



**St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church. Totton  
Our Lady of the Assumption & St. Edward the  
Confessor Church. Lyndhurst**

(Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth) Reg Charity No: 246871,  
Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Onyejuluwa, MSP. Serving the Parishes of Totton & Lyndhurst  
Parish Office: 20 Beaumont Road, Totton SO40 3AL, Hants.  
Tel: 023 8086 2270, E-mail: [totton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:totton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Rev. Stephen Short. Parish Deacon.  
Totton Parish Safeguarding Rep: Mrs. Lynda Szymanski 02380292058.  
Lyndhurst Parish Safeguarding Rep: Adrian Forest. 02380283427.  
Parish Secretary/Administrator Steve Bowler (Thursday 9 – 1pm)



**The Octave of Christmas –Psalter week 1. Year A**

Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mass. St. Theresa's 6.00.pm.  
**The Holy Innocents**  
Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mass. Our Lady's 9.00.am.  
**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
Sun. 29<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mass. St. Theresa's 10.30.am.  
  
Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mass. St. Theresa's 9.30.am.  
  
Tue. 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. Mass. St Theresa's 9.30.am.  
  
Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. Mass. St Theresa's 9.30.am.  
**Mary, The Holy Mother of God**  
  
Thu. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. Mass. Our Lady's 10.00am.  
**Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**  
Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan. No Mass.

**The Epiphany of the Lord –Psalter week 2. Year A**

Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. St. Theresa's 6.00.pm.  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**  
Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. Our Lady's 9.00.am.  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**  
Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. St. Theresa's 10.30.am.  
  
Mon. 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. St. Theresa's 9.30.am.  
  
Tue. 7<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass St. Theresa's 9.30.am.  
  
Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. St Theresa's 9.30.am.  
  
Thu. 9<sup>th</sup> Jan. Mass. Our Lady's 10.00am.  
Fri. 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. No Mass.

**+Please pray for the following members of our community who are ill or housebound:** Bella Calder, Claire Sorrell, Tony Wright, John Tobin, Christopher Brown, Peggy Crooke, Greg Borkowski, Jay Dosanjh, John Vidal, Clara Nolan, Eve Barry, Ray & Mary Templeman, Chris Phelan, and Mary Taylor. For all those in nursing homes or hospital and other Parish Family members who are ill or need our prayers.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS:**

Fr. Gerry and Deacon Stephen wish a very happy, blessed and joyful Christmas tide to all our parishioners their family members and relatives and all our visitors to our parish during this Holy season. If you are going away for the Christmas Celebrations and holiday period, we wish you a blessed and holy Christmas. We wish you safe journeys to and from your destinations and an enjoyable and relaxed time. If you are staying at home, we look forward to seeing you over the Christmas period. Fr Gerry gratefully thanks Parishioners for their Christmas cards and gifts.

**The Christmas offering** is your personal gift to Fr. Gerry and makes up part of his personal income for the coming year. Envelopes are in the boxes for those in the Gift Aid scheme.

***Thank you for your generosity!***

**Pope Francis' Intentions Jan 2020**

**Promotion of World Peace**

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

**Pope's Tweets:** Our response to the challenges posed by contemporary migration can be summed up in four verbs: welcome, protect, promote and integrate. If we put them into practice, we will help build the city of God and man. Every conversion comes from a previous experience of mercy, from God's tenderness that captures the heart.

## **God's Blessing upon you all for the New Year 2020**

Many thanks to Our Lord and Saviour for enabling us to celebrate His Birthday in our Parish with so much joy. Also, thanks to all who helped with the preparations for the Christmas celebrations, those who cleaned and decorated the Church so beautifully. Thanks to the Special Ministers of the Eucharist, the Readers collectors and altar servers, flower arrangers and church cleaners for their diligent support throughout the year. Thank you to everyone in the parish for your prayers and commitment, your love of God and your support. A special thank you to those whose faith, good works and service is known only to God. On a personal note, I wish to thank you all for your generous gifts to me in the Christmas offering, your personal gifts and cards. I ask God our loving Father, the Baby Jesus and God the Holy Spirit to bless and reward all of you abundantly. May you continue to have a wonderful celebration of God's presence in your lives through this Christmas season and happiness in the New Year.

### **Some Free Gifts coming your way – from Bishop Philip Egan**

The Year of God's Word has begun. Over the next twelve months, I'd like to encourage everyone in our Diocese to deepen their understanding, knowledge and love of the Bible, especially of the Gospels. St. Jerome, the great biblical scholar, once said that every line of the Scriptures points ultimately to Jesus Christ, such that *ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ*. So, I am sending out to all Mass-going parishioners in every parish of our Diocese some free gifts! One is a pocket-sized copy of the Gospel of St. Luke (or of St. Matthew) for you to carry with you. This will be ideal for when you have a quiet moment during the day and an encouragement to do a bit of *lectio divina*. (My introduction at the front of the Gospel explains how to go about *lectio*, if you are unfamiliar). I am also sending out a prayer-card with a *Prayer for the Renewal of the Diocese*. I have asked our priests to insert the recitation of this prayer into all Masses over the coming months, either during the Bidding Prayers or before the Final Blessing. Finally, I am sending out some copies of a free magazine produced by the national committee of the 'Year of the God Who Speaks' that contains many informative articles and ideas to help keep this coming year special.

**Fr. Brian Croughan**, former parish priest of St. Theresa's Totton (2003 – 2008), now retired and living in Winchester, wishes to thank all of you who sent to him Christmas cards. He wishes all of you A Merry Christmas!

**This Christmas 2019, our Crib offerings** in the Diocese will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land. (In alternate years, the collections are sent to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre). These offerings remind us that the Christian community in the Holy Land represents a physical link between the modern world and the life and times of Christ – they are the 'living stones' of our faith. Since 1998, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has organised a group called the Holy Land Co-ordination. It is chaired by Bishop Declan Lang of Clifton. Recently, Bishop Declan issued the following statement: "*As Bishops of the Holy Land Co-ordination have consistently highlighted, we all have a responsibility to oppose the continued construction of illegal settlements, which not only fuels human rights violations, but imperils any chance of a two-state solution. We stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as it strives for justice and peace amid these increasingly difficult circumstances and look forward to reiterating this support in person during our forthcoming visit to Christian communities in Palestine.*"

**VOCATIONS** Our **Seminarian to keep in your prayers this month** David Bateman who is in his third year at Oscott Seminary, Birmingham. He is a parishioner of the Cathedral Parish in Portsmouth. David says this about his vocation. "I have thought about the sacred Priesthood since the age of 9, and on what seems like a long journey I am now in my third year of formation. I became a Catholic at the age 17. I didn't go to university, instead after college I joined my brother and became a builder. I did this for 5 years until I met with the Bishop and we both decided that it was time to stop thinking about Priesthood and do something about it. I left my Job, family and friends to join seminary. I am extremely happy with where I am now, and I am proud to be a seminarian for the diocese of Portsmouth. To find out more about vocations visit. "I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you". To explore further, contact Fr. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869

### **World day of Peace**

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Pope Francis will mark the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual World day of Peace with a message titled:

#### **PEACE AS A JOURNEY OF HOPE:**

**Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion**  
*Peace, a journey of hope in the face of obstacles and trial.*

*Peace, a journey of listening based on memory, solidarity and fraternity*

*Peace, a journey of reconciliation in fraternal communion*

*Peace, a journey of ecological conversion*

*"We obtain all that we hope for"*