

**Pope Saint John Paul II**

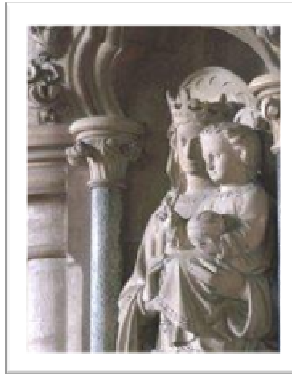
**THE MYSTERY OF THE VINE**

*I AM the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Jn 15:5*

**THE PROPHETS** in the Old Testament used the image of the vine to describe the chosen people. Israel is God's vine, the Lord's own work, the joy of his heart: "I have planted you a choice vine" (Jer 2:21;... "My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines ..." (Is 5:1-2). Jesus himself once again takes up the symbol of the vine and uses it to illustrate various aspects of the Kingdom of God: "A man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a pit for the winepress, and built a tower and let it out to tenants and went into another country" (Mk 12:1; cf. Mt 21:28 ff.). John the Evangelist invites us to go further and leads us to discover the mystery of the vine: it is the figure and symbol not only of the People of God, but of Jesus himself. He is the vine and we, his disciples, are the branches. He is the "true vine", to which the branches are engrafted to have life (cf. Jn 15:1 ff.).

The Second Vatican Council, making reference to the various biblical images that help to reveal the mystery of the Church, proposes again the image of the vine and the branches: "Christ is the true vine who gives life and fruitfulness to the branches, that is, to us. Through the Church we abide in Christ, without whom we can do nothing (Jn 15:1-5)". The Church herself, then, is the vine in the gospel. She is mystery because the very life and love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the gift gratuitously offered to all those who are born of water and the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5), and called to relive the very communion of God and to manifest it and communicate it in history (mission): "In that day", Jesus says, "you will know that I am in my Father and you in me, and I in you" (Jn 14:20).

**Excerpt from *Christifideles laici*, 1988**



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire-  
Thames ISIS Pastoral Area  
www.thamesisis.org.uk  
**EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH**  
St Mary's Church, East Hendred  
St Patrick's Church, East Ilsley

hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
Parish Priest: The Revd Mgr Andrew Burnham  
01235 835038 or 07976 437979  
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<b>Sunday</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's Baptisms: 12.30pm St Mary's	<b>Year B: Office Week 4</b> [white] Pro populo Pro populo
<b>Monday</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND</b> School Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[red]
<b>Tuesday</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Of the Fourth Week of Easter</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[white]
<b>Wednesday</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>St Mark , Evangelist</b> NO MASS TODAY	[red]
<b>Thursday</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Of the Fourth Week of Easter</i> Mass: 9.15am St Mary's	[white] FM Alphonse & Rosalie Bays 1954
<b>Friday</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Of the Fourth Week of Easter</i> Mass: 8.30am Hendred House Adoration: 3pm Hendred House	[white]
<b>Saturday</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Of the Fourth Week of Easter</i> No Mass: Mass 9.30am at English Martyrs, Didcot	[white]
<b>Sunday</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Mass: 9.30am St Mary's Mass: 11.15am St Patrick's Baptism: 12.30pm St Mary's	<b>Year B: Office Week 1</b> [white] Pro populo Pro populo
	<b>Confessions: Sundays at 8.45am or by appointment</b> www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	

## THIS WEEK AND LOOKING AHEAD

### SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

There will be a retiring collection to support the Clergy Training Fund.

### DEPUTY LEADER, CALLED & GIFTED TEAM

The Deputy Leader will be responsible for much of the Called and Gifted process in the Diocese. They will work closely with Clare Simpson, the current Team Leader, to learn and take on a significant portion of her current work. This role is part time (3 days a week). Deadline for applications **25<sup>th</sup> April**. Starting date end of April. For more details and how to apply, please go to the vacancies page at [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### ENCOUNTER THE HOLY SPIRIT

from the WILD GOOSE video series produced by the Franciscan Friars. Saturday afternoons 2-3.30pm at St Edmund's Church Parish Centre. **28<sup>th</sup> April** The Breath of God; 5<sup>th</sup> May Baptism in the Spirit & Fire; 12<sup>th</sup> May Gifts of the Holy Spirit. For details phone (01235) 528528.

### REFUGEE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Diocese is currently looking to employ someone in this role. The post is part-time (14 hrs per week). This is an exciting new role, representing the Diocese of Portsmouth and acting to promote, develop and coordinate the Community Sponsorship model of refugee resettlement within the Diocese. Deadline for applications **1<sup>st</sup> May**. For more information please see advert in the church.

### GATHERING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Our next two meetings will be on Tuesdays, **May 8<sup>th</sup>** and June 5<sup>th</sup>. We shall be reading chapters 2 and 3 of Paul's letter to the Romans to help us discuss and pray. Parish rooms, 7.30 pm; coffee and biscuits; finish 8.30 – 9.00.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT NEEDED AT ST AMAND'S

The Governors of St Amand's Catholic Primary School East Hendred are looking to recruit a full-time teaching assistant for a one year fixed term contract to support children with a range of Special Educational Needs from September 2018 (24 hours per week. Salary: Grade 4: 11-13; £15,807- £16,491 pro rata. Please contact the office to arrange an appointment or find out further details: [office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk)

### PARISH COLLECTION

Last Sunday collection was £1190.92 of which % 79.5 was Gift Aided.

### FORTHCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

World Communications: 28<sup>th</sup> May



**NEWSLETTER** | Please send all notices for next week's Newsletter to Maria at [hendred@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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, Jadyga Adasko, Angus Clark and Ann McCarthy.* Names remain for four weeks.

### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Those who have died recently especially the Revd Clive Holmes and those with anniversaries at this time: *Sarah Hunt, Fr Jose Antonio, Louisa Goddard, Joseph Goddard, George Barr, Frank Mullen, Peter Crozier, Henry Hunt and Sarah Hatto.*

**HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION - Universal: For those who have Responsibility in Economic Matters.** That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths.

We have heard with sadness of the death of the Revd Clive Holmes. We extend our prayers and sympathy at this time to Chris, Kate, and the family.

### THE SILENT MUSIC OF CARMEL - COURSE ON PRAYER

A short course including on prayer on Thursday evenings in May starting the **3<sup>rd</sup> May**, from 7-8.30 pm at the Carmelite Priory. Please see poster in church for more details.

### MARCH FOR LIFE 2018 IN LONDON

On **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May**. Family, friendly, life-fest starts at 9.30am and ends at 4.15pm. Children Zone, music, workshops, Confessions, stalls, and much more. 1pm march to Parliament Square for speakers. This event takes place a week after the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into force. Please see poster in church for more information.

### CONFESSIONS

Every Catholic in good standing is asked to make his or her Confession at least once a year, sometime around Easter. There is no obligation to do this in one's own parish or with a priest whom one knows. The Easter period of grace extends until Pentecost.

### POPE FRANCIS CONFIRM VISIT TO IRELAND FOR WMOF2018

Pope Francis will take part in the 9<sup>th</sup> World Meeting of Families in Ireland in August 2018. For more information please go to [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Pope-Francis](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/Pope-Francis)

### JUNIOR CHURCH AND PRE-SCHOOLERS SESSION

During the forthcoming Summer term, there are some preschool sessions that do not have a leader. Resources will be left out for parents to use with their children BUT if you feel you could lead a session, especially if you are a parent of a preschool child, please speak to one of the current volunteers or contact Libby at [libbyholderness1@aol.com](mailto:libbyholderness1@aol.com). Thank you.