

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

September 2021

Dear Friends,

This summer has been unusual, the weather in particular providing a sense of unease. On the world stage too, the last month has been one of worry and concern about the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan and the sense of no one being fully in control. We also wonder what the winter will bring as the ongoing risk of another wave of the virus is ever present. Other emotions remain the same as ever, the beginning of September is the time to start afresh; even for those of us for whom school is a distant memory. The new term dawns and with it the opportunity to gather new pencils, notebooks, inks, timetables, textbooks, perhaps even a fresh satchel and set off to do better in thought, word and deed than we managed last year. The pleasure comes from the preparation, the gathering together of the blank slates; it is like that moment before the concert begins, before the conductor arrives at the podium.

It has been good to see so many of you back in church, as well as at our social events. In particular the Salmon and Strawberry Lunch at the Vicarage was enjoyed by those who came, and I know that our recent outing to London will long remain in the memories of those who came, and several people have already asked if we can do it again! Weekly attendance at Sunday Mass is crucial if we are to grow our churches and it would be good to see full attendance from September, the schedule for which is overleaf. All masses are at the usual times and there are two feast days which will be marked with weekday Sung Masses, the **Nativity of Our Lady** on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September** and **Michaelmas** on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>** both 11.30am at St Saviour.

Our financial situation remains challenging, though I'm pleased to say that our hall bookings have now returned to their previous levels. Unfortunately, the cost of electricity and gas has increased by over thirty percent since this time last year which is a cause of great concern, therefore your generous giving and fundraising is of huge importance. Our **Autumn Fair** at St Saviour takes place on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September** from **10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.** This is our first fair for eighteen months and our major fundraising event of the year so please give your full support and make sure you invite your friends and neighbours. Donations of Raffle and Tombola prizes would be much appreciated as would cakes for the cake stall. Posters are available for you to display. At The Ascension our Fair takes place in November. Looking ahead, October begins with **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, with the **Harvest Supper** at St Saviour on the evening of Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>. As always this will include entertainment, so please let me know if you have any hidden talents!

I'm very grateful for all the work our Parochial Church Councils and Churchwardens put in behind the scenes to support our churches. The Churchwardens will be formally admitted to their Office by the Archdeacon on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at S. Mary's, Fratton. The service is at 7pm and is open to everyone if you would like to go along to support them. Also at St Mary's on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm is a meeting to discuss the new Deanery Plan, again all are welcome as we look at how our churches might look in the future. Much work goes on behind the scenes to keep our churches so well cared for. In particular, caring for the gardens at both churches takes a lot of time. If you could spend the odd hour helping out (or know someone who could) please speak to me or the churchwardens, and if you are walking by please feel free to remove a weed (or two!).

In his epistle to the Philippians, St Paul says "I have learned the secret of being content" and he engages the Philippians to do likewise (Philippians 4.12). In our modern world, it seems to me that we may have lost the beauty and joy of being content in our lives and substituted it with a stressful need to be always doing and always achieving. This is why I like the first days of September. Here is an opportunity to return to school, work or home refreshed and prepared; to be ourselves, to be content and to see what God has in store for us.

With my love and prayers,



Fr Benjamin.

*Parish Priest: Fr Benjamin Weitzmann*

Tel: 02392 439711

[fatherweitzmann@gmail.com](mailto:fatherweitzmann@gmail.com)

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

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

## *Calendar for September 2021*

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass (BCP) followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5.15pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension
	7.00pm	Parochial Church Council	The Ascension
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
	7.00pm	Choir Practice	St Saviour
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family Mass</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Family Mass</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass followed by Coffee Morning	St Saviour
	7.00pm	Archdeacon's Visitation	St Mary's, Fratton
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Sung Mass for Nativity BVM followed by Lunch</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	5.15pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	6.00pm	Rosary, Walsingham Devotions & Low Mass	The Ascension
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Autumn Fair</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	2.00pm	Holy Baptism	St Saviour
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE TWENTY FOURTH 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>
	1.00pm	Holy Baptism	The Ascension
	6.30pm	Solemn Evensong & Benediction	Holy Spirit, Southsea
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Low Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
	1.30pm	Funeral Office - The Late Derek Belk	The Ascension
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5.15pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Quiz Night with Indian Supper</b>	<b>The Ascension</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE TWENTY FIFTH 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 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.30am	Monthly Requiem Mass followed by Lunch Club	St Saviour
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5.15pm	Junior Choir Practice	The Ascension
	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	The Ascension
	7.00pm	Deanery Consultation Evening	St Mary's Fratton
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Evensong & Low Mass	St Saviour
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE TWENTY SIXTH 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>
	<b>4.30pm</b>	<b>Beetle Drive with Bring &amp; Share Afternoon Tea</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Solemn Evensong &amp; Benediction</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Low Mass	St Saviour
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Sung Mass for Michaelmas followed by Lunch Club</b>	<b>St Saviour</b>
	1.15pm	Parochial Church Council	St Saviour
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>		<u>No Mass</u>	