

The Parishes of St Saviour and The Ascension, Portsea

November 2020

Dear Friends,

With the shortening days at the beginning of November comes a flurry of activity within the Church, as we celebrate a number of feasts in close succession. On Saturday 31st October we celebrate the eve of All Saints' Day with Festal Evensong and Benediction at 6pm at The Ascension. Sunday 1st November is All Saints' Day and Monday 2nd November is All Souls' Day, when a Solemn Mass of Requiem will be offered at St Saviour for all those who have died. We will remember our own departed loved ones, as well as those who have died as a result of war and violence, and those who have died over the past year. This is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for those who we love but see no more, and to pray for their souls. The Mass begins at 10.00am and the church will be open before and after the service for anyone who wants to come and light a candle in memory of departed loved ones. A chantry list is available at the back of both churches for you to add the names you would like to be read out at the service.

Sunday 8th November is Remembrance Sunday. The Sunday nearest to the eleventh day of the eleventh month, is a time for remembering those who fell in the defence of freedom, not only in two World Wars, but also in all the lesser conflicts which have shattered nations and peoples since. We look backwards to honour those who gave lives in war, but we must also look forwards to keep faith with them and use our energies to build the sort of world that they held dear. There is an old saying that "those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it" that is why it is important for all of us to remember, and to pray that the world's rulers and statesmen may make wise and honourable decisions on behalf of their peoples. As always, the Parish Mass at St Saviour will conclude with a short Act of Remembrance, whilst at The Ascension we will be joined by representatives from the Royal Navy for our Remembrance Service beginning at 10.55am. A shortened Mass will follow for those who wish to stay. There will be the usual Garden of Remembrance outside The Ascension, perhaps you would like to dedicate a small wooden Poppy Cross in memory of someone?

Due to the lockdown we were unable to hold our Spring Fayres so we need to make a success of our Christmas Markets as we look to rebuild our income from fundraising. Please do come along on Saturday 14th November at St Saviour and Saturday 21st November at The Ascension, both from 11am-2pm. Donations of things to sell will be much appreciated, as will offers to host stalls. Please keep selling your Grand Draw tickets to friends and family. If you have 'sold out' – Thank you, and please take another bundle from the back of church. The first prize will be £100 in cash. We are also selling a beautifully produced Christmas Card at the back of each church. At a very reasonable £4 for ten cards. All proceeds will go towards parish finances.

The final Sunday in November is also the last Sunday of the Church Year, the Solemnity of Christ the King, and St Saviour's Feast of Title. There will be a Parish Mass as usual in the morning, and then at 6pm Festal Evensong and Benediction, with Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The preacher this year will be the Venerable Jenny Rowley, the new Archdeacon of Portsdown. We will also be joined by a small choir as well as a number of visiting clergy, so please make every effort to attend and invite your family and friends.

Finally we will endeavour to distribute a card to every household across both parishes, wishing them a Happy Christmas and including details of all our services. If you are able to help distribute these, even just one street, please sign up to a distribution route at the back of Church. Thank you in advance for helping to spread the word that the Parishes of The Ascension and St Saviour remain alive in these unusual times.

With my love and prayers,



Fr Benjamin.

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Calendar for November 2020

Saturday 31 st	ALL SAINTS' AND ALL SOULS' 6.00pm	Festal Evensong & Benediction for the Eve	The Ascension
Sunday 1 st	9.30am 11.00am 6.30pm	Parish Mass for All Saints' Day Family Mass for All Saints' Day Solemn Evensong & Benediction	St Saviour The Ascension Holy Spirit, Southsea
Monday 2 nd	10.00am 7.30pm	Solemn Requiem Mass for All Souls' Day Solemn Requiem Mass for All Souls' Day	St Saviour Holy Spirit, Southsea
Wednesday 4 th	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 5 th	5.15pm 6.00pm 7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice Evensong & Low Mass (BCP) Parochial Church Council Meeting	The Ascension The Ascension The Ascension
Friday 6 th	7.00pm 6.00pm	Choir Practice Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour St Saviour
Sunday 8 th	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 9.30am <u>10.55am</u>	Parish Mass and Act of Remembrance Service of Remembrance followed by Requiem Mass	St Saviour The Ascension
Monday 9 th	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 11 th	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 12 th	5.15pm 6.00pm	Junior Choir Practice Walsingham Devotions & Requiem Mass	The Ascension The Ascension
Friday 13 th	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
Saturday 14 th	11.00am	Christmas Market	St Saviour
Sunday 15 th	33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Mass Parish Mass Choral Evensong	St Saviour The Ascension St Mark, North End
Monday 16 th	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 18 th	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 19 th	6.30pm	Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 20 th	6.00pm 7.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass Choir Practice	St Saviour St Saviour
Saturday 21 st	11.00am	Christmas Market	The Ascension
Sunday 22 nd	CHRIST THE KING (ST SAVIOUR'S FEAST OF TITLE) 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Procession and Parish Mass Parish Mass Festal Evensong, Procession & Benediction	St Saviour The Ascension St Saviour
Monday 23 rd	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 25 th	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club & PCC Meeting	St Saviour
Thursday 26 th	5.15pm 6.00pm	Junior Choir Practice Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension The Ascension
Friday 27 th	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass (of Requiem)	St Saviour
Sunday 29 th	THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Mass Parish Mass The Advent Procession & Benediction	St Saviour The Ascension The Ascension