

The Messenger

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

2nd august 2009
Year B
divine office wk 2

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

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

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams

Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)

Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

Parish Administrator: Helen Hughson

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

PARISH SERVICES

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	2	9 am	SB	Mass: 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Tue	4	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: St John Vianney
Wed	5	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: of the Day
Thur	6	10 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: The Transfiguration of the Lord
Sat	8	10 am		Mass: St Dominic
		11 am	SM	Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30 am)

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	9	9 am	SB	Mass: 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time



For the Ideal Gift visit
Faith, Hope & Charity

8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA
Tel: 80207882

This week we will be offering Masses for:

People of the Parish,
John Donlan RIP (Anniv)
Fred Warrilow RIP, Julie Poole
Rebecca Phillips & James Gee
(Wedding in September).

Next week (9th August) we will be
offering Masses for:

People of the Parish, Benefactors
of the Clergy Retirement Fund

Total Roof Fund collected to date

£4301.31

(Target - £13500)

Thank you all for your generosity

The Bread of Life: food that endures

The Israelites are tempted to make a U-turn to Egypt, to follow the compass of their stomachs rather than focus on the way to freedom through wilderness. Slavery with good food looks more attractive to them than freedom on a starvation diet. God hears the complaints of Israel and promises that they shall eat meat and have bread to their heart's content. In the morning there is "a thing delicate, powdery" on the surface of the desert. When the people ask Moses what it is, he tells them it is "the bread the Lord gives you to eat."

In today's Gospel reading another crowd follow the instructions of their stomach and express their longing for food. This time it is the crowd of Galileans who, on the previous day, ate to their hearts's content when Jesus offered them a meal of barley loaves. Now they follow Jesus to Capernaum, his base on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The crowd is hungry again.

Jesus tells his hungry pursuers that they are only following him because they have enjoyed the food that physically satisfies them; they should work, he says, for the food that endures to eternal life. The one work which earns this food is believing in the one God has sent. The Galileans promptly ask Jesus for a sign to aid their belief in him – a sign like the Manna their Fathers ate in the desert. When Jesus points out that it was God, not Moses, who supplied the manna, he compares himself to the God who now gives bread from heaven. Jesus declares that he himself is the bread of life, the bread came down from heaven. Whoever believes in him will never be hungry.

The promise that Jesus held out to the Galileans is one that is held out to us today. It is a promise fulfilled in the Eucharist that we now celebrate. If there is one thing we all share in this assembly, it is the same hunger. We hunger for a love that does not disappoint; we hunger for a word that does not fade away; we hunger for bread that does not fail to satisfy. In this Eucharist the love of a tender God is offered to us in word and sacrament. In this gathering, this local Church, we are nourished by God's word and the bread of life. The word spoken is opened up to us, the bread offered is broken for us to share.

This is not something we come to look at, like a still-life painting in an art gallery; rather it is something we come here to do. The Eucharist is a word that flows into deed; it is an *action*. It is the act of sharing in the bread of life, participating in the life of Jesus himself.

We continue to return here because we are hungry for God, because the food that physically satisfies is not enough for us. There will be times when we will wish we were elsewhere, times when what happens here will leave us untouched, times when we will be distracted by a litany of worries that refuse to go away. No matter. Sometimes we have to be content with the act of faith that brings us here, a public admission of our need for God and the people of God. In coming here we declare that we cannot fall back on our own resources: we need Jesus, the bread of life, to sustain us. Staying hungry for his bread means that we do indeed long for the food that endures to eternal life. That is what Jesus asks. (From *Seasons of the Word* by Denis McBride)

Information & Notices:

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE ROOF FUND: What a resounding response! Following the request for a second collection for the Roof Fund, the total collection on 26th July was £930.97. Gift Aid was £698 (plus tax rebate of approx £180) and loose £232.97, making a grand total of over £1,100! Thank you all for your wonderful support.

WATERSIDE FOOD BANK - Many thanks to all those who have donated food to this worthy cause. The Waterside Foodbank is a straightforward system of collection, collation and distribution of basic food items to support people at times of crisis. It offers a temporary stopgap for the provision of food to families and single people in an emergency. If you find yourself, or know of someone who is going hungry for whatever reason, please contact the Parish Office where we will shortly be able to provide vouchers for anyone who may find themselves in this situation. Food Contributions are therefore constantly required for this great organisation which provides short-term assistance by way of Emergency Foodboxes which can be delivered immediately. Any donations can be left in the plastic box in the church porches. Please see the list of required foods in the porch, (basically non-perishable food only—tinned food or dried food).

MARTHA GROUP SUMMERTIME EVENTS:

Skittles & Barbecue - Sat 8th August. Bring your own bottle. Evening starts at 7pm. Tickets £7 on sale after mass and available from the parish shop, Faith, Hope & Charity.

Jazz Night - Sat 12th September.

The return of the ever popular Jazz Night by the Cavalier Jazzmen organised by Mike Slipper! American Supper/bring a bottle + Raffle. 7.30pm until 10.30pm. Tickets will be available shortly from Faith, Hope & Charity, after Masses, from the Martha Group and of course from Mike Slipper himself. Tel: 023 8084 3908 *If anyone has any suitable prizes which could be used for the raffle and would be happy to donate them please drop them at the Parish Office, Monday & Tuesday between 9.30am & 2pm or give them to Fr David.* Thanks.

CAFOD GOOD NEWS: "ORPHAN RECEIVES LOVING CARE AND EDUCATION"....."BOREHOLE BRINGS CLEAN WATER TO 500 PEOPLE"....."CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE DROPS BY 60%.". Thanks to CAFOD supporters these things are happening and lives are being changed. Much more first hand information will be available at CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY & the Climate Justice Mass on Saturday 12th September at 1030 am at St Bede's Basingstoke. For details see poster in church porches or phone 01252 329385.

FUNDRAISING - We are looking for cracking fundraising ideas, so if you can come up with a fun and original idea please let the ladies of the St Martha Group know.

Easyfundraising - we have a grand total of **6** members now! Whoever you are - thank you for doing your shopping on-line and enabling the Roof Fund to benefit from free shopping donations - our total so far is £6.53! OK - its small at the moment, but it can grow if more people shop on line the easyfundraising way! If you are thinking of using this for the first time don't forget you have to register first then select Waterside Catholic Parish as your nominated charity.

ST BERNARD'S CHURCH & HALL - Cleaning: volunteer help is needed to keep the hall clean every once in a while. Please give your name to Fr David if you can help.

GIFTAID - Do you pay Income Tax? Would you like to contribute to the church? Did you know that if you contributed £100 to your parish over the year the Parish church will get back £28 from the taxman. Or even if you gave £500 over the year the church would get back £140! If you are interested in making donations but with no particular commitment to a set amount over the year please contact the Parish Office for more details.