of trust in the saving power of God.

If you prepare well, place your trust in God and wait patiently on the Lord, you will soon find out that it was worth the wait.

Fr. Anthony

CTEER invites everyone to celebrate Advent at an **Advent Service TODAY, Sunday 30th November,** 6.30pm at Earley St. Peter's Church. **Come and get spiritually festive!**

TODAY!

Fair Trade Christmas cards will be available at all Masses TODAY Sun. 30th November. Please see Joan Dils

REMINDER: TODAY

! **Sunday 30th Nov.** the UCM are holding their **Christmas sale after all Masses**, in the Advent Room. Come and support it and stock up on some pressies! All proceeds will go towards the Senior Citizens' Annual Dinner

DON'T FORGET to check Lost Property TODAY before it's all taken to charity shop

Did you ever hear the expression that money does not grow on trees?

There may be one exception!

! Our **2008 Christmas Giving Tree** will be erected at the main entrance to the church in time for next weekend (*i.e.* 7/12/08) and will remain in place for three full weekends. Many of you will remember how our Giving Tree works from previous years. This Christmas we intend to support the **"Churches In Reading Drop-In Centre" (CIRDIC)** who provide meals and access to a range of services to many in need across Reading (see <http://www.bjsmith.me.uk/ctir/cirdic.html> for more details). This year the Giving Tree will contain envelopes with suggested donation amounts (*i.e.* £3, £5 or £10), and the money raised will be used by CIRDIC to provide a new shower facility at the Drop-In Centre. If you would like to participate, please take an envelope from the Giving Tree and return it with the suggested donation amount to the box under the tree anytime before the last Mass on Sunday 21/12/08. Tax payers will have the opportunity to "Gift Aid" their donation. Many thanks on behalf of a very worthy cause



My Day by Day

- the **ADVENT edition** of this guide to Mass readings is now available in

Advent Room; **£1 each.**

Please leave money in basket

Also available -

My Day by Day Junior edition

(red cover)

- take one for your children!



Buy one of the **Family Advent prayer candles** in Advent Room and use it throughout Advent to guide you and your family in prayer. Take one "Part A" and one "Part B", then slot them together to make the candle. **Only £1 per set!** Please leave money in basket - thank you



Next Sunday 7th December we will be welcoming all our RCIA candidates at Sunday Masses. The Rite of Welcoming is the first step on their journey to join our faith, which we look forward to celebrating at Easter. **Please keep them all in your prayers and join in welcoming them to our parish community**

★ **ALL ALTAR SERVERS** - please put your names on the list in Advent Room (on notice board nearest main entrance) to indicate the Christmas Mass at which you will serve! Thank you all in advance

PLEASE NOTE!

From 5th Dec. the price of "The Catholic Herald" will be **£1.20** per copy

! **CHURCHES TOGETHER: CHRISTMAS LEAFLETS** Our allocation of leaflets for distribution in local roads is now in the Advent Room. Each bundle has been counted, so please could we have **volunteers** to deliver the appropriate bundle(s) of leaflets to houses in the named roads, **by ~mid-December?** Very few bundles have been taken... Take this opportunity to 'spread the word' in time for Christmas

CONFESSIONS available on **Friday evenings from 7pm-7.30pm**

! in the confessional

We have **gluten-free hosts** available for people with coeliac disease or for those sensitive to gluten

Youth gathering at OLOP: all 15-18yr olds are invited to join us for another **film/discussion group** on **Sun. 7th December** from **7- 9.30pm** in Lady Chapel. Just bring yourselves and a cushion to sit on. Refreshments served - no money needed!



MASS TIMES and PARISH DIARY 30th NOVEMBER - 7th DECEMBER



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTION	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 30 th Nov.	9 am 11 am 5pm	First Sunday of Advent	Bernie Pettit Laurie Aitken RIP Kathleen McAteer RIP	3pm-6pm: Pantomime Group meeting (Hall)
Mon. 1 st	NO MASS			8pm: Provisional KSC mtg. (Carl B. Room)
Tuesday 2 nd Dec.	9.45 am		Alice Willson RIP (Foundation Mass)	7.45m: Children's Liturgy prep. meeting (D.B. Room)
Wednes. 3 rd Dec.	9.45 am	St. Francis Xavier	Mr. John Battersby RIP	~10:20am: Prayer Group after Mass 2.15pm: Rosary prayed in church 8pm: Choir practice for 11am Mass
Thur. 4 th	9.45 am	St. John Damascene	Niall Durnin RIP	
Friday 5 th Dec.	7.30pm		Jude & Viran Gunasekera	6.30pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat. 6 th	NO MASS	St. Nicholas	12 - 5pm: Christmas Concert for Parkinson's Disease Group (in Church)	
Sunday 7 th Dec.	9 am 11 am 5pm	Second Sunday of Advent	Deceased members of Durnin / Harvey families Roselyn & Joseph Fernando Declan & Noreen Duffy (wedding anniversary)	3pm-7pm: Pantomime Group meeting (Hall & Carl Barton Room)

***** CHILDREN'S LITURGY during 9am and 11am Masses each week *****

***** CUBS Mondays 6.45pm / BEAVERS Thursdays 5.45pm / SCOUTS Fridays 8pm, each week *****



Please keep in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Z. Maratona (1991), Olive Henry (1991), Helen Nolan (1984), Alice Willson (1999), Michael Clarridge (1993), Eric Watson (1997), Diane Smith (2001), and James Eighteen (2005).



Our 5pm Mass on Sunday 28th December will be offered for all those in our parish who have given so generously to the Priests' Retirement Fund. Mass is offered annually at each parish in the diocese for all such benefactors



CHRISTMAS STAMPS This year there are two types of Christmas stamps - one depicting pantomimes and another of the Madonna & Child. You do not have to accept the pantomime stamps and can ask for the Madonna & Child stamps. If sales of religious stamps are negligible, the Post Office will discontinue any reference to the Nativity in future years. **Keep Christ in Christmas** - PLEASE use the RELIGIOUS STAMPS!

Life in the Spirit seminars CONCLUDE this Wed. 3rd Dec., 7.45pm at St. John Bosco

THIS WEEK!

Parish of Our Lady and St. Anne, Caversham invites all married people to celebrate the sacrament of marriage with Mass on **Fri. 5th Dec.** at 8pm. See posters for details

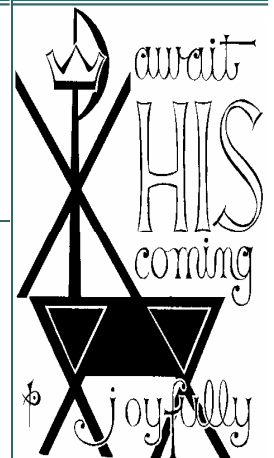
FREE student tuition! Peter Gunasekera (a qualified experienced teacher) is offering **free lessons** in **GCSE maths and chemistry** and **A-Level chemistry** on Saturdays, 3.30pm-4.30pm here at church. If interested please contact Peter on 0118 986 3692

Advent Penitential Services in and around our Pastoral Area:

- Tuesday 16th Dec. at 7.30pm - Christ the King, Whitley
- Wednesday 17th Dec. at 7.30pm - St. Joseph's, Tilehurst
- Thursday 18th Dec. at 7.30pm - St. John Bosco, Woodley
- HERE: **Friday 19th Dec. at 7.30pm** - **Our Lady of Peace & Bl. D. Barberi**
- Saturday 20th Dec. at 11am - English Martyrs, Reading

Advance notice - our Christmas Masses and services:

- Penitential Service - Friday 19th December, 7.30pm;
- 4th Sunday in Advent, Sun. 21st December - normal Sunday Mass times;
- Children's Carol Service** - Wednesday 24th December, starting at **5pm**;
- Midnight Mass**, Wednesday 24th December - starting at **11:30pm**;
- Christmas Day**, Thursday 25th December - Masses at **9 am & 11 am**
- remember there is **NO 5pm Mass on Christmas Day!**



SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN LODDON VALLEY PASTORAL AREA

- ♦ **St. John Bosco, Woodley:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **Christ the King, Whitley:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **St. Thomas More, Twyford:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10.30am.
- ♦ **Our Lady of Peace, Wargrave:** Sun. 9am.

Emergency contact numbers for Ministry of a priest:

- Fr. Anthony Ikhenoba **0118 966 3711,**
- Fr. Chris Whelan **0118 969 3423,**
- Fr. Bruce Barnes **0118 931 4469,**
- Fr. Vincent Flanagan **0118 934 0854.**

PLEASE CALL YOUR OWN PARISH PRIEST FIRST



PARISH OFFICE is open this week Tuesday - Friday from 9am - 2pm

