

☆ Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi ☆

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Parish Website: www.olop.org.uk

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: **Father Anthony Ikhenoba**

Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke

Hall bookings: hallbookingsolop@googlemail.com 0118 9875588



LODDON VALLEY PASTORAL AREA

6th December 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

Year C

• Offertory collection

29th November:

Envelopes £132.00

Loose cash £419.78

Standing Orders £629.20

Total: £1180.98

Thank you
for your kind donations

Voice of God in the noise

"The word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness" (Luke 3:3). Unlike John, we are distracted by non-essentials of life. These distractions can manifest in many forms to blur our focus. Our ultimate goal is to achieve our liberation and salvation from God. We need to focus on that goal all the time, but this is not possible unless we get rid of all



the hindrances that are in our way. Advent is a time of opportunity to intensify the journey of our salvation through prayers and good works. So rather than occupy our minds with activities that form mountains, hills and unlevel ground this Advent, our time should be spent more on those activities that will help us hear God's voice and discover what His will is. Ultimately what the Messiah will bring about is what Isaiah prophesied: "...And all flesh shall see the salvation of God". Isaiah heard the voice of God in the wilderness; open your ears and eyes to hear and see what God's plans are, even in the midst of the noise of our world.

Fr. Anthony

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present

See attached the **Advent Pastoral Letter from Bishop Crispian**, sent for last weekend

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues each weekday in Advent, 6am-6:55am

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS! CHRISTMAS LEAFLETS

with details of all local Christmas church services have been printed; some of our allocation for distribution to local houses is STILL in Advent Room. **Please could volunteers deliver appropriate bundle(s) of leaflets to houses in the LAST FEW named roads, by NEXT SUN. 13th December?**

THANK YOU to all helpers so far

Father Anthony will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving here on

Saturday 12th December

at **2pm**. Reception in hall afterwards. **All are welcome!**

Fr. Anthony is happy to chat to anyone interested in how he plans to make use of his degree



If you haven't yet signed the card for Fr. Anthony, it will be available for more signatures after all Masses today

THIS WEEK: **Come Sing for Christian Aid!** Come and join us for an evening of readings, songs and carols for Advent, here in church on Friday 11th December at 7.30pm, in aid of Christian Aid. **All welcome**; mulled wine & mince pies afterwards. See posters for details



Advent Giving Tree: A Christmas gift that shows we care

This year our Giving Tree is in support of the clients of **Christian Community Action (CCA)**, a local Reading charity helping people through spiritual and practical support. If you would like to participate **please take a label from the tree after Mass**. The labels provide suggestions for Christmas gifts that can be given to children & Mums via CCA. **Then return the gift with its label by placing it under Giving Tree** before end of the last Mass NEXT Sunday 13th Dec. CCA have requested that we do not wrap the gifts this year as this will make it easier for the CCA Mums to choose the most appropriate gifts. Our parish Justice & Peace group and CCA thank you in advance for your generosity



1 week to go!

Advent Penitential Services in and around our Pastoral Area:

Tuesday 15th Dec. at 7.30pm - Christ the King, Whitley
HERE: Wednesday 16th Dec. at 7.30pm - Our Lady of Peace & Bl. D. Barberi
Thursday 17th Dec. at 7.30pm - St. John Bosco, Woodley
Thursday 17th Dec. at 8pm - St. Thomas More, Twyford
Saturday 19th Dec. at 11am - English Martyrs, Reading
Monday 21st Dec. at 7.30pm - St. Joseph's, Tilehurst

NEXT WEEK



Our Next 1st Holy Communion

meeting is TODAY

Sunday 6th Dec.

at **2pm** here in church/D.B. Room



Latest issue of Portsmouth People is now available - take a copy!

THANK YOU to all who supported our UCM sale last Sunday. An amazing total of **£270.30** was raised from sale of goods and raffle of the Christmas cake, which was won by ticket #70 (Tony O'Neill!). Thank you all so much

Thank you from International Refugee Trust: see poster & lovely letter in Advent Room from Adrian, who visited and spoke to us last month

My Day by Day - ADVENT edition of this guide to Mass readings is available in Advent Room; **£1 per copy.**

Also available -

My Day by Day JUNIOR edition

Please leave money in basket



CONFESSIONS will be heard in the confessional on **first Friday of each month from 6.30pm**, before **Mass** which is at **7.30pm** on these Fridays; or by appointment



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTION	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 6 th Dec.	9 am 11 am 5 pm	2nd Sunday of Advent	Deceased members of Durnin/Harvey family Thanksgiving for our priests Eric Vinet RIP	2pm: <u>1st Holy Communion Session</u> (Church/D.B. Room) 3pm: Panto rehearsal (Hall)
Monday 7 th Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn.} NO MASS	St. Ambrose		8pm: SVP meeting (D. B. Room)
Tuesday 8 th Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn.} 9.20: Rosary 9.45 am	The Immaculate Conception	Frances Brannigan RIP	12 noon: Fr. Anthony - Mass at St. Joseph's
Wednes. 9 th Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn.} 9.20: Rosary 9.45 am		Helen Evans RIP	8pm: Choir practice - 9am Mass (Church)
Thursday 10 th Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn.} 9.20: Rosary 9.45 am		John Gallagher RIP	7.45pm: <u>Home Group</u> (at 8 Thyme Close) - NOTE CHANGE IN VENUE! 8pm: PPC meeting (D. B. Room)
Friday 11 th Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn.} 9.20: Rosary 9.45 am	St. Damasus, Pope	Margaret Tormey RIP	Fr. Anthony's graduation ceremony 7.30pm: Come Sing for Christian Aid!
Saturday 12 th Dec.	2 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe		1pm: Panto rehearsal (Hall) 2pm: Mass of thanksgiving
Sunday 13 th Dec.	9 am 11 am 5 pm	3rd Sunday of Advent	Peggie Bentley RIP (Foundation Mass) Anne & George Dalloz RIP Henryk Hosowicz (life celeb ^{tn.})	3pm: Panto rehearsal (Hall)

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

CUBS Mondays 6.45pm / BEAVERS Thursdays 5.30pm / SCOUTS Fridays 8pm each week in **HALL**



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

James Eighteen (2005), Bernadette Joyce (1984), Peggie Bentley (1989), George Tawfik (1980), and John Mackie (2005).



Rehearsals for this year's pantomime, 'A Midwinter Night's Dream', continue TODAY

Sunday 6th December from 3pm for all secondary school-age participants, then next Saturday 12th Dec. at 1pm, in the **HALL**



FROM YOUR PPC:

We will be seeking new members for the PPC early next year.

If you are interested, why not come along to one of the next meetings and see what we do – THIS WEEK Thurs. 10th December, or Thursday 14th January, at **8pm** in the Dominic Barberi Room



Special commemorative booklets now available in Advent Room covering recent visit of the relics of **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**. Price £3.50 each - **ONLY A FEW COPIES!**

Latest newsletter from **Blessed Hugh Faringdon School** is now available in Advent Room

FACING CHRISTMAS: An Ecumenical candlelit Service recognising that Christmas can be a difficult time and a challenge whether it is through bereavement, divorce, redundancy, illness or separation. Please join us at St. John Bosco on Monday 21st December at 7pm for this special service with refreshments afterwards ~ everyone welcome

Fancy a trip to Lourdes?

The parish of Corpus Christi in Wokingham is leading a trip to Lourdes next May, with Monsignor Jim Joyce in charge. Dates: 24th–29th May 2010. Cost: ~£600. SEE LEAFLET IN ADVENT ROOM. There are a few **spaces available** - if anyone is interested in joining the trip, please contact Fr. Anthony or Jane in the Parish Office ASAP

Christian Community Action currently has

2 JOB VACANCIES - see *yellow poster* in Advent Room



An Inspirational Idea for Christmas: Are you looking for inspiration for Christmas presents this year? If you want a gift for a music lover then you might be interested in a CD produced by a charitable group associated with our parish. There are two beautiful and inspirational albums available, "Kumbayaya & Izozo" by the **Next Generation Gospel Choir (formerly known as "The Angels Choir")**, and

"Anderson" by the solo artist of the same name who travelled to the UK with The Angels Choir. All proceeds will be used to directly benefit the artists in Nigeria who produced this music. These CDs are on display in the Advent Room and available at a discount price of £5 for one or £7.50 for both

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 Ikhonoba **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

