

# *The Parishes of St Saviour and The Ascension, Portsea*

September 2020

Dear Friends,

There have been many acts of kindness over the last few months. Help with shopping, sending cards and pictures to cheer people up, leaving bunches of flowers on doorsteps, sharing homemade cakes and many more. Such thoughtful acts not only lift the spirits of those receiving but also those who give. As the ongoing risk of a second wave of the virus is ever present it is really important that we continue to support each other with these simple acts of kindness. The reputation of the early Christians grew in part because others saw the love, support, care and generosity that they showed amongst themselves and those around them. In the current circumstances, we are limited in many ways about how we are able to share our faith, but reaching out to friends and neighbours with small acts of kindness is something that we can all continue to do. Perhaps we can add a label to whatever we might share saying something like 'thinking of you and keeping you in my prayers'. Many people who perhaps have little or no contact with the church will appreciate knowing that someone is thinking about them and cares enough to pray for them, especially in these troubled times.

Since our re-opening at the start of July it has been encouraging to see many of you back in church. It would be good to see full attendance from September, the schedule for which is overleaf. All masses are at the usual times with the exception of Friday evening, which will re-commence from October onwards. Weekly attendance at Sunday Mass is crucial if we are to grow our congregations. There are two feast days which will be marked with weekday Sung Masses, the **Nativity of Our Lady**, which we will keep on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September** at The Ascension and **Michaelmas**, which we will keep on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>** at St Saviour. I'm delighted to say that the government have now given permission for choirs to sing in church once more, so we look forward to welcoming back the Choir at St Saviour and the Junior Choir at The Ascension. Fr John Mortiboys has also been 'released' from his enforced shielding, so we look forward to seeing him on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September when we will be celebrating Holy Cross Day.

The **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 1.15pm at St Saviour (Mass at 11.30am followed by lunch) and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at The Ascension (Mass at 6.30pm). Please make every effort to attend – these are important occasions as we discern the future direction of our two churches. Copies of the **Annual Reports and Accounts** for each church are now available, and the **Electoral Rolls** are available for viewing. Nominations for membership of the Parochial Church Councils are welcome, and the relevant forms may be found at the back of each church.

It was good to welcome many of you to the Salmon and Strawberry Lunch at the Vicarage. A revised **Social Programme** is available, including a **Bingo Afternoon** at St Saviour on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September and the **Harvest Supper** on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at The Ascension. Volunteers are also needed to man our churches for the Portsmouth **Ride and Stride** on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>. All events will take place with the necessary health regulations in place in order to guarantee your safety. We are still waiting to find out whether it will be possible to hold our Christmas Fayres.

**Bishop Norman** was to have visited us for Ascension Day. He will now be coming on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October** for the **October Devotion**, Mass will be at noon, followed by Lunch and Benediction. Please put this date into your diary, this will be the first time +Norman has visited us since my installation as Parish Priest so it would be good to see everybody there.

With my love and prayers,



Fr Benjamin.

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[www.stsaviourportsmouth.org.uk](http://www.stsaviourportsmouth.org.uk)

[www.ascensionportsmouth.org.uk](http://www.ascensionportsmouth.org.uk)

## *Calendar for September 2020*

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass (BCP)	St Saviour
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6.30pm	Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>			
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass followed by Coffee Morning	St Saviour
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>			
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
	<b>1.15pm</b>	<b>Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Sung Mass for The Nativity of Our Lady</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Annual Parochial Church Meeting</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10am–3pm	Portsmouth Ride and Stride	
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HOLY CROSS DAY</b>		
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>			
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>			
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Parish Mass with Holy Baptism</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong	St Mark, North End
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass for S. Matthew's Day	St Saviour
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>			
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	6.30pm	Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>			
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Parish Mass</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
	4.00pm	Bingo with Bring & Share Afternoon Tea	St Saviour
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Solemn Evensong &amp; Benediction</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass (of Requiem)	St Saviour
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>			
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Sung Mass for Michaelmas</b> followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct.	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Harvest Supper &amp; Entertainment</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>