

TEAMS OF OUR LADY

Teams is an international organization which enables couples and families to come together to develop and strengthen their Christian spiritual lives and support one another. **Teams Fareham** have close links with **Teams Malawi**, one of the poorest countries in the world. We have learnt there is a widespread famine causing great hardship and we are trying to offer some financial support, to enable them to buy some maize to distribute. For more info contact David & Frances on 01329 317 223.



"SACRED HEART HOUSE" UPDATE

Seminarian **Yipeng John Ni** extends his thanks to all who supported him in Fareham during these last months. John he has returned to China to continue his discernment. Please keep John in your prayers and pray as well for **Francis & Nathan** as they continue their formation with us. Visit: [Vocations](#) | [Portsmouth Diocese](#)

THE UNIVERSE PAPER FREE DIGITAL TRIAL

The Universe are offering a free subscription to Register; www.thecatholicuniverse.com/subscription-trial



OUR PARISH PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

ST. JUDE'S. 'Achieving together in God's love'

Bishopsfield Road, Fareham, PO14 1ND

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Wall

Email: adminoffice@st-judes.hants.sch.uk

Tel: 01329 235 131. All are welcome!

Visit: www.st-judes.hants.sch.uk



Introduction videos for admissions are now available.

Please go to Our School tab - Class Pages - New Yr R Admissions 2021 to view

Visit: www.st-judes.hants.sch.uk/class-pages/

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Catholic tradition holds that the Christmas offerings are, if you wish, your opportunity for a personal gift to the priest and is a main source of annual income for him.



Parish Office: 41 Portland Street, Fareham PO16 ONF Tel: 01329 318 869
Email: farehamporchester@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
www.catholicchurchfareham.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. John Cooke
Parish Administrator: Holly Phillips
Parish Safeguarding: Jim Gilhooley 07709 352 813
Parish Finance: farehamgiftaid@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding: Ruth Attfield. Email: rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fareham: Sacred Heart Church, Portland Street, Fareham, PO16 ONQ
St. Philip Howard Church, Bishopsfield Road, Fareham, PO14 1ND
Wickham: The Chapel of St. Thomas More, Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, PO17 5HA

St Jude's Primary School Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Wall. Email: adminoffice@st-judes.hants.sch.uk Tel: 01329 235 131

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

PARISH FINANCE

Standing Orders Please consider this and contact the Parish Office for more details.

BACS Transfer Our bank details if you need them are;
PRCDTR Fareham Sacred Heart (Lloyds Bank)
Sort Code 30-93-04 Account 00877744

Cheques Payable to 'PRCDTR Fareham Sacred Heart'

Gift Aid Tax payers are encouraged to contact Ken on 07583 895 323 so we can Gift Aid your donations and receive **an extra 25%** at **no expense** to you.

Give As You Live The free and easy way to raise free funds **for the Parish simply** by shopping online. Join for free today and start raising when you shop at over 4,000 stores. Click on a store you want to shop with and you'll be taken direct to the store's website where you can continue to shop as normal.



The store will then **give us a percentage** of your purchase cost **at no extra expense** to you! Please visit ...

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/sacredheartchurchfareham

Do you use Amazon? Please sign up to **Amazon Smile**. Under **Help & Settings**, click **Your Amazon Smile** and please choose **Your Current Charity** and search for Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust.

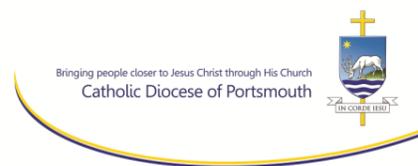
PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2021

As more parishioners move to direct debit or standing order, Ken will be ordering fewer envelopes for 2021. If you require envelopes or would like envelopes for the second collections (allowing us to claim gift aid for the charity) please email; farehamgiftaid@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or telephone the parish office.

For those using on line banking please include the designated charity in the Reference so we can allocate your giving correctly.

NHS TRACK & TRACE APP

Please make use of the **NHS COVID 19 App QR Codes** on the doors when visiting for Private Prayer and encourage others to download the App if they already haven't.



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN FAREHAM AND PORTCHESTER



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B "The year of the God who speaks" 29th November 2020

As we begin Advent, we light one candle in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. It symbolizes our longing, our desire, our hope. Three "advents" or "comings" shape our desire. We want to be renewed in a sense that Jesus came to save us from our sin and death. We want to experience his coming to us now, in our everyday lives, to help us live our lives with meaning and purpose in the midst of this pandemic. And we want to prepare for his coming to meet us at the end of our lives on this earth. So, we begin with our longing, our desire and our hope.

When we wake up, each day this week, we could light that candle, just by taking a few moments to focus. We could pause for a minute at the side of our bed, or while putting on our slippers or our robe, and light an *inner* candle. Who among us doesn't have time to pause for a moment? We could each find our own way to pray something like this:

"Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today is based on my trust in you. It is a weak flame, but I so much desire that it dispel a bit more darkness today. Today, I just want to taste the longing I have for you as I go to the meeting this morning, carry out the responsibilities of my work, face the frustration of some difficult relationships. Let this candle be my reminder today of my hope in your coming."

Each morning this week, that momentary prayer might get more specific, as it prepares us for the day we will face. And as we prepare to work on-line or walk to work, rush through lunch, take care of chores, pick up the phone to return some calls, answer e-mail, prepare a meal, listen to the ups and downs of our loved ones' day, we can take brief moments to relate our desire for the three comings of the Lord to our life.

If our family has an Advent wreath, or even if it doesn't, we could pray together before our evening meal. Then, as we begin to eat, we can invite each other, including the children, to say something about what it means today to light this first candle.

Every night this week, we can pause briefly, for a minute at the edge of the bed. How did I prepare today? What does it mean to prepare to celebrate his coming 2,000 years ago? How can we prepare to experience his coming into our lives this Christmas in the midst of the darkness in our world? How are we being invited to trust more deeply? We can be aware of how that one, small candle's worth of desire (you!) brought light into this day, and give thanks. Going to bed each night this Advent pray *"Come, Lord Jesus! Come and visit your people."*

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Praying to God for the theological gift of hope and the renewal of that gift in our lives.

Some practical ideas for keeping a Christian Advent

1. Make a commitment to pray daily; make an Advent wreath as a focus. Chose a religious Advent Calendar.
2. Read something spiritual during Advent. Click here; [First Week of Advent \(creighton.edu\)](http://creighton.edu)
3. Send faith based Christmas cards ... Leave the robins on the trees.
4. Material preparations for Christmas can take over and obscure the reason for our celebrations. Prayer, fasting or abstinence and works of charity will help keep the focus.
5. Seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It should be part of our preparation; we fool ourselves if we think we are without sin or have no need of God's grace!
6. Do not anticipate the Christmas celebration; when putting up the decorations, turn on your lights just a few days before Christmas and keep them up for the whole of Christmastide.
7. The Crib should be the focus of our decorations: has Father Christmas and the presents taken first place?
8. How about saving up the Christmas cards received and opening them in the week leading up the Christmas Day? We can feel deflated once Christmas arrives because we have already overdone the celebrating or because all we have prepared is an empty display of materialism and over indulgence. In the words of St John the Baptist, 'Prepare a way for the Lord' ... not just Santa. Come Lord Jesus, come.

Blessing of an Advent Wreath

*Lord our God, we praise you
for your Son, Jesus Christ:
He is the Emmanuel,
the hope of the peoples,
He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
He is the Saviour of every nation.*

*Lord, let your blessing ✠ come upon us
as we light the 1st / 2nd / 3rd / 4th candle of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise
to bring us salvation; may he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sat 9.30 - 10.30am. Drive-thru confessions
at Philip Howard Church, PO14 1NA.



