



**Saint Francis of Assisi Church and Parish**  
 Coronation Road Ascot SL5 9HG.  
**Friary & Parish Office 01344 620591 (Tues –Thurs 9am -12.30pm)**  
**Email: stfrancisascot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**  
**Webpage: www.stfrancisascot.co.uk Facebook: @stfrancisascot.**  
**Confession after 10am Saturday Mass or by appointment.**  
**Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Bidgood**  
 Parish Secretary: Mrs. Wendy Cullen Safeguarding: Jaycie Warren 07961800804  
 Charity Number: PRC DTR 264876  
 St. Francis School - Head Teacher : Mrs. Rhona Miccoli

1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

DAY	DATE	TIME	LITURGICAL CELEBRATION	MASS INTENTION
SATURDAY	27th Nov	5.30pm	Vigil Mass : 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT	✠ Tess Robertson R.I.P
SUNDAY	28th Nov	9.45am 11.00am	<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	✠ Sr Darina McGoldrick R.I.P ✠ Ouseph Devassey R.I.P
MONDAY	29th Nov	-	NO MASS AT ST.FRANCIS	-
TUESDAY	30th Nov	-	NO MASS AT ST.FRANCIS	-
WEDNESDAY	1st Dec	7.30pm	St. Edmund Campion, <i>Martyr</i>	✠ Holy Souls
THURSDAY	2nd Dec	10.00am	Of the 1st Week of Advent	✠ Tess Robertson R.I.P
FRIDAY	3rd Dec	7.30pm	St. Francis Xavier, <i>Memorial</i>	✠ Eugene O'Brien R.I.P
SATURDAY	4th Dec	10.00am 5.30pm	Of the 1st Week of Advent Vigil Mass : 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	People of the Parish ✠ Rosina Kelly R.I.P

**Fr Kevin writes ...**

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The new liturgical year begins this week. Throughout the coming year most of our gospel readings will be from St Luke's Gospel (Year 'C' in the missal). Some words of Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI will help us understand more fully the significance of the Advent season: *"In Advent the liturgy frequently repeats and assures us ... that God 'comes'; he comes to be with us in every situation of ours, he comes to dwell amongst us, to live with us and within us; he comes to fill the gaps that divide and separate us; he comes to reconcile us with himself and with one another. He comes into human history to knock at the door of every man and every woman of good will ... this is why Advent is par excellence the season of hope ..."*

- The Opening Prayer asks God our Father to give us: *"... the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming ..."*

- Our first reading is from the prophet Jeremiah. The prophet foresees a time when the Lord will fulfil his promise: >>>>

<<<< *"... In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practice honesty and integrity ...". For us Christians, this is a foretelling of the coming of our Saviour.*

- The second reading is from St Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. The apostle urges his readers to *"... love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you ... that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes ..."*

- Our first Gospel reading from St Luke tells of Christ's warning to his disciples to: *"... Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man"*.

**AD TE LEVAVI ANIMAM MEAM,  
DEUS MEUS ...**

**TO YOU, I LIFT UP MY SOUL, O MY  
GOD ...**

**WE PRAY** for the Sick and Housebound of our Community and for those who care for them: Colin Clarke, Johanna O'Shea, Maria Williams, Pat Foley, Barbara Siwicka, Gianluca Greenwood, Brian Lynch, Gerry Higgins, Pat Sassi, Frances Wilde, David McCann, Simon Saint, Bridget Barrott Chambers, Eileen Berkeley, Eileen Mackintosh, Peter Hermon, Ernesto and Napoleon Mannois, Jane Thomas, Daniel Offer, Marie Hall, Geraldine McAllister, Georgia Mackinlay, Nina Mullins, Eileen Hoare.



If you would like to add a name to this list, **with consent**, or if you would like a name removed, please email or phone the Parish Office.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the soul of **Brian Donovan R.I.P** who has died recently. His funeral Mass will be held on **Thursday 9th December at 10.30am**. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.



**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY Wednesday December 8th - Masses at 10am & 7.30pm.**

**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** these gifts are more important than ever - from energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts) or pick up a catalogue from the back of church.

**THAMES HOSPICE, MAIDENHEAD** The Knights of St. Columba are making the Thames Hospice their fundraising project for 2022. They plan to use the 'Jam-Jar' method as this will enable parishioners to donate at their leisure over the year. Their target is to achieve £10,000 from the Thames Valley parishes of the area in the coming year.



Thames hospice

**St. Francis Catholic Primary School Virtual Fair (Online from 28th Nov - 5th Dec!)**

Help raise funds for St. Francis School by supporting their virtual Christmas Fair Raffle. They have some fantastic prizes, including first prize of an Apple iPad mini 64GB and much more! Buy tickets at <https://patchworkkit.com/41276/> and leave your name and telephone number to be in with a chance of winning.

**MISSION BOX HOLDERS** Patsy Lascelles asks you to begin to return your Red Mission Boxes if possible before **December 15th**. Patsy sends you many thanks for your dedicated support for this worthwhile cause.



**BRACKNELL FOODBANK** thanks you for all your donations, please can you help them top up their stocks of the following items : Tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, cereal, rice, Christmas cake slabs (400g) . As storage is limited please supply these items only.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022 :** Children of Year 3, 2021 and 2022 are now eligible for the First Holy Communion programme. The celebrations will take place during May 2022. An application form and information for parents is available on our Webpage and in the Church porch. Please return the form to [firstholycommunion@hotmail.com](mailto:firstholycommunion@hotmail.com) or post a copy through the Friary letterbox by **Sunday 12th December 2021.**



### **RESOURCES FOR ADVENT**

- **PRAYER CARDS** are now available to take home from the porch. (FREE)
- **Children's Advent & Christmas Calendars 2021** are available for the children to take home! (FREE)
- **'My Day by Day'** - Advent activities for children (50p)
- **FOR ADULTS ' My Day by Day' Advent reflections** (Donations welcome)
- **BIBLE ALIVE for December (£3)**



**Full details of Christmas Masses and Confession times will be available next week**