



The Parish of St Mary, Portsea with St Faith's

Notices for 21st Sept 2025

14th Sunday after Trinity

- Today** **11.30am Meeting to plan Autumn Fair**
(Nov 1st) at St Mary's
- Monday Sept 22nd** **Noon Mass** at St Mary's (live streamed)
Feria – Week 25 at St Mary's
- Tuesday Sept 23rd** **9.30am Mass** at St Faith's followed by refreshments
Feria – Week 25 **6pm Social Justice Group** meets at St Faith's
- Wednesday Sept 24th** **Noon Mass** at St Mary's (live streamed)
Our Lady of Walsingham
- Thursday Sept 25th** **NO Mass** at St Faith's
Lancelot Andrews Diocesan Safeguarding Conference
7.30pm Royal Marine School of Music
at St Mary's
- Friday Sept 26th** **10am Mass** at St Mary's (live streamed)
Ss Cosmos & Damian **10.30am** by Coffee and Chat
- Saturday Sept 27th** **9.30am Prayer Space** at St Faith's
S Vincent de Paul **10am Just Ask** at St Mary's *come and enquire about Christenings, Weddings etc or simply 'just ask' something of the clergy.*
Vintage Kilo Sale at St Mary's
- Sunday Sept 28th** **8am BCP Eucharist** at St Mary's
14th after Trinity **10am Healing Eucharist and hymns** at St Faith's
10am Sung Mass at St Mary's (live streamed)
11.30am Exploring Faith Group at St Mary's
4pm Baptism Service at St Mary's

Please note we often take photographs at our services and events that may appear on social media – please let us know if this causes you any problems.

If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see included on these notices, please let us know.

Contact Parish Office

02392 814444

officeassistant@portseaparish.co.uk

Revd Wendy May

07341 569234

assocvicar@portseaparish.co.uk

Fr Bob

02392 822687

vicar@portseaparish.co.uk

Today (21st) We will be gathering at **11.30** to share ideas and thoughts on how we may run our **Autumn Fair** this year which will be on Sat Nov 1st. If you have ideas but can't come let us know.

Parish Quiet Day Saturday Oct 11th. This will be at **St Peter's on Hayling Island** and will be led by **Revd Jenn Camarind**. If you wish to attend, please contact Revd Wendy May

Social Justice Group Tuesday 6pm If you would like to be involved in our Social Justice activities (Hope into Action, Eco Church, Christian Aid etc) or help to shape what we do – then please come along to St Faith's or talk to Revd Wendy May

Thursday Please note there is **No Mass at St Faith's** – the clergy are attending a Diocesan Safeguarding Conference.

Thursday 7.30pm Royal Marine School of Music Concert – we welcome back the school of Music for the next season of concerts. If you would like to help with car parking or serving refreshments please contact Rosie, Maggie or Fr Bob

Saturday 9.30am St Faith's will be open for the morning for anyone to drop in and join us in **praying for the life of the Church and the Landport community**

Harvest Celebrations will be the **weekend of Oct 4th and 5th**

Starting with a **Messy Harvest** on the Saturday.

This will be **10am – Noon on 4th**. If you can help, then please let Fr Bob know

Harvest Services will be at **10am in both Churches on Sunday 5th**

Then we gather as a Parish for our Harvest Supper

This will be at **St Mary's at 3.30pm** on the Sunday; It will begin with a **Barn Dance with a live band** and then end with a **Supper at 5.30pm. Tickets are now available at £7 an adult; £4 a child.** Please encourage family and friends to join us for what should be a fun afternoon.

Our celebrations end with **St Faith's Patronal on Monday 6th at 7pm** at St Faith's Church

With Thankful hearts



PORTSMOUTH'S
Citywide Harvest

As you may remember over the last 3 years, we have joined with others in our Deanery in encouraging our Churches, Ecumenical Partners and other groups in our communities to join together in raising an awareness of the Harvest Season and the increasing food poverty in our society.

The pressure on Food banks, Larders and Pantries and others who distribute food to those struggling financially continues to increase. It continues to be a challenge to those groups to ensure a supply of food, as well as volunteers and funding. In this Creation season – up to 5th October there are many ways we encourage our congregations and communities to respond to God's generosity to us.

This can be done in all sorts of ways, but we hope you might like to donate **food to support the Robert's Centre** at our Harvest Celebrations

Or you may want to give some time as a **volunteer to help at the Fratton Pantry** – please let Fr Bob know if you could do this

In addition this year we are encouraging people to also perhaps make a **financial donation** to support **the Kitchen of Hope** based at St Simon's. You may have been aware of all the protests and tensions in our city around Asylum Seekers who are living in the city. It is important that we seek to do what we can to support those who are targeted as people, rather than an object of fear.

There have been discussions with the City of Sanctuary organisation about how best we may do this Revd Jackie Twine describes the Kitchen of Hope

Kitchen of Hope is a project that has been running at St Simon's Church, Southsea for over 18 months. The project helps asylum seekers and volunteers to prepare and cook food together from around the world. We share the meal with anyone who wants to join us in the spirit of fellowship and unity. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about each other's cultures and customs around a table of friends. Many asylum seekers (at the hotel especially), have limited access to cooking the food they love for themselves and enjoy this opportunity to cook and eat together. We feel it's a 'holy habit' and mirrors Christ's own tradition of sharing food with all sorts of people in the spirit of inclusivity without discrimination

God's Generosity

As the days turn colder, the Autumn leaves begin to fall, and the evenings get darker our thoughts turn to Harvest

This year we are joining with parishes across the country in reflecting on **God's Generosity.**

As we prepare for our own Harvest, we would like all of us to find time and space in the coming days to think about God's generosity

Then between Sept 28th and Oct 5th we will be asking you to think about our Gratitude and how we respond with Thankful hearts – but that is for next week.

Each day this week try to find 5 – 10 mins

to pause – perhaps light a candle – and reflect on the day.

As you are still and reflect perhaps read again the stories of creation in Genesis *(yes there are at least 2 stories in Chapter 1 & 2)*

In **Genesis** God creates all things and at the heart of that creation is humanity – He invites us to be stewards of all creation.

In the modern world we have become detached from that creation in many ways – and take so much of it for granted; **treating things as if they are ours by right, rather than recognising them as a gift.**

In the lives we lead we are often challenged by difficult situations or face issues that can overwhelm us. Our minds can become focused on the things that are wrong, or we do not want, and we fail to see beyond them to the gifts God continues to generously give us.

Look back at the last day and pray that you may see beyond the things that overwhelm us and may glimpse moments or signs of God's generous love.

As the week progresses perhaps **create a list of those things** and looking at it recognise **the breadth and depth of God's love and generosity shown towards you.**