# *The Parish of St Saviour and The Ascension, Portsea*

November 2026

Dear Friends,

Thank you to all who have commented on my letter last month which included some of my family history, I'm delighted that so many people were interested. Those who have gone before us will be particularly on our minds at the start of this month as we celebrate a number of feasts in close succession. All Saints' Day will be kept on Sunday 1st when we remember the countless Saints throughout the ages whose names are now forgotten, it will be our monthly Family Mass in both churches, in the evening we are invited to Evensong at All Saints' Church, Landport for their Patronal Feast; it will be good to show our support to our neighbouring parish and their Vicar, Fr Alex who lives in St Saviour's House. Monday 2nd is All Souls' Day, when a Solemn Mass of Requiem will be offered at 10an at St Saviour for all those who have died. We will remember our own departed loved ones and those who have died over the past year. This is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for those who we love but see no more, and to pray for their souls. A chantry list is available at both churches for you to add the names you would like to be read out at the service.

Sunday 8th November is Remembrance Sunday. The Sunday nearest to the eleventh day of the eleventh month, is a time for remembering those who fell in the defence of freedom, not only in two World Wars, but also in all the lesser conflicts which have shattered nations and peoples since and sadly continue to do – the people of the Middle East and Ukraine are on our minds. We look backwards to honour those who gave lives in war, but we must also look forwards to keep faith with them and use our energies to build the sort of world that they held dear. As last year we will be joined by the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides for a combined Remembrance Service at The Ascension beginning at 10.55am with the Silence. A Requiem Mass will follow at noon for those who wish to stay. There will be a short said Mass at St Saviour at 9.30am for anyone unable to attend the main service. There will be the usual Garden of Remembrance outside The Ascension, perhaps you would like to dedicate a small wooden Poppy Cross in memory of someone?

Sunday 22nd November is the last Sunday of the Church Year, the Solemnity of Christ the King, and St Saviour's Feast of Title which will be kept at 6pm with Festal Evensong, Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at St Saviour. We will be joined by a visiting choir as well as a number of visiting clergy and the usual Parish Party will follow. There will be masses in the morning at the usual times in both churches, but please make every effort to attend in the evening and invite your family and friends.

Our Countdown to Christmas Fair is our major fundraising events of the year. This can only be a success if everyone in the parish plays their part. There will be all the usual stalls, and more: cakes, jewellery, books, toys, raffle, gifts, refreshments..... Please do come along on Saturday 28th November at The Ascension from 11am-1.30pm), to grab a Christmas bargain and meet up with friends and family. There will be entertainment from the Graeme Mason Band and the Danielle Mason School of Dancing. We also need your help to sort through donations on Saturday 14th from 10am – noon and to set up on Thursday 26th from 4pm – 6pm. Donations of things to sell are urgently needed, please see the leaflets. We will also be visited by Father Christmas (from noon), who has agreed to meet any children who would like to pay him a visit! If you have any other ideas or suggestions for our fair please speak to Fr Benjamin as soon as possible.

Finally we will again endeavour to distribute a card to every household across both parishes, wishing them a Happy Christmas and including details of all our services. If you are able to help distribute these, even just one street, please sign up to a distribution route at the back of Church. We have had a good attendance at our Carol Services in recent years, largely due to the cards so thank you in advance for helping to spread the word that the Parishes of The Ascension and St Saviour remain alive and praying in a difficult world.

With my love and prayers,



Fr Benjamin.

*Parish Priest: Fr Benjamin Weitzmann*
*Tel: 02392 439711*
*fatherweitzmann@gmail.com*

www.ascensionportsmouth.org.uk

# *Calendar for November 2026*

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| Sunday 1st | **ALL SAINTS' DAY** | | |
| | **9.30am** | **Family Mass** | **St Saviour** |
| | **11.00am** | **Family Mass** | **The Ascension** |
| | 6.00pm | Evensong for Patronal Festival | All Saints', Landport |
| Monday 2nd | **ALL SOULS' DAY** | | |
| | **10.00am** | **High Mass of Requiem** | **St Saviour** |
| Wednesday 4th | 11.30am | Low Mass followed by Community Lunch | St Saviour |
| Thursday 5th | 3.30pm | Choir Club & Junior Choir | The Ascension |
| | 6.30pm | Evensong & Low Mass (BCP) | The Ascension |
| | 7.30pm | Parochial Church Council – Budget Meeting | The Ascension |
| Friday 6th | 6.30pm | Evensong & Low Mass | St Saviour |
| Sunday 8th | **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** | | |
| | 9.30am | Low Mass | St Saviour |
| | **10.55am** | **Combined Service of Remembrance** | **The Ascension** |
| | **12noon** | **Low Mass of Requiem** | **The Ascension** |
| Monday 9th | 10.00am | Low Mass | St Saviour |
| | 7.30pm | Deanery Synod | *St Philip's, Cosham* |
| Wednesday 11th | 11.30am | Low Mass followed by Community Lunch | St Saviour |
| Thursday 12th | 3.30pm | Choir Club & Junior Choir | The Ascension |
| | 5.30pm | Confirmation Class | The Ascension |
| | 6.30pm | Rosary and Devotions | The Ascension |
| | 7.00pm | Society of Mary & Walsingham Requiem Mass | The Ascension |
| Friday 13th | 6.30pm | Evensong & Low Mass | St Saviour |
| Saturday 14th | 10.00am | Countdown to Christmas Fair – Preparation | The Ascension |
| Sunday 15th | **THE 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** | | |
| | **9.30am** | **Parish Mass & Sunday School** | **St Saviour** |
| | **11.00am** | **Parish Mass** | **The Ascension** |
| Monday 16th | 10.00am | Low Mass | St Saviour |
| Wednesday 18th | 11.30am | Low Mass followed by Community Lunch | St Saviour |
| Thursday 19th | 3.30pm | Choir Club & Junior Choir | The Ascension |
| | 5.30pm | Confirmation Class | The Ascension |
| | 6.30pm | Evensong & Low Mass | The Ascension |
| Friday 20th | | No Mass | |
| Sunday 22nd | **CHRIST THE KING** (ST SAVIOUR'S FEAST OF TITLE) | | |
| | **9.30am** | **Parish Mass** | **St Saviour** |
| | **11.00am** | **Parish Mass & Benediction** | **The Ascension** |
| | **6.00pm** | **Festal Evensong, Procession & Benediction** | **St Saviour** |
| Monday 23rd | 10.00am | Low Mass | St Saviour |
| Wednesday 25th | 11.30am | Low Mass followed by Community Lunch | St Saviour |
| Thursday 26th | 3.30pm | Choir Club & Junior Choir | The Ascension |
| | 4.00pm | Countdown to Christmas Fair - Setup | The Ascension |
| | 5.30pm | Confirmation Class | The Ascension |
| | 6.30pm | Evensong & Low Mass | The Ascension |
| Friday 27th | 6.30pm | Evensong & Monthly Requiem Mass | St Saviour |
| Saturday 28th | **11.00am** | **Countdown to Christmas Fair** | **The Ascension** |
| Sunday 29th | **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** | | |
| | **9.30am** | **Parish Mass & Sunday School** | **St Saviour** |
| | **11.00am** | **Parish Mass** | **The Ascension** |