

The Messenger

All correspondence to:
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For St Bernard &
St Michael's Churches

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

1st Mar 2009
Year B
divine office Week 1

St Bernard's Church
Southbourne Avenue,
Holbury, SO45 2NT

Waterside Catholic Parish

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams
Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)
Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's
call between 9am - 2pm daily (Mon, Tue, Wed)



PARISH SERVICES

First Sunday of Lent

Sun	1	9 am	SB	Mass: First Sunday of Lent (Margaret Weyman-Jones (Health))
		11 am	SM	Mass: First Sunday of Lent (Dorothy Horner RIP)
		5 pm	SM	Stations of the Cross
Tue	3	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: of Lent (baby Bobby Jones (Health))
		7.30 pm	SB	Lenten Prayer, Adoration & Reflection (also opportunity for individual reconciliation)

Wed 4 7.30 pm SM Evening Prayer and Mass: **of Lent**
(J Gawthorne, N Power, C Richards (RIP))

Thur 5 LT NO MASS AT LYNDHURST TODAY

Sat 7 10 am SM Mass: **of Lent**
(Stuart King (Health))
11 am Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30am)

Second Sunday of Lent

Sun	8	9 am	SB	Mass: Second Sunday of Lent (John MacIsaac RIP)
		11 am	SM	Mass: Second Sunday of Lent (George Krzymuski RIP)

Forthcoming events...

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 6TH MARCH: - Waterside Methodist Church, Dibden Purlieu 2pm - All Welcome

CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY 6TH MARCH 2009: Please give generously to CAFOD's Lent Fast Day and bring hope to people living in poverty. Your help can help CAFOD to change lives. Please use the special CAFOD envelopes and fill in the Gift Aid declaration if you are a taxpayer. The collection is on 8th March. CAFOD Pyramid boxes and envelopes are available to use throughout Lent. *What will YOU give up this year?*

CAFOD SOUP LUNCH THURSDAY - 12TH MARCH 12.30PM ST BERNARD'S HALL: All welcome tickets available after mass and at the Parish Shop £5. All proceeds to CAFOD.

G20 RALLY - 28TH MARCH: The leaders of the world's 20 largest economies will meet in London on 2nd April to discuss how to deal with the economic crisis. CAFOD and other Aid Agencies are organising a rally on 28th March to lobby leaders on a Put People First platform. Their demands are 1) Jobs for All, 2) an end to global poverty and equality, and 3) the building of a green economy to deal with climate change. For more details see letter on noticeboard, log on www.putpeoplefirst.org.uk or phone Louise Croll 80898213.

Information & Notices:

QUIZ NIGHT/AMERICAN SUPPER NIGHT - SAT 25TH APRIL
Donations required for suitable raffle prizes please. If you have any unwanted Christmas gifts, wine, vouchers, etc please drop them into the Parish Office

For the ideal gift visit....

Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882



Volunteers Required in the shop
3 hours in the afternoons
3.4 hours in the mornings

Based on a successful earlier initiative, this exciting new post is a collaboration between several lively and active parish communities who wish to reach out to young people and develop youth ministry in their areas.

Youth Development Leader

Download the application pack from

<http://forum.catholicyouthwork.com>

or for further details and application pack, contact Father John O'Shea at St Josephs and St Edmunds Parish Southampton, 14 Rockstone Place, Southampton, SO15 2EQ Telephone: 023 8033 3589 Email: parish@catholic.co.uk Closing date for applications: 27.2.09 Interviews: 20th March 2009. Post to commence on 1st May or soon after.

TRYING TO CONTACT...

Would our parishioners by the name of **BOOTH** and **MULLEN** please contact Carmel McClatchey as soon as possible on 80842403. Many thanks.

Win a Waitrose/John Lewis Voucher

Tickets on sale after Sunday Mass at 9 & 11 am on 8th February
Draw taking place 1st March after 11 am Mass
** Tickets £1 **

Wild Beasts and Angels

Immediately after Jesus hears the words from heaven: “You are my son, the beloved, with you I am well pleased”, he is driven by the Spirit into the wilderness. This will be a time of testing, of focusing and new strength.

This experience of Jesus symbolically connects with the calling of the Israelite people and their journey into the desert towards the Promised Land. It also links with the spiritual advice of Scripture: *My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for testing* (Sirach 2:1).

The Spirit drives Jesus out because it is imperative that he recognises, confronts and disarms the diabolical (i.e. tearing apart) forces. Jesus, if he is to be the servant and son of the Father cannot be a slave to any other need or power.

This is true also for us. If we are to do God’s work we have to be free spiritually. We have to grow in harmony with God’s will and be ready to commit ourselves wholeheartedly.

How do we find out what is really driving us, what our dependencies are and whose agenda we’re following? We have to be shoved out into the desert. There has to be some experience, voluntary or involuntary, that unmask the wild beasts. We’ve all seen the adverts for products that help us give up smoking. The craving is often depicted as an angry, demanding fantasy creature which has to be defeated. Without restraint a desire can become a demon, an uncontrollable desire is a wild beast. Getting away from business as usual, giving up our little indulgences and comforts, not giving in to our bad habits – this is what unmask the beast. It reveals the strength of the enemy. Identifying and getting the measure of the strength of the enemy is a necessary strategy for ultimate victory. Victory is not the elimination of desire but the refocusing of desire on what is life-giving.

We need to think and experience for ourselves what are our own wild beasts. They could be: a need for praise, recognition, status, control, power, moral superiority, comfort; they could be bitterness and resentments that we haven’t let go, hurts that haven’t been healed, or fears that are paralysing our lives and relationships

Unmasking the wild beasts reveals the truth, it lets the light in. It enables us to experience the help of the angels. The powers of our soul – the desires for life, love and happiness, agitated by our fears and insecurities and led by ignorance into futile searching, are re-focussed on the love of God which enfolds all.

The Spirit helps us on the way to wholeness and freedom. We begin to recover that harmony with God, with ourselves and with all of creation that we sense we have lost. The desert experience is not something that we do just once. Usually we are brought back again and again as the different layers of the ego are purified and re-aligned. But when we confront the wild beasts and accept the ministry of the angels, when we have been through our time of testing, then we have some good news to share. Then we can begin to speak with some authority and have something positive to offer. (DMA)