

on Sat 14th December
10am-1pm at St. James'
Church, Forbury
Gardens. Advent
displayed on the notice
boards & attached.

**LIGHT OF TRUTH
DOMINICAN SISTERS:**
Training for Children's
liturgy catechists
Saturday 14th Dec 9-12
ONLINE. Click this link to
register: [Meeting
Registration - Zoom](#)



**BIG CHRISTMAS
CLEAN: Advance
warning HELP
REQUIRED. Many
hands make light work.
SATURDAY 21ST DEC
10-11AM.**

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GOING INTO HOSPITAL

On admission, all Catholics
must inform staff if they wish
to receive Holy
Communion or see a priest.

Catholic Chaplaincy **RBH**

0118 322 7105
Arrangements are patient-led

**CHRISTMAS
FLOWERS:**
2nd collection
**next
weekend 7/8
DEC** for
Christmas flowers.



PRAYER GROUP SAY: All
invited to join us in the
Newman Centre
Thursday 12th December
10-11am for a hot drink,
cake and a chat about
what we do.

**HEALTH &
SAFETY:** No
Bikes or
scooters are
to be brought
into the
Church foyer.
Thank you!

DIOCESAN VACANCIES:

Please follow the link for
current vacancies
throughout the Diocese:

[Careers - Catholic Diocese
of Portsmouth,
\(portsmouthdiocese.org.uk\)](https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

ST. DOMINIC SAVIO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Western Avenue,
Woodley RG5 3BH
Tel. 0118 969 3893

Head Teacher:
Mrs. Laura Hulland

Website:
www.stdominicsavio.co.uk

St. John Bosco Church
56 Western Avenue,
Woodley, Reading.
RG5 3BH

Parish Priest
Fr. Leo Odomeja

Priest (in residence)
Fr. Jude Mbonu

Parish Administrator
Debs Gibson

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9.30am - 2.30pm
Tel: 0118 969 3423

Email
office@stjohnbosco.co.uk

Website
stjohnbosco.co.uk

Facebook
[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/1455918784702101](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1455918784702101)

Safeguarding Minister
Julie Hamblin
07950 978592

Adoration
9.30am - before weekday Mass

Holy Days of Obligation:
10am & 7.00pm

Confessions
After weekday Masses &
Saturday at 5.45pm

Tea/Coffee
After Wed & Sun Mass

Priest's Mass Intentions
Please complete a brown
envelope in the foyer and
arrange with the office

Part of
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered **Charity Number**
1199568

Diocesan Newsletter
[www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/
enews/current.php](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews/current.php)



**TODAY WE BEGIN ADVENT AND A
NEW LITURGICAL YEAR - YEAR C.**



**The
Gospel
readings
will be
taken
from St.
Luke -
from the
English
Standard
Version
Catholic**

**Edition Bible (rather than the
Jerusalem bible which is currently
used.)**

**For those of you who have
ordered a new Sunday Missal
from us, they are NOW available
to collect after both weekend
Masses from the Repository.**

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE US WITH
YOUR OLD MISSAL AS WE HAVE
NO WAY OF DISPOSING THEM.
Thank you.**

**A RITE OF BLESSING: *The new
4-volume lectionary and the
Book of the Gospel will be
blessed just before the readings
at Mass next Sunday.***
***Our profound thanks to the
donor of these books to the
Parish.***

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN BOSCO, WOODLEY



**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - YR C
SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2024**

**1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
MESSAGE FROM FR. LEO:** The
first purple candle, lit this
Sunday, symbolises HOPE.
Hope is one of three Theological
virtues, the other two being faith
and love. St. Paul says these are
the three things that last (Cf.
1Cor. 13:13). As the popular
saying goes: "once there is life,
there is hope". If this is true, it
would then be a contradiction in
terms and in reality, to live
without hope. Christians are
hopeful by nature, for we live in
the present, recalling the
wonders the Lord has done for
us and preparing ourselves in
joyful hope for the many more He
is yet to do. We still live in
turbulent times - new
government, rising costs, cold
winter ahead, Russia and
Ukraine still at war, and war in
the Middle East the world over, it
would be very remiss of us if we
didn't hold on to God with hope
for help and guidance through it
all. Our simple words of
assurance: "it will be alright", a
warm, reassuring hug to the
bereaved, a card to the
struggling, a prayerful visit to the
sick, an affirming smile to a
troubled child/teenager, are all
expressions of hope in Christ. Be
a candle of hope to another this
season!

Today's Psalm Response: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

9.30am Adoration before weekday Masses

SUN 1ST DEC	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT		17.50PM ROSARY 18.30PM Ivan Marusic (4yrs) 10.00AM Francis Mahon +
Mon 2nd	Advent week 1		10.00am Ian Devlin + (1st Anniv)
Tues 3rd	Advent week 1		10.00am Laura Mulligan - Speedy Recovery
Wed 4th	Advent week 1		10.00am Anne + & George + Dalloz
Thurs 5th	Advent week 1		No Mass
Fri 6th	St. Nicholas		10.00am James Knox + 10.30am ROSARY 18.30pm Russ & Danielle Gibson - Wellbeing
Sat 7th	St. Ambrose		No am Mass
SUN 8TH DEC	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		17.50PM ROSARY 18.30PM Ivan Marusic + (4 yrs) 10.00AM Francis Mahon +

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been transferred to Monday 9th December

CANDLE TAPERS: Each taper at the candle stands **can be reused multiple times**. After use please return them safely to their holder. Parents, please supervise your children at the stands at all times. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM FR. LEO:
STRONG REMINDER: The Church and the Lady Chapel are and remain spaces for worship and prayer. Please, show due respect/veneration to Our Lord by keeping out hearty chatter from these spaces. Chat to friends at tea/coffee in the Newman Centre and outside after Mass(es). Thank you!

FRIDAY EVENING MASS WITH VESPERS: Will be celebrated at **6:30pm** every Friday evening.

FR.LEO ASKS: Are you an SVP member, a Sacred Heart or Divine Mercy devotee and would like to have your group established and active in our Parish? Express your interest/share your suggestions with Fr. Leo

THE ROSARY: Is being said in the Lady Chapel every Friday morning after 10.00am Mass and every Saturday at 5.50pm before the 6.30pm Vigil Mass.



lodomeja@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Takes place in the Newman Centre - sign in before entering. Please go into the church first and you will be called by Fr. Leo as a group to process together into the Newman Centre for the liturgy session.

NATIVITY POSADA: The word posada means "inn" or "shelter" in Spanish. In this Mexican tradition, the story of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem and their search for a place to stay is re-enacted. We will be looking for host families to shelter the posada from the 1st Sunday in Advent through to Christmas Eve - normally a different host family each night.



The circulation list will begin in Children's Liturgy and then in the church foyer for any member of the parish to sign up to.

CHOIR PRACTICE: TODAY after Mass 1st December.



FINANCIAL APPEAL: Reminder to fill in a gift a form if you are a UK taxpayer so that the SJB can reclaim 25p from every £1.00 donated by you. Forms are in the foyer. Please return to the parish office or pop them into a collection basket at the Offertory.

When setting up a standing order or direct debit, the parish bank account to be used is
NAME: 'CDP Woodley St. John Bosco Covenant' Account:
DETAILS: 30-93-04
00964906.

CHRISTMAS TREE OF LIFE: Christmas is a time for families. many of us will not be able to see our families this year. Please buy one of our baubles and write your special message to remember your family and hang on our 'Living Tree' in the church foyer. All will be prayed for at Christmas. A donation of £5 per bauble will be gratefully accepted. Available from next weekend.



ADVENT CONFESSIONS: HERE AT SJB FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER 18.30-20.00. DETAILS FOR OTHER CHURCHES ADVENT CONFESSIONS IN NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER.

ST. JAMES' ADVENT INVITE: Fr. Chris Heaps and the Carmelite Community invite you to an event

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for members of the parish who are sick or housebound, especially: June Bremner-Tse, Chris Fido, Mimi Peat, Madeline Faherty, Chris & Felicity Hughes, Marie Dempster, Linda Guttridge, Colin Eames, Geraldine Worthe, Eva Berja, Hilary Andrews and Laura Mulligan.
(To add a name to this list please contact the parish office)

Also, for all the faithful departed, especially those in our Book of Remembrance for this month (DECEMBER): Ruby Gomez, Robert Ashe, Eamonn Burke, Raymond Cook, Peggy Pounds, Ian Devlin, Aguida Ortiz, Sarah Keenan, Guillermo Larano, Sheila Halse, Connie Hayes, Peggie Bentley, Sarah Irving, Arthur Jacobs, John Michael McNamara, Patricia Gray, Ralph Gomez, Jessie Ayres, George Bentley, Richard Gurney, Andy Johnston, Norman West and Sister Mary Agatha. May they rest in peace.