Catholic Parish of Crowthorne and Sandhurst
Holy Ghost and the Immaculate Conception Churches
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Newsletter – Sunday 1st November 2026
All Saints Day

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Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 10.00am (HG) John Barry RIP

6.00pm (IC) Doreen O'Toole RIP

Sunday 9.00am (IC) The People of the Parish

11.00am (HG) June Brown RIP

Monday 9.30am (HG) Deceased family members of O'Donovan and O'Brien families

Tuesday **No Mass today**

Wednesday 9.30am (IC) Elizabeth Manweiler RIP

Thursday 9.30am (HG) Bill Williams RIP

Friday 9.30am (IC) Bill Smallman RIP

Saturday 10.00am (HG) The well-being of Rama and family

6.00pm (IC) Sandra McSorley RIP

Sunday 9.00am (IC) Douglas Almeida RIP

(8/11) 11.00am (HG) The People of the Parish

IC – Church of the Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst HG – Church of the Holy Ghost, Crowthorne

Feasts

Monday **Commemoration of All Souls**
Tuesday **St. Martin de Porres, Friar**
Wednesday **St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop**
Saturday **St. Willibrord, Bishop, Patron of the Netherlands**

This Sunday we will use the Preface of All Saints & Eucharistic Prayer 1

The following people's anniversaries will occur during the coming week : Peter Doran, Alma Woulfe, Michael James, Alma Hughes, Douglas Almeida, Michael Grealish, Baby Roman Fuller and John Barrett. Please also remember in prayer Canon David Mahy, a priest of our diocese, who died last week. May they all rest in peace.

Confessions – The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at the following times:
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst: Fridays at 10.00am; Saturdays 5.15pm until 5.45pm
Church of the Holy Ghost,. Crowthorne: Saturdays 10.30am; Sundays after the 11.00am Mass

Refreshments after Sunday Mass – Refreshments are normally available both Sunday morning Masses.

November, Month of the Holy Souls – In Catholic tradition November is dedicated in a special way to praying for the Faithful Departed . As a focus for our prayers Books of Remembrance will be placed in the front of both of our churches and you are invited to write in them the names of those for whom you wish to pray.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following who have died since this time last year: Pauline Lloyd; Colin Cooper; Eileen Keelty; Connie Harrison; Catherine Wallis; Hairta Mantri; Dylan Byrne; Jane Fordham; Eileen Hoare; Eddie Letmon; and Grace Grose.

The Church offers a Plenary Indulgence, applicable only to those who have died, daily from 1st until 8th November to those who fulfil the following requirements:

1. Go to Confession and subsequently receive Holy Communion (not necessarily on the same day but you do need to be in a state of Grace).
2. Visit a cemetery and pray for those who have died, using any form of prayer you choose. Our own Parish Garden of Remembrance at the church in Sandhurst would meet this requirement.
3. Pray for the Pope's intentions – this can be any prayer of your choice, although an "Our Father" and "Hail Mary" suffice.

Only one Plenary Indulgence can be gained on any one day. As long as a person remains in a state of being free from sin, one Confession suffices to gain several Plenary Indulgences. However, for each Indulgence a separate reception of Holy Communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions is necessary.

Catechism Classes – Every year in our parish we run a course of Catechism Classes which aim at deepening our children's knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith. Any child who belongs to our Parish Community and who is in School Year 4 or above is welcome to join the classes. For those who attend Sunday Mass regularly, at the end of the course they receive their First Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion. We also use this process to bring to the sacraments older children who wish to be baptised or to be received into membership of the Catholic Church. The course will begin in January and so parents who wish their child to take part are invited to contact Father Marcus.

Afternoon Tea – will be served from 2.00pm – 4.00pm on Wednesday 4th November in the Parish Room at the Church of the Holy Ghost, Crowthorne. We look forward to seeing you.

Carers Coffee Meeting – Do you help look after someone with a care need? Please come along to our informal coffee meetings, held on the 4th Friday of the month, at Buckler's Lodge Care Home in Crowthorne. See posters in the church porches for more information.

Christmas Fayre 2026 – will be held in the Immaculate Conception hall on **Saturday 21 November** between 10am and 4pm, and 7pm and 8pm and **Sunday 22 November** between 10am and 11am **Stalls** - to include Bottles/Tombola, Gifts, Jewellery, Cakes and Produce (with ingredients list please), Christmas, China and Glass, Games and Puzzles (complete please) – we cannot accept electrical goods. Donations gratefully accepted from 17/18 October, after the WEEKEND Masses, in the Christmas boxes in the porch. Please do not leave items during the week. **Christmas Raffle** - 1st prize £150 plus 11 other prizes. Tickets are £1 each. To ensure your chance please place your cash in an envelope marked with your name, telephone number and amount enclosed. They will be collected after each weekend Mass starting on 10/11 October – Sherrie has a very efficient system. The draw will take place between 7pm and 8pm on Saturday 21 November. **Offers of Help** – even for an hour or two to set up on Friday 20 November between 11.30am and 3 pm, help on a stall for an hour or two on the Saturday or to help tidy up on the Sunday between 11am and 1pm, will be greatly appreciated. **Questions, queries or offers of help** to Sherrie or Pat after Mass or Pat on 01344 774746 – Thank you.

Parish Census – It is very helpful for us to have contact details for our parishioners. Some months ago we issued a new Parish Census Form. If you have not already done so, please would parishioners complete one of these and return it to the Parish Office or hand it to Father Marcus. The information is put on to a computer data base called Church Suite and is treated with strict confidence. The green Census Forms can be found with the newsletters in the church porch. It is one form per family. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Could you walk alongside someone discovering the Catholic Faith ? Many people across our Pastoral Area are exploring the Catholic Faith through RCIA and sponsors are now being sought to accompany them. Being a sponsor is about being a friend, a listening ear and a companion on the journey. The practicalities would involve accompanying your candidate to the RCIA meetings in Bracknell on Thursday evenings and being present for the particular rites that mark their progress celebrated during Lent. As the candidates are admitted to membership of the Church at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night, being able to attend then would be essential. Guidance, preparation and ongoing support will be given to sponsors for this ministry. If you are interested, please have a word with Father Marcus, who will refer you to our RCIA Parish Contact. An initial conversation carries no commitment.

Save the date – Seniors Christmas Lunch on Saturday 5th December. This event is for parishioners who are over 75. Invitations will be sent out in October. Anyone eligible who has not previously attended should contact the parish office with their details (name, home address and telephone number).

Mass of Anointing - Corpus Christi, Wokingham will celebrate a Mass of Anointing on Saturday 7th November at 10.30am. The Mass is intended especially for those experiencing physical or mental health difficulties, those in need of spiritual support, and those of advancing years. We will come together in prayer, asking for healing, comfort and strength for ourselves and one another. Tea and coffee will be available in the Keenan Rooms after Mass, and everyone is welcome to stay. If you need a lift to attend, please contact the SVP on 01182 114130 and leave a message, or email suzettesymons@gmail.com.

Bamenda Sunday – This weekend is Bamenda Sunday, a celebration of a partnership between our two dioceses where we learn, pray and support each other. An important part of the link has been the support we have sent over the years. Your generosity has made a huge impact on the lives of many of the poorest and most vulnerable people in Bamenda and is most sincerely appreciated by them. You can read here, https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Bamenda-Sunday-Newsletter-2026.pdf, how your donations have supported Caroline and Stephen in the Bamenda Sunday newsletter. Please give as generously you can as your contributions really do transform lives. If you would like to support our Diocese's continuing assistance to the Diocese of Bamenda, please place your kind donation in the box or **through digital plate** in the porch after the Mass. Donations can also be made online at - https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/bamenda/donate/

Portsmouth Lay Leaders' Conference 2026 - Inspired by our ten-year Mission Plan, You Will Be My Witnesses, the Lay Leaders Conference will take place on Saturday 21 November at the Solent Hotel Whiteley near Southampton between 9.00am and 3.30pm. The conference will offer an opportunity to share experiences, explore fresh ideas and consider how clergy and laity can work together to strengthen our parishes and bring more people to know Jesus Christ. As we look to the future of our Diocese, we want as many people as possible to be part of this important conversation. Please register for free here - https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=aXEQD-Bnr06EKJ6fBel0q1wN0UsJndlOuXgPfooAU7RUQ0xJN1NJUDlLWEJYNEZCWkNIMkVZRjEwMi4u

Plate Collection – for last Sunday: £947.93 (£20 for World Mission Sunday, £10 for Bamenda and £10 for CAFOD) - Standing Orders: £575 - Digital Giving collection: £172.07. Thank you for your generosity. If anyone wishes to donate by cheque to the parish, cheques should be made payable to CDP Crowthorne HG & Sandhurst IC.

Now that are often have the heating on in the church and it takes a good while to make the building warm, please can we all remember to keep the main door closed so that the heat is not lost.