



# EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

ST. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED  
ST. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY  
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## THE SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER

5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>SIXTH OF EASTER</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup> May	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	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>S. John before the Latin Gate</b>		
6 <sup>th</sup> May		<i>No public Mass</i>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b><i>Easter Feria</i></b>		
7 <sup>th</sup> May	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Charles Gorton, RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b><i>Easter Feria</i> (Votive Mass of S. Michael)</b>		
8 <sup>th</sup> May	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Annie Furlong's Int.</i>
	11am	Funeral Mass	<i>Lucy Mockler, RIP</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST</b>		
9 <sup>th</sup> May	9am	School Mass	<i>Our School</i>
	12noon	Chantry Mass	(Chantry, St. Augustine's)
	7.30pm	Sung Mass	<i>PRO POPULO</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b><i>Easter Feria</i></b>		
			<i>Ida Safford-Northcote, RIP</i>
10 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30am	Holy Mass	(Hendred House Chapel)
	3pm-4pm	Adoration	(Hendred House Chapel)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b><i>Easter Feria</i></b>		
11 <sup>th</sup> May	9am	Holy Mass	<i>Albert Dearlove, RIP</i>
	10-11am	Adoration & Confessions	5-6pm

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## The Litany of Loreto

### Virgo Prudentissima | Virgin Most Prudent

In the Gospels, Mary is a woman of few words, but those she does speak are of surpassing excellence. We thought last week about her Great Counsel, “Do whatever He tells you,” but the jewel in the crown of Mary’s speech is surely her *Magificat* – “My Soul doth magnify the Lord” – a hymn of praise to God in exultation at His saving action in the Incarnation, modelled closely on other such songs in Scripture, notably the song of Hannah (*1 Sam. 2:1-10*) and of Judith (*Judith 16:2-17*). Mary, prudently filled with not only grace (*cf. Luke 1:28*) but also the word of God in Scripture, places herself firmly in the line of valiant women (*cf. Prov. 31:10*) who cooperate with God in His redeeming work. Her prudence is not a worldly prudence, cynical and self-serving, but a supernatural prudence, open to eternity and God-serving.

### Virgo Potens | Virgin Most Powerful

“God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong, 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,” (*1 Cor. 1:27-28*) writes S. Paul. In the ancient world, virginity was perhaps the most defenceless and least valued state of life: dependent on the protection of father or brothers, unseen in public, without much in the way of agency until she married and bore children of her own. For God to chose a virgin to be the Mother of His Son is part of His up-ending of the inherited order of man’s fallen state, to choose what is weak to shame the strong. To make a Virgin the Mother of His Son *whilst remaining a virgin still* shows this even more strongly: choosing “things that are not” – a virgin mother – “in order to bring to nothing things that are” – i.e. the Kingdom of Satan, and the reign of sin and death.

### Speculum Iustitiæ | Mirror of Justice

It is characteristic of a mirror that it directs the eye away from itself to something else – that which it reflects. So too with Mary, ever pointing towards her divine Son, ever effacing herself in perfect humility. Jesus Christ is the Justice of God, His ‘righteousness’, a term which is far broader than what we often mean by ‘justice’. Jesus is, in fact, the only way for man to be righteous before God, to be ‘right with’ Him, and His

Mother, through her life, her words, and her cooperation with God, shows us the way. In her, and through her sacred childbearing “the righteousness of God has been manifested” (*Rom. 3:21*) to us.

### **Sedes Sapientiæ | Seat of Wisdom**

One of the most famous and most frequent postures of the Virgin and Child in painting and sculpture shows the infant Jesus seated on Mary’s lap. The famous statue of Our Lady of Walsingham is one such image. A normal attitude for a mother and her child, of course, but also one which expresses great spiritual richness. For Jesus is “the Wisdom of God” (*1 Cor. 1:24*) and Mary His throne, quite literally in His infancy, and figuratively during His gestation. Very often the throne of an earthly monarch is honoured as though the monarch were sat in it, even when empty – the courtiers of Louis XIV would make a low reverence even to the empty throne, and would not turn their backs upon it, for instance. How much more so Mary, who, even after the physical Body of Christ no longer dwelt in her womb, or was dandled on her lap, continued to bear Him about in her by reason of her communion with Him: part of His Body, the Church, He was ever-present in her, His Mother, His image.

### **Causa nostra Lætitiæ | Cause of our Joy**

We should feel this title to be almost scandalous, almost blasphemous: certainly, that is how our separated brethren would find describing Our Lady as the *Cause* of our Joy. Surely, the Cause of Our Joy is God alone? But it is the marvel we have been contemplating in these titles, that Almighty God chooses what is weak, what is lowly, what is powerless, to show forth His Power, not just by using them as His instruments but by allowing them truly to co-operate with His Providence. So it is that, by her co-operation with Divine Grace, Mary is truly worthy of being called the *cause* of our Joy, Who is Jesus Christ. By her ‘fiat’ (“So be it”) she enters into the causal history of the Incarnation, not indeed as the First Cause, Who is God, but as a true cause, one whose will was truly *necessary* for the Incarnation – at least, in the form it in fact took in history. When we salute Mary with tis title, let us remember that God allows us, too, to enter into co-operation with His work, to make us co-laborators in the salvation, not only of ourselves – wonderful enough – but also of our brothers and sisters.

# NOTICES

## STANDING

- ✠ **WELCOME** to Mass, especially to those who are new or visiting.
- ✠ **CONFESSIONS** are heard in S. Mary's on Saturdays, 10-11am, 5-6pm. Confessions can be heard at S. Patrick's after the Sunday Mass.
- ✠ Spend some time with the Lord in **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**, in S. Mary's on Saturdays 10-11am, 5-6pm, concluding with **BENEDICTION**.
- ✠ **VOLUNTEERS** are also needed for the Flower Rota – no experience necessary – please speak to Jacqui if you can help.
- ✠ Diocesan **VACANCIES**:  
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>
- ✠ **GIFT AID**: if you give online, by standing order, or via contactless, have you filled in a gift aid declaration? Please do: it's a significant part of our income.
- ✠ **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 THURSDAY (9<sup>TH</sup> MAY)** is the **Feast of the Ascension**, which is a **Holy Day of Obligation**: Catholics must go to Mass. Masses at S. Mary's at 9am and 7.30pm. Mass at 12noon in the Eyston Chantry in St. Augustine's, East Hendred.
- ✠ **ON FRIDAY** the Novena to the Holy Spirit begins, in preparation for **Pentecost (19<sup>th</sup> May)**. A short booklet of prayers for the novena is available by the doors.
- ✠ **MAY IS MARY'S MONTH!** The Litany of Loreto is prayed after Mass during the week. Why not pray a daily rosary, or a decade of the rosary, in her honour?
- ✠ **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, Madeline Brand, Mary Dorothy Ruple, Graham Titchener, Roy Kemp, Agnes Hickey, Rose Millet.
- ✠ **YEAR'S MINDS**: Edith Elsley, Alex Smith, Sybil Hudson, Margaret Mulford, Rosino Vettrains, Ida Mary Northcote, Mary Flannery. **R·I·P·**