



27 September 2026: 26th Sunday of the Year (A)
Extraordinary Form: 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday, 27 September, is the annual feast of St Vincent de Paul, whose name has become almost synonymous with the Church's service of those in need. Whilst not observed in the liturgy in 2026 as it falls on a Sunday, it is a fitting opportunity to give thanks for the work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) here in Port Elizabeth, and particularly for those members of our own parish who quietly and generously give of their time to this apostolate.

The work of the Society extends beyond any single project, but one very tangible expression of it is the distribution of food parcels to approximately 100 families on the first Saturday of every month. Behind each parcel lies not only the generosity of those who contribute, but the work of those who organise, pack and distribute them, and, importantly, encounter the people and families whom the Society seeks to serve.

An equally important part of the Vincentian vocation is the friendship and mutual support shared among the members themselves. The Society is not simply an organisation for doing charitable works, but a community in which members seek to grow in faith and holiness together through friendship and service. Thank you to our SSVP members for this faithful service. Please keep the Society, its members and those whom they serve in your prayers.

The coming week also brings some beautiful celebrations in the Church's calendar. On Tuesday, 29 September, we celebrate the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, and on Thursday, 1 October, St Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Our Foundations of the Eucharist series resumes on Thursday, 8 October, following the school holidays. Having begun with the biblical foundations of the Eucharist, we will next turn to the witness of the early Church Fathers: what did the generations closest to the Apostles believe and teach about the Eucharist? The series is preparing us for our Forty Hours Devotion, 23–25 October, an extended period of Eucharistic Adoration beginning with Mass on Friday evening and concluding with Benediction on Sunday.

As we look towards the end of September, may these different witnesses — St Vincent in charity, the Archangels in service, St Thérèse in her "little way," and the Fathers in fidelity to the faith received — encourage us in our own response to God.

Yours in Christ

The Fathers of the Oratory

St John Henry Newman

In preparation for the feast of St Newman on 9th October, there will be a *Triduo of prayer from Tuesday 6th to Thursday 8th October*. Do join the Fathers at 17:30 on these days for a Newman meditation, prayer and music. *On Friday 9th October there will be a sung Mass at 5.30pm*, followed by a reception in the hall. Please RSVP to the parish office by Monday 5th October.

Church Schedule: Saturday: Mass 8:30; Exposition & Confession from 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Vigil Mass 18:00 **Sunday:** Exposition at 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Confession from 17:30; Mass 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 (EF) and 18:00 **Monday to Friday:** Mass 6:30, 8:30 daily. Rosary daily at 9:00. **Parish Office:** Open weekday mornings from 09:00 - 10:00. Kindly call or WhatsApp Ann on 073 247 1316 (09:00 - 12:00) to arrange appointments outside these hours. **Pastoral Care:** Call 073 247 1316 or 082 925 2549.

Readings: Daily Missal – 1302; Sunday Missal – 400

Psalm Response: Remember your compassion, O Lord.

Liturgical Week		Mass Intentions
Sat		18:00 Andrée Desterbecq RIP (Anniv.)
Sun	26th Sunday of the Year	7:00 In thanksgiving (Acho family); 8:30 Pro Populo; 10:00 For Ophelia Venske (Her family); 18:00 In thanksgiving (Illenberger family)
Mon	<i>Feria / Ss Lawrence Ruiz & companions; St Wenceslaus</i>	6:30 For the Chowles & Marujo families; 8:30 Ints of Lavita Nuvunga (Her family)
Tue	Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	6:30 For the Bathfield family; 8:30 For Fr Michael on his Feast Day (The Oratory)
Wed	<i>St Jerome</i>	6:30 Ints for Christian Acho; 8:30 Lynne Strong RIP (Anniv.) (Her family)
Thu	<i>St Thérèse of the Child Jesus</i>	6:30 Ints of Colleen Sass; 8:30 Ints of Theresa Makonese
Fri	<i>Guardian Angels</i>	6:30 In reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus; 8:30 Ints of Jenny Henning (Venske family)
Sat	<i>Feria / Mass of our Lady</i>	8:30 For Cedric & Michelle Bathfield; 18:00 Colleen Weddell RIP (Her family)
Sun	27th Sunday of the Year	7:00 Ints of Joy Green (Gaynor Laurie); 8:30 Erna Kupper RIP (Illenberger family); 10:00 In reparation to the Holy Face of Jesus; 18:00 Pro Populo

Parish Notices

Special Collection: There will be a special collection at all Masses next weekend (3/4 October) for the Holy Childhood Society.

Southern Cross magazine: The October issue of the Southern Cross magazine is available in the Repository at R40 per copy.

Diocesan News

High Tea Fundraiser: The Good Shepherd Sisters are hosting a fundraiser for their Akhanani Mission on Saturday 3 October from 14:00 to 17:00 at Sacred Heart Parish. Tickets (R150 each) are available from Sr Zelna 078 623 3604 and Eldeen 083 781 7815. The Mission in Booyens Park serves the broader community and offers a soup kitchen, early childhood care, after care and adult vocational training.

Retreat for the Bereaved: All parishioners who have experienced the loss of a loved one are invited to this year's Retreat for the Bereaved to be held at San Francesco Parish, Charlo on Saturday 10 October from 10:00 to 12:30. The facilitator is Moira Boshoff, who is well known in our diocese for her work in Care Ministry, as well as for the books she has co-authored with Fr Jerry Browne and Fr Larry Kaufmann CSsR.

Retrouvaille Weekend: The next Retrouvaille Weekend will take place in Port Elizabeth from 6–8 November. For information about Retrouvaille visit our website at www.helpourmarriage.com. To register for the next weekend please email portelizabeth@helpourmarriage.org or call 072 783 6785.