

South East Hampshire Pastoral Area
Jesus Prince of Peace
St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church, Leigh Park

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth charity number 1199568

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Our Website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/st-michael-and-all-angels-leigh-park/>

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS 1st /2nd November 2025

All Souls: Masses on Monday 3 November @ 7am at Sacred Heart and 7pm at St Michael & All Angels, Leigh Park.

Fr. Tom writes ...

I have personally never understood why people watch horror films. The world seems quite ugly enough to me without making demons and angry ghosts part of my evening recreation. The rise in popularity of these films (and Halloween in general) is something hard to explain in a secular way. We are, the media and academia often imply, living in a scientific, materialist culture. So why do so many people still read astrology, go to psychics, explore magic and paganism, and watch films about evil spirits? And, on the other hand, why are so many people turning back to the Church at the moment, including celebrities and intellectuals, in what the media is calling 'the Quiet Revival'?

In modern times, Christian thinkers from C.S Lewis to Pope Francis have warned that the notion the Devil does not exist is a perfect cover for the Devil, and that the chaos and despair mounting everywhere is evidence that the ruse is working. In a famous General Audience given in 1972, Pope Paul VI warned Catholics not to believe that evil was simply the absence of good, but rather "an intelligent and active force". The Church warns against anything to do with incantations or spells or the invoking of spirits, even in play.

Thankfully, the Church also reminds us that the Devil is just a creature, terrified of Jesus, and that the Kingdom of God is here to stay, whatever the world says. We believe that Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, gave his life for us, leaving us a Church to guard and guide us, including the beautiful saints who pray for us. We are often out of our depth in this bewildering world, but Jesus said he would never abandon his sheep, and we believe Him. In uncertain and confused times, His trustworthiness shines brighter than ever. Let us not indulge our fears and morbid curiosities: let us love Jesus more than ever, the living and true God!

All Saints 2nd November 2025

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Scripture Readings at Mass

Revelations 7:2-4,9-14 *'Behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.'*

1 John 3:1-3 *'We shall see God as he is.'*

Matthew 5:1-12 *'Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'*

Our Liturgies this week

Reconciliation; in the half hour prior to Mass

Saturday 1st November

Our Lady on Saturday

12 Noon Mass for the Parish

2nd November

All Saints

9.30 am Mass Thanksgiving for Mike & Ann Carroll

Monday 3rd November

7pm Mass The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Tuesday 4th November

St Charles Borromeo, Bishop, memorial

Wednesday 5th November, Feria

10.15 am Mass Anthony RIP

10.45 am Adoration

Thursday 6th November, Feria

Friday 7th November, Feria

Saturday 8th November

Our Lady on Saturday

12 Noon Mass for Our Lady on Saturday

Sunday 9th November

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

9.30am Mass Madeleine Jackson

Rosary group meet on Monday's at 10am.
Everyone is welcome.

CAFOD World Gifts

If you're looking for ideas for Christmas gifts, then look no further than buying a CAFOD WORLD GIFT as a meaningful way to reflect our values and the true spirit of Christmas. Prices are within people's pockets and no matter whether you choose a gift at the cheaper end, it will make a positive difference to somebody or their community. So, please take a catalogue after mass this weekend or go online to worldgifts.cafod.org.uk and have a browse.

Think & Drink – It's back!

1st Sunday of every month. Young adults (18+) are invited to join us for fellowship and fun. Gathering in the Narthex at Sacred Heart Church after the 5.30pm Mass on the first Sunday of every month and walking across to the Woodpecker Pub on London Road.

Second Collection: Bamenda

Each year on the first Sunday of November we celebrate the link between our diocese and the archdiocese of Bamenda in Cameroon.

Remembrance Sunday 9 November

Poppies are available this weekend. All donations to the Royal British Legion.

Sick or housebound

If you know someone who would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit, please contact the parish office. Parishioners who wish to help with this ministry are also invited to get in touch.

Children's Choir Join us at St Michael's for a Children's Choir every Wednesday from 6 pm to 7 pm, starting 12 November and continuing until Christmas. All children are welcome to sing and make music.

Catholic Grandparents Association Set up by an Irishwoman in 2002, it has spread throughout the world, been endorsed by popes, and is now open to all elderly relatives wishing to pass on our beautiful Catholic faith to grandchildren. Resources, ideas, pilgrimages and more information generally can be found on catholicgrandparentsassociation.org. There is a local group of the association that meets on the **second Thursday of each month at St Michael and All Angels in Leigh Park.**

In July of this year, Pope Leo XIV declared "Let us look to our grandparents and elderly as witnesses of hope." Whether it's teaching primary school children how to pray the rosary or knowing how to speak about Jesus and Mary to children glued to an iPad or simply swapping stories and encouraging each other in this wonderful mission, come along. Next meeting: **11am Thursday 13th November.**

Christmas Lunch at St Joseph's, Havant

Wednesday 3rd December from 12noon. Tickets £13 – Please book by 24th November – but hurry as numbers are limited. Contact Julia juliaat28@hotmail.co.uk

Jesus, Prince of Peace Christmas Fair will be held at St Joseph's on Saturday 6th December. This weekend we are requesting handmade crafts. e.g. decorations, cards, jewellery, knits.

Sacred Heart Christmas Fair Coordinated by Nina McCormack on Sunday 7th December, straight after Mass.

St Michael's Christmas party December 20th 5pm – 11pm. Please bring food to share. See out noticeboard for more information

Update and where we are following on from our meeting on Sunday 14 September

Children/Youth choir	Will begin on Wednesday 12 November at 6pm-7pm at St Michael's.
Catholic Mother's Group	In progress. Further updates soon.
Community outreach	Fr Tom is establishing a group.
Craft Group	If you are interested in leading, please contact the parish office.
Encourage more young adults	Think and Drink (1st Sunday of every month. Young adults (18+) are invited to join us for fellowship and fun. Gathering in the Narthex at Sacred Heart Church after 5.30 pm Mass on the first Sunday of every month and walking across to the Woodpecker Pub on London Road.
Family circles for young families	We are looking to develop a monthly children's Mass. Further information to follow in the newsletter.
Flower arrangers	We need more flower arrangers. Please let the parish office know if you are interested in helping.
Food Bank	Fr Tom is developing a group. If you are interested in being involved in outreach, please see Fr Tom.
Formation in Faith, Bible group	A bible group meet on Monday evenings at 7.45pm – 9.15pm on Zoom. If you wish to join, please email Kathy Collins, kathyimcollins1@gmail.com who will send you a link. Lenten talks have been arranged each Saturday during Lent.
Health programme	Slimming World is held every Thursday at St Michael's.
Justice and Peace Group	Newly formed Justice & Peace Group for Jesus Prince of Peace Parish - St Michael's require a representative. If you are interested, please contact Philip Hayllar philiphayllar@hotmail.com
Prayer Group	Rosary group meet each Monday in Church at 10 am. Post Alpha, after Christmas, other groups will be organised.
Social events	It has been agreed there will be 4 x events for the year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Party 20 December • Quiz night • Karaoke night • Summer Barbecue. <p>If you would like to be on the social committee, please let us know.</p>
Taking communion to the housebound	Fr James and Fr Tom are currently organizing a schedule to visit those who are sick or housebound. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit, please contact the parish office.
Youth Group	A Pastoral Area Youth Group for 8–12-year-olds is being formed! A rep from each church would be required. Please let the parish office know if you are interested. More details on meeting times will be shared soon.