

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8th September

THIS YEAR, unfortunately, the celebration of the **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, 8th September, is eclipsed by the Sunday but we nonetheless take note of the feast. It is celebrated appropriately enough nine months after the Immaculate Conception (8th December). Orthodox and Anglicans observe the same date, though Coptic and Ethiopian Orthodox Christians keep the feast on 9th May. Usually saints are commemorated just on the day of their death but, in the case of Our Lady and St John the Baptist, both of whom were hallowed in their birth, there are ascribed birthdays, which are celebrate.

Scripture does not record Mary's birth. The earliest known writing regarding Mary's birth is found in the Protoevangelium of James (5:2), which is an apocryphal writing from the late second century, where her parents are said to have been Saints Joachim and Anna. The Protoevangelium of James describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. He and his wife Anne had been deeply saddened by their childlessness.

Mary's birth is said to have been in Jerusalem and the feast of the Nativity, like that of the Assumption, originated in Jerusalem.. It began in the fifth century as the feast of the *Basilica Sanctae Mariae ubi nata est*, now called the Basilica of Saint Anne. The original church built, in the fifth century, was erected on the spot known as the shepherd's field and thought to have been the home of Mary's parents. At Rome the Feast began to be kept toward the end of the 7th century, brought there by Eastern monks.

The scene of Our Lady's birth was frequently depicted in art, as part of cycles of the Life of the Virgin, such as that in Eton College Chapel. Late medieval depictions are often valuable records of domestic interiors and their fittings: at this period the setting was often in a wealthy household.

The winegrowers in France called the feast 'Our Lady of the Grape Harvest'. The best grapes are brought to the local church to be blessed and then some bunches are attached to hands of the statue of Mary. A festive meal which includes the new grapes is part of this day.



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

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St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley
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<i>Week 23 per annum [Year 1] [GREEN]</i>	
Sunday 8 th September	SUNDAY XXIIIC Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's <i>Pro populo</i>
Monday 9 th September	<i>Feria: Of Week 23</i> <i>[green]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's
Tuesday 10 th September	<i>Feria: Of Week 23</i> <i>[green]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's
Wednesday 11 th September	<i>Feria: Of Week 23</i> <i>[green]</i> Morning Prayer: <u>9am</u> St Mary's <i>[Ecumenical]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's
Thursday 12 th September	<i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i> <i>[white]</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's
Friday 13 th September	St John Chrysostom, Bishop <i>[white]</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House <i>Exposition: 3pm Hendred House</i> Evening Prayer: 5pm St Augustine's <i>[Ecumenical]</i>
Saturday 14 th September	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross <i>[red]</i> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's
<i>Week 24 per annum [Year 1] [GREEN]</i>	
Sunday 15 th September	SUNDAY XXIVC Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's <i>Pro populo</i>
Confessions: Sundays at 8.45am or by after any weekday Mass www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

THIS WEEK AND LOOKING AHEAD

PARISH CENSUS

A reminder to those who haven't filled in the forms yet. No one is too well-known or too marginal. We want to include everyone. Thank you!

ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Course is running again in Abingdon, hosted by St. Edmund's parish. Alpha is a wonderful opportunity to explore the main questions of life and the Christian faith in a relaxed, hospitable way. For those of no faith and also for those who maybe living their faith as a routine but would like to discover a closer relationship with the Lord. Starting in **late September**, there will be 3 parallel courses on Thursday mornings, Friday mornings and Sunday evenings. Please ring Clare 01235 847804

GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, **October 1st**. All welcome. We meet in the parish rooms at 7.30 pm and finish between 8.30 and 9.00. For more information, contact Denis Smith; 01235 765564; djbm.smith@ntlworld.com

CANONISATION OF JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

There are limited seats available for the Canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman. From **Saturday 12th to Tuesday 15th October 2019**. Includes Return Flights from Gatwick, half board accommodation in Rome Hotel, airport transfers, tour of St Peter's, and the Canonisation Mass. Please call Leisure time Travel 0151 287 8000, 07512 856 045.

RED BOXES

It is time again to collect your hard earned money that you have kindly put in your boxes. Time does fly doesn't it, so could you please get the boxes to your promoters, so that it can be collected and the results for the year be forwarded to the Missio Headquarters. On another note, everyone is invited by Bishop Philip to a Mass celebrating Missio Sunday at St. John's Cathedral on **20th October 2019** at 2 pm. Thank you again. Margaret Maytham.

PARISH COLLECTION

Last Sunday's collection raised £ 1065.05 of which 86.00% was Gift aided. .

FORTHCOMING COLLECTIONS

Home Mission Sunday: **15th September**
Our Lady of Walsingham: **29th September**

NEWSLETTER | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **Wednesday 10 am**

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

BAPTISM AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.



THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

Sr Catherine, Mary Wallace, Brenda Paddon, Alfie Bartlam, Jadvyga Adasko, Angus Clark, Karen Greig, Kitty Teasdale, Mary Mc Nichol and Katherine Eyston.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently and those with anniversaries at this time: *Joseph Champ, Irene Jane Gilbert, Nenita Young, Norman Mulford, Georgina Atkinson, Agnes Froud, Eddie Kelly, Vincenzo Fosella, Michael Higgins, Wilfrid Mulford, James Davies.*

HOLY FATHER'S SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION - May politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

CONFIRMATION (ADULTS)

Any Adults (16+) who have not been received into the Catholic Church, or who have not received the Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation, please speak to Fr Andrew. We run a fireside group during the winter months during which further consideration is given to these matters and whether to proceed formally.

CONFIRMATION (CHILDREN)

We are contacting parents of children aged 11 or over who may want to join our Confirmation Programme in the autumn. Have a word with Maria or Fr Andrew.

DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS AND CHILDREN LITURGY LEADERS

On **Saturday 19th October** from 10am to 4pm at Portsmouth Cathedral, lunch provided. A day to celebrate and give thanks for our Mission. A day to form our understanding of this mission, at the service of Jesus Christ. A day to discover how to foster intimacy with Jesus Christ. Book your place at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists

PILGRIMAGES

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES & SPECIAL SAINTS OF ITALY ✦ **16th-26th September** with Fr Marcin Drabik, cost £980pp includes airfares, shared accommodation, all meals and transport to sites. See stswithuns.org.uk/pilgrimage-sep-2019

ROME & ASSISI ✦ **11th-21st October** with Canon Dominic Golding. Please see poster in church or contact E_blessings41@gmail.com

HOLY LAND ✦ **10th-17th November 2019**. Cost pp £1,195, includes flights, accommodation, meals and full religious programme. Please see information in the porch. Bookings : aglowpilgrimages.com or call Jonathan on **0800 6894792**

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Please join us for a cup of coffee at St Mary's Parish Rooms after every Sunday Mass and at St Michael's Room on the **first** Sunday of the month.

Find us on  