

CAFOD's World Gifts

Jo Lewry shares news of the new CAFOD World Gifts that will be available this Christmas.

You can buy World gifts online just click here and catalogues are available in your church.

Winter survival kit £30

For vulnerable families living in remote, rural areas harsh winter weather can be devastating. They are often at risk from being cut off from the rest of the world due to avalanches, landslides and flooding. This gift can provide much-needed cash for families so they can purchase essential items like warm clothing, blankets, fuel, and food in preparation for winter.

'I am very grateful for the cash assistance programme. It has changed our lives.' Omar*, Afghanistan. Omar* lives in Daikundi province in Afghanistan with his family of eight. Daikundi region often gets cut off from the rest of the world during winter due to avalanches, landslides and flooding. *Name changed to protect identity Remarkable Radio £40

For people living in remote communities, radio is a remarkably helpful tool. This chatty charity gift can boost crucial communication in rural areas and raise awareness on vital issues. Radios help indigenous people whose lives are at risk for defending their rights and protecting the environment.

'Through this radio, communities are able to share their struggles, their joys and their hopes for changing their situations.' Iolany, Honduras

**Wednesday 6th December
Memorial of St. Nicholas**

The children's saint, the original Father Christmas, associated with mysterious, generous giving and the protection of the defenceless. Unfortunately, very little is known factually about him, except that he was the Bishop of Myra in Lycia in south-western Turkey at some point in the fourth century. It seems that he was born into a wealthy family and in becoming Bishop of Myra, he transformed it with his piety, energy and miracles. His cult was already flourishing in the East in the early sixth century and gained popularity in the West during the tenth century, and especially after his relics were translated to Bari in 1087. There are many legends about him. The most famous tells of his intervention to save the honour of three poverty-stricken sisters. Their father could not afford their dowries and in desperation he intended to give them over to prostitution. Hearing about this, Nicholas secretly came by the house at night and threw one bag of gold through the window on three different occasions. (Incidentally, this is the source of the traditional sign for pawnbrokers of three golden balls.) Nicholas is also said to have saved from execution three prisoners who had been falsely condemned, by warning the emperor of their innocence in a dream. He is also said to have rescued three sailors off the coast of Turkey. As the patron of children, Nicholas's feastday became associated in the Netherlands with the giving and receiving of gifts. Dutch settlers to North America created the modern figure of Santa Claus, by linking St. Klaes with the Scandinavian God Thor, a figure of reward and punishment, whose chariot was driven by goats. St. Nicholas is the patron saint of Russia, children, pawnbrokers, unmarried girls and sailors and the Secondary Patron of the City of Portsmouth.



HART FOODBANK

- Toilet Rolls
- Rice Pudding
- Custard
- Jam
- Tinned Pudding
- Instant Mash
- Tinned Potatoes



St. Swithun & St. Thomas More


A Parish in the North East Hampshire Pastoral Area of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

<p>St. Swithun (SS) Firgrove Road Yateley Hants GU46 6NH yateley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk www.stswithunsyateley.org.uk</p> 	<p>Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 1199568</p> <p>Parish Priest Fr Wojciech Paszko</p>	<p>St. Thomas More (STM) Mildmay Terrace Mount Pleasant Hartley Wintney RG27 8PN info@hartleywintney-catholics.org.uk www.hartleywintney-catholics.org.uk</p> 
<p>Parish Office & Enquiries at St. Swithun's Tuesday to Friday 10am to 12 Noon Secretary: Mrs Carole Williams 01252 872732 yateley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p>	<p><i>2nd & 3rd Sunday of Advent</i> <i>10th & 17th Dec 2023</i></p>	<p>Safeguarding Minister for St Swithun & St Thomas More: safeguarding.yat@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</p>

TWO WEEKS LITURGY SCHEDULE

(All services at St. Swithun's except for those marked (STM) held at St. Thomas More, Hartley Wintney)

Sun 10th Year B **Second Sunday of Advent**
(Missal 49/50)

6pm (Sat) 
8.45am(STM) People of the Parish
10.45am Paddy Goodman RIP

Tues 12th **of the 2nd Week of Advent**
7pm

Wed 13th **St Lucy**
9.30am Mary O'Donnell RIP
10-11am Mothers Prayer group
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thu 14th **St. John of the Cross**
9.30am

Fri 15th **of the 2nd Week of Advent**
9.30am Deacon David Morgan RIP

Sun 17th **Third Sunday of Advent**
(Missal 53/54)

6pm (Sat) David Pearce RIP
8.45am (STM) People of the Parish
10.45am

Tues 19th **Liturgy of the Day**
7pm

Wed 20th **Liturgy of the Day**
9.30am Ian Williams RIP
10-11am Mothers Prayer Group
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thu 21st **Liturgy of the Day**
9.30am Frederick Gough & Bridget O'Mahony RIP

Fri 22nd **Liturgy of the Day**
9.30am David Cox Junior & David Cox Senior RIP

Sun 24th **4th Sunday of Advent**
(Missal 80/81)
CHRISTMAS EVE

6pm (Sat) People of the Parish
Mass at St Thomas More HW
10.45am(SS)Chris Tevlin GE
6pm(STM) People of the Parish
10pm(SS)



Mon 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**
10am Lesley Huyton RIP





CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sunday 17th December
after the 10.45am Mass

Tickets are selling fast, please buy your tickets from the Parish office or after weekend masses.

£18 per person Child £10.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES IN OUR AREA

- **Thu 14/12:** 7.30pm, Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst
- **Tue 19/12:** 7pm, Holy Trinity, Church Crookham
- **Fri 22/12:** 7pm, Our Lady of Lourdes, Farnborough

Priests from the local area will be present to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) with people

FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY...

A SAVIOUR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 23rd December
St Thomas More: 6pm Mass
Sunday 24th December
St Swithun: 10.45am Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday 24th December
St. Swithun: 4pm Mass
St. Thomas More: 6pm Mass
St Swithun: 10pm Mass
(Carols begin at 9.30pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday 25th December
St Swithun: 10am Mass

THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday 30th December
St Swithun: 6pm Mass
Sunday 31st December
St Thomas More: 8.45am Mass
St Swithun: 10.45am Mass

We have begun a new Church Year. In the months to come our readings at Sunday Mass will largely be from the Gospel according to St. Mark, which is Cycle B.

This second Sunday of Advent we read, pray, and reflect on the hope God's plan gives us (*foretold by the prophets and fulfilled by the life and death of Christ*), and we meditate on the promise of Christ's coming glory-filled return.

Advent we begin our spiritual preparation to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Why not begin this New Church Year as a time of true peace and reconciliation? A time when you make peace with the past and unearth the genuine, holy person you have been created to be. Take care of your emotional life. The past is over. Forgive yourself and others for the mistakes, the pain and the misunderstandings. Lets all prepare together.



CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

Getting ready for Christmas involves preparing ourselves and our homes. So then lets not forget Jesus' home, our church, and make it look really special this Christmas. **Friday 15th December** after Mass, both cleaning teams will be cleaning the church, please if you can stay and help them that would make such a difference. Can we please have volunteers to help. So come along, do it to help celebrate Jesus' birth with love. If you would like to bring in a poinsettia for the sanctuary area, this would make a lovely display.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards are for sale in our shop with other Christmas items, please have a look after Mass on Sundays. We will also sell hand made cards. All profits goes to our Church.



CRAFT- GAMES & NATTER CLUB

Join our club, bring your own crafts, games or just come for a "natter". We will be meeting next on Sat 16th December at 10.30am to 12.30pm in the Parish Centre.



ROSARY FOR PEACE

The Knights' monthly Rosary is on Wed 13th December at Our Lady's, Kings Road, Fleet at 7.30pm with Benediction. Please do come and join us as we continue our prayers for Peace and those that are unwell.



LECTIO DIVINA

Will take place on Thursdays, 7pm, Parish Centre, Yateley.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Every Sunday after 10.45am Mass at St Swithun's. Please join us.



SUPPORT CAFOD WAR APPEAL

Cafod are collecting to help people at war. You will see that at the back of the Church we have a large poster, where you can write Christmas messages to other parishioners or friends, may be instead of sending out cards. Give a donation towards this appeal. Thank you.



STEP BY STEP

Step by Step provides accommodation and wellbeing support to over 1,300 young people each year. You can help them by donating to our Open Doors appeal. Please give the gift of a safe Christmas and the chance of a future without homelessness. Just £33 could pay for accommodating a young person for a night. Please visit www.stepbystep.org.uk/opendoors/ to donate or contact us at: fundraising@stepbystep.org.uk



YOUR OFFERTORY MONEY

Your Offering to the Parish is very important to us, and we thank everyone who are supporting the parish. We ask you to consider setting up a Standing Order, or do an online Bank Transfer.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT NAME

Please note that following the incorporation of the diocese from 1st January 2023, our account name has changed "Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocese Trust (PRCDT)" TO Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (CDP), therefore all cheques written to the Church, will need to be written to CDP from now on; this will also be the case if you wish to donate via bank transfer in the future. Our New account name is:

CDP YATELEY ST SWITHUN
Account: 00892220, sort code 30-93-04

CDP HARTLEY WINTNEY STM

Account: 01785711, sort code 30-93-04
Please put your surname 'offertory' in the transaction reference text so we can identify the purpose of the donation.

If you are a UK taxpayer please consider joining our Gift Aid Scheme. Forms are available in the porch or the Parish Office.

ST. SWITHUN'S 100 CLUB

Names of winners are displayed in the porch. If you would like to become a member contact the parish. office or speak to Graham Massey.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Lukasz Murawski, Julian Round, Peggy Fennel, Jean Warner, John Harris, Bob Fernandez.



FAITHFUL DEPARTED

May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



FIRST COLLECTION:

19/11: SS=£95;TM=£76.50
26/11:SS=£94.05;STM=£99

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

Many thanks for all your contributions

Keep praying for Peace in our world