

Catholic Parish of Jesus Prince of Peace

Southeast Hampshire

St Patrick's Catholic Church

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Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

23 October 2026

Dear Friends,

As promised here is an update on the work we have been carrying out in response to a suggestion at our last parish meeting in July, where a number of positive suggestions were made alongside offers of voluntary service.

In terms of communication, we are now delivering a coherent approach. Deacon Craig is producing our weekly newsletter, circulated electronically (normally on a Friday) to over 160 members of our Catholic community, with hard copies available on Sunday for those unable to receive it electronically. This is followed up through Notices at Mass focussing on key issues. He has also designed our new website, which, while still a work in development, will be a vital platform for important information, including a summary of who does what.

To that end, Clare and Gerry have held very useful meetings with those of you, who specifically offered your services. This has enabled us to respond to some suggestions which were made in our July Meeting, alongside increasing our drive to involve more Parishioners and make greater use of our congregation's God-given skills and talents. Please see a list attached at Appendix A. Moreover, in a direct response to a suggestion from a member of our community to have a Parish Prayer, the SLT has agreed that the prayer composed by Fr James for our last Parish meeting was most appropriate. It is intended for it to be added, in its entirety [Appendix B], in the hymn books and may also be used in an edited form for a variety of occasions, ranging from bidding prayers to any community gathering, as the host / leader feels appropriate.

More information was also requested on our financial situation. Please find a summary at Appendix C. Should you have any specific questions about finance, please direct them by email to our Finance Administrator, Yvonne Hands: accounts@waterlooville-catholic.org.uk.

It is our intention to produce regular updates on our financial situation. The monthly cash collections (i.e. offertory, candles, coffee after Mass, special collections) once counted, will be published in the Newsletter. A financial summary of each quarter's income and expenditure will appear in The Quarterly, which will continue to be edited by Gerry and Breda.

Looking to the immediate short term, Dates for your Diary [Appendix D] have been produced, and where provisional, will be confirmed in detail in further weekly newsletters or The Advent Edition of The Quarterly.

After the month of November, which focuses on the great solemnities, of All Souls and All Saints, followed closely by Remembrance Sunday, we then move into the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Fr Tom, Fr Andrew and Deacon Craig, and occasionally Monsignor Jeremy Garrett and Fr John Adikwu will be leading our worship during this celebratory period in the church's year. These services provide us with great opportunities to continue to strengthen our Catholic community here on Hayling, by bringing your family, your friends and your neighbours to church, as we spread the message of Jesus Christ to all who live on Hayling Island.

God Bless you all,

St Patrick's Servant Leadership Team

Appendix A

Outcomes from meetings with those who offered help in their responses to the Parish Meeting Questionnaire

Janet Lynch:	Admin support
John Meacham:	Synodality
Monica Peters:	Readers' Rota
Brigitte Minassian:	Hall Notice Boards
Graham Minassian:	Parish Event Photography
Geoffrey Hartridge:	Research Car Park charging
Elaine Meacham	To help make our church more aesthetically prayerful

Four other parishioners interviewed are already volunteering in the parish and did not wish to take up any further roles at this time. There are further meetings are still to be arranged.

We are in the process of setting up a new Community Group called Preparation for Extreme Weather Conditions. We thank Maureen Staggs for making us aware of this need.

Appendix B

St Patrick's Community Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Heavenly Father, we gather today as the of St Patrick's, grateful for Your presence among us.

We ask You to bless this meeting and guide all that we say, hear, and do.

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Protect us from all evil and from anything that would divide us. Remove from our hearts and minds all anger, resentment, disappointment, and fear, so that we may meet one another with charity, humility, and understanding.

Come, Holy Spirit! Come! Fill us with Your wisdom and grace. Help us to listen attentively to the information that is shared today.

Open our hearts and minds to Your guidance, so that each of us may discern how You are calling us to enrich and strengthen our Catholic community on Hayling.

May we speak with kindness, listen with respect, and seek always the good of our parish and the glory of Your holy name. Unite us in faith, hope, and love as we continue the mission of Christ together.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Appendix C

Financial Situation

It has been agreed that all communities in JPOP Parish will provide a financial statement on the same day, in identical format. These will be published once the JPOP Finance Committee has approved the figures.

Our cash collections, i.e. offertory, special collections, candles and coffee after Mass will then be shown in our newsletter after the monthly counting. The Quarterly will show the previous quarter's income and expenditure.

We invested the £117,087 proceeds from the land sale. £20,000 has been transferred to the current account, with a further £30,000 to follow in mid-December. These funds will support continued house refurbishment and cemetery development to provide more grave spaces and improve management efficiency.

It was suggested we contact St Peter's Winchester for best practice in managing the various aspect of the cemetery.

Excluding the sale of land, it has been noted that our expenditure exceeds our income by over £10,000 p.a.

Appendix D

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 07 October 2026	Alpha was taken to Wimborne Care Home – for residents and relatives
Sunday 11 October 2026	Harvest Festival Mass, was followed by Ploughman's Lunch in the hall
Friday 23 October 2026	Letter to St Patrick's Community from the Servant Leadership Team
Tuesday 03 November 2026	Blessing of Graves after Mass
Sunday 08 November 2026	Remembrance Sunday Mass
Sunday 22 November 2026	Feast of Christ the King – special family Mass
Sunday 29 November 2026	Promise Auction after Mass
During Advent, date tba	Taize style service – Churches Together on Hayling to be invited
Sunday 24 January 2027	Songs of Praise during the week of prayer for Christian Unity – Churches Together on Hayling will be invited
Tuesday 16 March 2027	Station Mass at St Patrick's
During Lent	Parish Lent Course led by Fr Tom
Spring 2027	St Patrick's Alpha Course