



St. Swithun & St. Thomas More



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

St. Swithun (SS) Firgrove Road Yateley Hants GU46 6NH yateley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk www.stswithunsyateley.org.uk	Parish Office & Enquiries at St. Swithun's Tuesday to Friday 10am to 12 Noon Secretary: Mrs Carole Williams 01252 872732 or 07831 307063 yateley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	Charity No. 1199568 Parish Priest Fr Wojciech Paszko	WEEKLY NEWS <i>Easter Sunday & 2nd Sunday of Easter</i> 31/03 & 07/04 2024 Year B	Safeguarding Minister for St Swithun & St Thomas More: safeguarding.yat@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	St. Thomas More (STM) Mildmay Terrace Mount Pleasant Hartley Wintney RG27 8PN info@hartleywintney-catholics.org.uk
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Sun 31st Easter Sunday
(Missal 363/364)
 8.45am (STM) People of the Parish
 10.45am(SS) Leo Willig RIP



THE MEANING OF EASTER

So what is Easter? And why do Christians place such a high importance on this holiday? Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb, occurring three days after His crucifixion. It fulfils the prophecy of the Messiah's persecution, death for our sins, and resurrection. This event serves as a reminder of our victory over sin and a source of daily hope. According to the New Testament, Easter falls three days after Jesus' crucifixion, following a period of fasting known as Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Good Friday, the day of Jesus' death. Pope Gregory I established the 40-day duration of Lent, drawing inspiration from the biblical accounts of Israel, Moses, Elijah, and Jesus' time in the wilderness. After Christians spend time in reflection during the 40 days of Lent, we remember the event that shook the whole world. Our Lord's resurrection!

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL

LECTIO DIVINA

Will resume on Thursday 18th April, 7pm, Parish Centre, Yateley.

COFFEE MORNINGS

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

UCM MEETING IN APRIL

02/04: Meeting will be at 2.30pm, not in the evening. All welcome

MEDJUGORJE HOLY HOUR

The next Medjugorje Holy Hour will be at St Swithun's on Thursday 25th April after the morning Mass. It is being offered for Peace in our World. Everyone is welcome to join us.



DECEASED

Please pray for David White who died last week, after a long illness. Keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. Especially his wife Mary.

EASTER OFFERING

The Easter Collection for our clergy supports Father Wojciech and is both an important opportunity for us to express our gratitude to him for his service, care and guidance – and constitutes a significant element of clergy remuneration and support. You can donate in the Easter offertory collection, or online? <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/yateley-st-swithun-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2024> Yateley St Swithun Catholic Parish231509

CRAFT-GAMES & NATTER CLUB

Join our club, free of charge; bring your own crafts, games or just come for a "natter". We will be meeting on **Sat 13th April** at 10.30am for 2 hours at St Swithun's Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome. Coffee and tea available, may be even some cake...



DIVINE MERCY

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection on Sat 13 April 2024 from 1pm to 4:30pm at St Mary's R C Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2. The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more



information.

VOLUNTEER



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Helpers needed for light duties in the bar and Parish Centre occasionally. Please talk to Carole or John Mills if interested.
Readers: please consider becoming a reader, we are very short on them these days, and the more people of the rota, the less you need to read. Even if you can only help once a month, that's fine. Training can be *given, so no need to worry.*

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024

Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 to being a Year of Prayer. Pilgrimage is a very particular form of prayer, a time when we don't only speak words to God, but act with our bodies to come to a particular place. Lourdes has been a place of special prayer for over 160 years since Our Lady appeared to Saint Bernadette in 1858.



I warmly invite you to join me and fellow pilgrims on our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, one of the most significant pastoral events in the Diocesan calendar. Lourdes holds a special affection in the hearts of many across the Diocese and these trips are wonderful opportunities to experience faith, fun and friendship. I very much hope that you will consider joining me and fellow pilgrims when we depart from London Gatwick Airport on **Monday 22nd July.**
Bishop Philip

If you would like to know more about joining me in Lourdes this year email:
lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

HE HAS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Tues 2nd within Octave of Easter
 7pm Pauline Doyle RIP

Wed 3rd within Octave of Easter
 9.30am Hugh & Jane Sullivan RIP
 10-11am Mothers Prayers
 10-11am Adoration

Thu 4th within Octave of Easter
 9.30am Jacqui & Les Webber
 60th Wedding Anniversary

Fri 5th within Octave of Easter
 9.30am Deacon David, Peter & Jim
 Morgan RIP

Sun 7th 2nd Sunday of Easter
(Missal 425/426)
 6pm (Sat) David White RIP
 8.45am(STM) People of the Parish
 10.45am David White RIP

Tues 9th of the 2nd Week of Easter
 7pm

Wed 10th of the 2nd Week of Easter
 9.30am Pauline Doyle RIP
 10-11am Mothers Prayers
 10-11am Adoration

Thu 11th of the 2nd Week of Easter
 9.30am Betty & Billy O'Callaghan
 RIP

Fri 12th of the 2nd Week of Easter
 9.30am The White Family Intention



MESSAGES FROM BISHOP PHILIP

I wish you a Happy Easter! I wish you a truly blessed celebration of the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's Death and Resurrection. We remember St.

Paul's words, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished" (1 Cor 15: 17-18). The Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection is the centrepiece of our Christian faith. It gives us the theological gift of hope and grounds all our hope. Hope is in short supply these days, not least as the grim wars in Gaza and in Ukraine rumble on. Let us pray with hope this Easter, trusting in the Lord, that He will bring an end to these interminable conflicts.

At Easter, Fr. Mark Hogan will step down as the Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation, a diocesan role he has had for several years. We are all really grateful to him for all his amazing work. As Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation, Fr. Mark has been responsible for calling, inspiring and leading the departments and teams of the Vicariate for Evangelisation: Bamenda, Caritas Diocese of Portsmouth, formation for mission (catechetics and adult formation) and also dialogue and proclamation, including interreligious dialogue, Christian unity and the Dialogue with Cultural Sectors initiative. He is also a member of the Bishops Council, the Council of Priests and of the Board of Trustees, and on the latter he chairs the Trustee Vicariate for Evangelisation Committee. It is a huge responsibility within the Diocese and I express to him many thanks. In his place, I am pleased to appoint Fr. Gaston Afah, parish priest of Reading English Martyrs, grateful to him for his generosity. Please pray for him as he takes over this role.

Meanwhile, I have asked Fr. Mark to take on a new role as Episcopal Vicar for Parish Mission Development. The Episcopal Vicar for Parish Mission Development will support parish priests in the 'new' parishes to become more missional in their focus and ministry. He will work with Pastoral Areas and parishes to offer support, guidance and wisdom in assisting the parishes implement the Diocesan ten-year mission-plan, signposting them to resources, opportunities and support. He will also work with 5 or 6 parishes where the parish priest in the new parish has a passion to lead in a missional way, hosting monthly online "parish priest cohorts," arranging termly in-person gatherings, meeting annually with each priest in their local context to help review the year and plan for the following year, and with the various parish leadership teams. He will continue to be an occasional member of the Bishop's Council and a member of the Council of Priests. Please pray for him in this new role and for God's blessing upon his work.

DECEASED

Sister Patricia Wright RCE, Sister of Christian Education, passed away peacefully on March 6th, 2024, in her 100th year, at Saint Augustine's Residential Care Home, Addlestone, Surrey. Sister Patricia was a native of Farnborough and a past student of Farnborough Hill, founded by the Sisters of Christian Education in 1889. In 1946 she joined the sisters, following training and studies Sister Patricia became part of three new foundations made in Ireland in the mid-1950s. She was appointed head of the junior school in Dublin and is still fondly remembered. Other leadership roles there included being Novice Mistress for a time and superior of the community in Wicklow. In the mid-1980s Sister Patricia returned to England and very successfully took on responsibility for the running of Lafosse House, a house for retired sisters. She carried this responsibility up to the 2013 when the house was closed. She was a woman of prayer and deep faith; Jesus was always central in her life, and this was very evident in her final days. Sister Patricia had a deep sense of gratitude and was always gracious and kind in her interaction with others. Her love and respect for the natural world was so in tune with the vision of Pope Francis in Laudato Si. Her interests were many and included photography, crafts, gardening. Right to the end of her life Sister Patricia was always interested in the welfare of others especially staff and pupils in the schools founded by the Sisters. She served the Lord joyfully and wholeheartedly for 78 years as a member of the Religious of Christian Education. Her funeral Mass and burial will take place in Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Hampshire later this month. May she rest in peace



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

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.

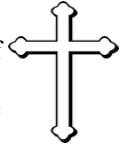
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Anne Wardle, Pat Howell, Tim Driscoll, Rose O'Halloran, Peggy Fennel, Jean Warner, John Harris, Bob Fernandez.



FAITHFUL DEPARTED

We remember at this special time of year, our loved ones who have died. May the light of God's love shine eternally upon them.



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.

FIRST COLLECTION:

17/03: SS: £93.50 STM: £88.10

24/03: SS: £143.70 STM: £76.50

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

29/03: Holy Places

Many thanks for all your contributions

HART FOODBANK

Toilet Rolls
Rice Pudding
Custard
Jam
Tinned Pudding



Tinned Pudding
Instant Mash
Tinned Potatoes
Instant Mash
Tinned Potatoes