

The Messenger

St Michaels Church, (SM) Langdown Lawn, Hythe SO45 5GR
St Bernard's Church, (SB) Southbourne Ave, Holbury, SO45 2NT

The Ascension of the Lord 1st June

Year A, Weekdays Yr 2; Psalter week 3

9.00am Mass at SB

11.00am Mass at SM

Mon 2nd June No Service
(*Ss Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs*)

Tuesday 3rd June No Service
(*St Charles Lwanga & Companions*)

Wed 4th June No Service

Thurs 5th June No Service
(*St Boniface, Religious, Bishop & Martyr*)

Friday 6th June **Mass 10am SM**
(*St Norbert, Founder, Bishop*)

Saturday 7th June **Mass 10 am SM**
Sacrament of Reconciliation straight after Mass today

Pentecost Sunday 8th June

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's

11.00am Mass at St Michael's

Mass Intentions: For the week beginning 1st June

Anniversaries this week: Michael Monaghan (2nd F/M), Norbert Power (3rd June)

Those who have died recently: Mary-Anne Cotton, Georges Raffray,

Other Intentions: Sarah Mc Cann, Cath Smith (Health), Neil Tisdale (Health)

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

Rev David Adams -Parish Priest- based at Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Lymington: Tel: 01590 676696 ;

Rev Vincent Convery
Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon & Chair Parish Pastoral Council) Tel: 02380 207449

Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) Tel: 02380 897354

All correspondence to: Linda Guilding, The Parish Administrator, The Parish Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR
Tel: 02380 843479 e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com

New Forest East Pastoral Area: Lyndhurst, Totton & Waterside, Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am

Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

Parish priest : Rev Innaiah Maddineni: Tel: 023 8086 2270

Rev Andrew Philpott (Deacon)

New Forest West Pastoral Area: Brockenhurst, Lymington, Milford on sea & New Milton

Parish Priest: Rev David Adams Tel: 01590 676696

Rev Stephen Morgan (Deacon)

St Anne-Brockenhurst, Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-Lymington, St Francis of Assisi-Milford on Sea.

Parish Priest: Rev Marcin Drabik - Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes- New Milton

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm

Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 10 am,

New Milton 6.30pm Mass in Polish

Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

CHRIST, THE YEAST THAT RAISES THE WHOLE BATCH

The telling of an event or a story is framed and expressed by how we see the world. For the ancient peoples the realm of heaven was literally up beyond the sky. But we know too that the writers of Scripture used meteorological metaphors, for example: the presence of God the Father is signified by a cloud as in - *a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved ..'* (Matt 17:5). But interestingly Matthew's Gospel makes no explicit reference to the ascension of Jesus. What is more difficult for us, if not impossible, is to distinguish the boundaries between symbol and metaphor on the one hand, and empirical references on the other. So is Luke imagining the ascension of Jesus much as we would watch the launch of a space rocket or is it all metaphor '*a cloud took him from their sight*' meaning simply Jesus returns to the Father? Mark's Gospel avoids using too many atmospheric images but still has to use the royal throne metaphor: *the Lord Jesus ... was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place* (Mark 16:19). (If all this talk of metaphor seems strange remember Jesus himself said: *I have said these things to you in figures of speech (i.e. metaphors). The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures (i.e. metaphors) but will tell you plainly of the Father* (John 16:25)).

In our time and culture we have conventions of writing that, with the exception of poetry and poetic lyric, demand absolute clarity and separation between measurable events and forces and those which are of their nature subjective and unquantifiable, e.g. experiences of consciousness. Some people only accept as true and real things and events that can be verified by measurement. However even astrophysicists and quantum physicists have to resort to metaphor to describe phenomena indicated by observation, experiment and mathematical analysis.

Whatever the empirical evidence may be our relationship with God is most definitely experienced within the realm of consciousness or awareness. Indeed consciousness is the irreducible ground of every experience from the empirical to the ineffable. But it is here that we need to make an important distinction. This is the difference between the experience, the awareness or consciousness and the words, thoughts, images that we use to try to articulate that experience. In Western culture we have become more and more identified with thought, ideas and concepts. By getting our words right we imagine we have found the truth. But all we find, in fact, are ideas about the truth, although some ideas can clearly correspond more closely to the truth than others.


Truth is an experience of being, life and reality. Because everything is connected it is ultimately about relationship. In the Bible the word "know" is much closer in meaning to touch, taste & experience than to ideas that is why it has a sexual reference as in Mary's question: *How can this be since I do not know a man* (Luke 1:34). This is why Jesus blessed his Father *for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children* (Matt 11:25). In Genesis (2:17) the prohibition concerning *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil* is not about preventing a theoretical understanding of morality but about preventing the violation of God's very good creation by presuming to judge and act as if some of it were good and some of it were evil. This divides and separates and breaks the unity of all things in God. We do this in a very small way every time we say, for example: *Its rotten weather today*. The term "rotten" is a value judgement not an impartial description.


Jesus once said that the *Kingdom of heaven was like yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened* (Matt 13:33). This is what happens in the Ascension. As the writer to the Christians at Ephesus put it: *The one (Jesus) who rose higher than the heavens to fill all things* (Eph 4:10). We connect with and perceive this mystery through our participation in the consciousness of God, in other words, through the Holy Spirit. As Paul puts it: *these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God* (1 Cor 2:10). The ascension of Jesus reconnects (in our consciousness) body, soul and spirit, earth and heaven, death and life, past, present and future, God, humanity and the world. It expresses the definitive victory of God's love over our sin, enmity and alienation. By the gift of God's Spirit we are awakened to the mystery of God-With-Us and faith is our acceptance of this reality, of who we really are - children of God. This God is *Father of all, over all, through all and within all* (Eph. 4:6). This means every moment, everything, every person is sacred, is lifted up. It is why justice, compassion and love are the imperatives of the here and now. (DMA)


PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Baby Blake Proctor, Baby Elijah, David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, David & Joan Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Serena Hoskyns, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Sarah Marshall, Leanne Martin, Sarah Mc Cann, Tony O'Connell, Karen O'Donovan, Sharon Poole, Ruth Rowan, Lilly Ricketts, Jim Ross, Norma Rudd, Pauline Sharpley, Cath Smith, Susan Soutter, Ronald Stevens, Neil Tisdale, Emmie Walker, George Watson, Mike Woolf
(If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Linda via the Parish office)


Obligatory Diocesan collection today for World Communications


World Communications Sunday takes place today, the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. It reflects his mandate that we should *"Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good news"*. On this day, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in the field of Communications. A particular intention for prayer is for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country through the Catholic Communications Network ("CCN"). The CCN is the media office of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales and seeks to support the Bishops in their role as teachers both of the Catholic community and the wider world. The office is the central point for media enquiries and plays a key role in responding to media enquiries and developing the public profile of the Church in the newspapers, radio, television, website, Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms. Please help to continue this work by giving generously to the collection today.

 **SAD NEWS** It is with great sadness that I have to announce the death of Mary-Anne Cotton who passed away 22nd May at Southampton Hospital. Her Requiem Mass will be 1.30pm, Monday 9th June at St Bernard's Church.


 **SAD NEWS** It is with great sadness that I have to announce the death of Georges Raffray. Georges passed away peacefully, with his family around him, at Southampton hospital on 26th May. His Requiem Mass will be 1pm Thursday 12th June at St Bernard's Church. His body will come into church the afternoon before at 4.30pm.

 **BRAVE DAVE KING** is being brave again! He will be tackling the Ben Nevis Midnight Challenge on July 5th with his daughter Christina and they will be raising funds for the Alzheimer's Society. If anybody is interested in sponsoring Brave Dave for this very worthy cause please visit his Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/David-King30> or see Dave or Mary King after Mass.

 **RELAXATION:** Every Tuesday morning Hythe Library Community Room - three 30 minute relaxation and mindfulness sessions in : 11-11.30; 11.45-12.15; 12.30-1.00. No booking necessary, just turn up. £3 per session.

 **SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR CHURCH FLOWERS 8TH JUNE**
The collection for church flowers should have been in Lent, but there were so many requests for money in Lent that we moved the collection to 8th June. I'm sure you'll agree that the flowers always look marvellous at both churches, so I hope you'll be able to support the flower arrangers on this occasion.

THANK YOU to the flower arrangers from St Bernard's & St Michael's for giving their time so generously to produce such lovely displays all year round in both churches. (Fr David)

 **RUN FOR CAFOD: This event seems a long way away, but you have to enrol early.** Could you race against global poverty with team CAFOD at the Great South Run in Portsmouth (10 miles) on Sunday 26 October? If you are aged 3-8 or 9-15, you can take part in the Mini and Junior Great South Run (1.5km and 2.5km respectively) on Saturday 25 October. For more information and/or to register, please contact the CAFOD Portsmouth Office at portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385.



The Pope Tweets: @Pontifex *The one who listens attentively to the Word of God and truly prays, always asks the Lord: what is your will for me?*



As we approach the Solemnity of Pentecost, let's pray for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our parishes and into our hearts.



“CALLED & GIFTED” WORKSHOP: Hosted by Sherry Weddell, author of "Forming International Disciples", Friday 27th June 7pm-9pm and Saturday 28th June 9am-5pm. Venue: Botleigh Grange Hotel, Hedge End. For more information and bookings, visit the Portsmouth Diocese website.

COLLECTIONS FOR JUNE



29th June PETER'S PENCE (Obligatory) These offerings, taken near to the Feast of St Peter and St Paul, are sent to the Holy Father as a token of England's traditional devotion to the Successor of St Peter.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- + The Ministers of Word and Communion.
- + Pope Francis and his desire for peace in the Holy Land.
- + The Raffray and Cotton families and all those coming to terms with a bereavement.
- + Those in conflict around the world.
- + The First Holy Communion Candidates: Leon Carbayo-Borges, Carlos Carbayo-Borges & Caitlin Cross as they start their preparation for their First Holy Communion which will be on 22nd June, 9am Mass at St Bernard's church.
- + Monsignor Nicholas Hudson the Auxiliary Bishop Elect of Westminster who will be ordained at Westminster Cathedral on 4th June.
- + Eric Powell - R.I.P. Birthday Anniversary

WHAT'S ON AT ST JOSEPH'S, ASHURST

CHRISTIAN MEDITATIONS ON A THEME, St Joseph's, Ashurst: Thursday evenings, 7pm-8pm - We continue our meditations on the Beatitudes found in Matthew and Luke. No booking necessary, just turn up. £6 per session.

CELTIC CALM Saturday 14th June - a quarterly retreat day at St Joseph's Centre, Ashurst. 10am - 4pm. This time we will be looking at the topic of Celtic Prayer. £21 per person (including lunch and refreshments). **Booking by Wednesday 11th June essential.** To book contact: 07702054198, Way-markMinistries@live.co.uk

DISCERNMENT WEEKEND RETREATS taking place at St Joseph's House of Prayer in Ashurst: **BOOK NOW.**

· Male Spirituality: Fri 11 - Sun 13 July

· A Weekend for Women: Fri 12 Sep - Sun 14 Sep

The cost for each weekend retreat is £80 full board. *Contact Fr. John Chandler john.chandler27@gmail.com for more info and a booking form.*

WHAT'S ON ELSEWHERE



HOPE 2014 Waterside Churches together TODAY Sunday 1st June **HOPE & Celebration 3.30pm Cream tea, and 4.30pm HOPE Celebration** - both events outside Cornerstone Church

SUMMER FETE St Anne's, Brockenhurst, Saturday 14th June.

THE ANNUAL APF Mill Hill Mission Mass 3pm 22nd June Holy Apostles RC Church, 47, Cumberland Street London SW1V 4LY Please let Linda know if you are going to attend as she has to reply.

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA

