



EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

ST. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED

ST. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY

hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

office@hendredcatholicparish.org.uk

4TH WEEK PER ANNUM

28th January – 3rd February 2024

SUNDAY	4 TH PER ANNUM		
28 th Jan.	9.15am	Children's Liturgy	(Parish Rooms)
	9.30am	Parish Mass	<i>PRO POPULO</i>
	11.15am	Holy Mass	(St. Patrick's)
	6pm	Holy Mass	
Monday	<i>Feria</i>		
29 th Jan.	<i>No public Mass</i>		
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i> Votive Mass of Requiem		
30 th Jan.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Elizabeth Eyston, RIP</i>
Wednesday	S. John Bosco, Confessor		
31 st Jan.	9am	Holy Mass	
Thursday	<i>Feria</i> Votive Mass of Requiem		
1 st Feb.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Rachel Hunt, RIP</i>
Friday	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)		
2 nd Feb.	9am	School Mass	
	3pm-4pm	Adoration (Hendred House Chapel)	
	7pm	Sung Mass	
Saturday	S. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr		
3 rd Feb.	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Bertha Ida Northcote, RIP</i>
	10am-11am	Adoration & Confessions	
	5pm-6pm	Adoration & Confessions	

Priest: Fr. Matthew Topham, 01235 835038 or 07901634731
mtopham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

JANUARY - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY NAME

JESU, THESAURE FIDELIUM | JESUS, TREASURE OF THE FAITHFUL

‘Thesaurus’ is treasure or treasure-house (hence the title of the common reference work, a ‘treasury’ of words). We might think most immediately of Matthew 13, and the treasure hid in the field, for which a man sells all that he has, a type of the Christian life which is all for Jesus. Fruitful too is the sixth chapter of S. Matthew: “*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*” (Matt. 6:19-20). If Jesus is our treasure, we should set our hearts on Him, not on the vain things of this world.

JESU, BONE PASTOR | JESUS, GOOD SHEPHERD

This title places us firmly in the tenth chapter of S. John, where Jesus says “*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*” (John 10:1). There is something of Johnine paradox about this: a dead shepherd is of no use to earthly sheep; Our Shepherd, however, keeps us safe from the devouring enemy *precisely* by His saving death on the Cross, a death which could not hold Him. “*I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me,*” (John 10:14) Jesus continues later in the chapter: Not only are we known by a personal God but, because of the divine action in the Incarnation, we can ourselves know God: “*the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.*” (John 1:18).

JESU, LUX VERA | JESUS, TRUE LIGHT

We remain in S. John, in the great Prologue: “*The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world.*” (John 1:9). In contrast to the ‘false’ lights – the ‘gods’ of the heathen, often literally envisaged as Sun and Moon, stars and planets – Jesus Christ is the *true* light. Indeed, He is more truly light than this created light with which we see this passing world: photons illuminate only the material, but the Christ illuminates for us the eternal world and eternal truth.

JESU, SAPIENTIA ÆTERNA | JESUS, ETERNAL WISDOM

‘Wisdom’ in the Old Testament is often described as female, and the Church often uses biblical wisdom tropes to talk about Our Lady, or about

Holy Church herself. But there is a longstanding convention among the Fathers of the Church (who wrote and preached in the early centuries after Christ, that Christ is (also) described by such verses, chiefly in the Book of Wisdom. We recall Solomon's request of the Lord (1 Kings 3:1-5), which is recalled in the later work: "*Therefore I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.*" (Wis. 7:7). Let us pray that God would grant us this Jesus, His eternal wisdom.

JESU, BONITAS INFINITA | JESUS, INFINITE GOODNESS

To call God good sounds like a truism: of course God is good! But it requires a little unpacking, in fact, because God is good in a way utterly unlike everything else that is good, and of which God saw, at the Creation, that it was good (Gen 1, *passim*). Created things are good insofar as, by their existence, their arrangement, or their action, they participate in the goodness of God. God alone is good simply; in other words, He *is* goodness, and it is by virtue of the goodness-which-is-God that anything else is good. This is not a limited, or finite goodness, but all-goodness, infinite goodness.

JESU, VIA & VITA NOSTRA | JESUS, OUR WAY & OUR LIFE

"*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.*" (John 14:6). There is no other way to be saved, to know God, to enjoy the Vision of God in eternity, than Jesus Christ. Everyone who is saved will be saved by and through Jesus, and nobody will be saved except by Him. This is a fundamental truth of our Catholic faith. Jesus 'our Way' is specifically the way "to the Father;" the life which Jesus offers is eternal life (cf. John 6:54).

JESU, GAUDIUM ANGELORUM | JESUS, JOY OF THE ANGELS

We're taken back to the beginning of the Christmas story, to the angelic appearance to the shepherds: "*I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people.*" (Luke 2:10) The whole order of spirits rejoices in the Saviour's birth; but why? St. Luke also tells us that "*there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents,*" (Luke 15:10), and this is a clue: the Incarnation, and the whole of Christ's earthly mission, marks the beginning of hope for repentance. Christ begins His ministry with precisely that word, "*repent, and believe in the Gospel*" (Mark 1:15)

NOTICES

STANDING

✠ **WELCOME** to Mass, especially to those who are new or visiting. Do join us for refreshments are served in the Parish Rooms after the 9.30 Mass (left at the church gate, first right after the bridge).

✠ **COFFEE** after Mass is an **important** part of our common life: more volunteers are needed. Speak to Francia if you can help.

✠ **VOLUNTEERS** are needed for Children's Liturgy. Speak to Veronica or Libby, or email safeguarding@hendredcatholicparish.org.uk.

✠ **CONFESSIONS:** Saturdays, 10-11am, 5-6pm. **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** during that time, concluding with **BENEDICTION** of the same.

✠ **CONFIRMATION** class continues on Sundays at 4.30pm.

✠ **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** classes continue on Saturdays at 3.30pm.

✠ **GIVING TO THE PARISH** by standing order or online:

CDP East Hendred, St Mary

Acc. No. 00877183

Sort Code: 30-93-04

Or via the **DONA MACHINE** by the door.

NEWS

✠ **THIS MORNING** we welcome the Rt. Revd. Keith Newton, PA, to celebrate and preach at the 9.30. Mgr. Newton is the Ordinary of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Waslingham, of which Fr. Topham and Fr. Andrew are priests.

✠ A **CATHOLIC MOTHERS** group is being established, to meet to 'Play and Pray' on first Wednesdays. The first session will be Wed. 7th Feb. 9:45-11am.

✠ **ST. AMAND'S** school seeks a teacher to teach Yr 6, two afternoons/week. Contact Mrs Ellery at head.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk

✠ **FOR YOUR PRAYERS:** Annie Furlong, Gwenda, Martha, Helen Lewis, John Castle, Daniel Cuevas, John Stringer, Louise Woodhouse, Brenda Paddon, Karen Greig, Mary McNichol, Des McNichol, Meg Clark, Madeline Brand, Mary Dorothy Ruple, Graham Titchener, Anne-Marie Kershaw.

✠ **YEAR'S MINDS:** Elizabeth Eyston, Agnes Mary Eyston, Patricia Turner Bridger, Frances Rivers, Helen Jessie Patterson, Edwin Brown, Laurence Lodge, Dame Teresa Rodrigues, Catherine Lillian Harris, The Lady Agnes Eyston, Anastasia Theresa Doyle. **R·I·P·**