

The Messenger

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

3rd March 2013

3rd Sunday of Lent (Yr C) (Psalter Wk.3)

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's
11.00am Mass at St Michael's
 3.00pm Stations of the Cross - St Michael's
 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst

Mon 4th No Service (Liturgy: of the Day)
 Tues 5th 10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the Day)
 Wed 6th 10.00am Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: of the Day)
 Thurs 7th 10.00am Service of Word & Holy Communion at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: of the Day)
 Fri 8th No Service (Liturgy: of the Day)
 Sat 9th 10.00am SM Mass then Adoration of Jesus in the Bl. Sacrament and Reconciliation to 11am. (Liturgy: of the Day)
Sun 10th 4th Sunday of Lent

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's
11.00am Mass at St Michael's
 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, The Papal Election, Bishop Philip Egan, Linda Hayes RIP, Gary Sussex RIP, Jim Walker RIP, John Gawthorne RIP Anniv, Alice Manghan RIP Anniv, Patrick Martin RIP Anniv, Norbert Power RIP Anniv, Roland Slipper RIP Anniv,

For the week beginning 10th Mar: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, The Papal Election, Bishop Philip Egan, Fr David Adams B'day, Fr Shaun Budden B'day, Linda Hayes RIP, Jim Walker RIP, Nora Manghan RIP Anniv

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastoral Team: Rev David Adams (Parish Priest)
 Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon & Chair Parish Pastoral Council) (023 8020 7449)
 Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)

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New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
 Geo House (Ashurst) - Sun 9am
 Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

New Forest Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm
 Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 11.30am,
 Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

GOD'S PATIENCE WITH US

The Scriptures this Sunday are very much about God's patience with us. God is always giving us time to turn around and return to God's friendship. However we do not have all the time in the world. Life is short and the hour of death unknown as a funeral prayer reminds us. Most, if not all our unhappiness is self inflicted, not perhaps deliberately or consciously. It arises, in part, from the protective shell we create around ourselves. It happens because we do not know how to handle our desires wisely. These desires can inflict restlessness, anxiety, and dissatisfaction upon us. Unbridled desires that are greedy, angry, resentful and violent which arise from our insecurity and fear can consume and destroy us. Unless we recognise the harm they do physically, emotionally, to ourselves, others and society "we will all likewise perish", as Jesus says.

However if we turn radically to God in humility, acknowledging our need for mercy and help, then the path of life opens up before us. We must still walk that path, following Jesus' way. There are no magic solutions. Grace is given freely and without charge but cannot achieve its full purpose without our whole hearted engagement and response. Part of the process of the Lamb taking away the sin of the world is the work of God's Spirit in our lives, freeing us from our sins. One of the ways this "sin of the world" can be understood is the making of victims, "scapegoating" others. By standing with the victim Jesus undermines all our empty and specious justifications for rejecting the other, the "son of man" or human one as Jesus liked to call himself.

Everywhere through out the Gospels we see Jesus speaking up for the victims of unjust social, economic or religious systems. He proclaims the poor blessed, he welcomes children when others would drive them away. He does not hesitate to touch the leper, to eat and drink with the unrespectable, the despised and the marginalized. He accepts the company of women and champions their rights in marriage and in religious and social life. He protects people from dismissive judgement – the publican in the Temple, the widow giving her few coins, the disciples when they were hungry, the sick in need of healing. Jesus responds generously to any who seek comfort and healing. All he asks is faith and trust in God.

Combined with this Jesus constantly undermines the presumption and arrogance of power and domination over others. He says: the first will be last, anyone who wants to exalt himself will be humbled, anyone who wants to be first must become a servant of all and last of all. There are to be no Masters, Teachers or Fathers. Rather the follower must learn to become like a child to enter the Kingdom of God. And that Kingdom will be a community that doesn't create victims, excluded ones, or judged and condemned ones. The doors of the Father's house will always be open for the return of any wasteful ones who have wandered away from the light.

So the sin of the world is the making of losers, of victims, of judged, condemned and excluded ones. Jesus says to us; "Remember, I am the victim – the poor, the homeless, the naked, the sick, the prisoner, the condemned". We can no longer make victims in the name of God. Which side is God on? Both sides, of course, God is with the victims on both sides and with the perpetrators calling them to come to their senses. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Vicky Carter, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Serena Hoskyns, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Tony O'Connell, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Pauline Sharpley, Ronald Stevens. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

PRAYER POTTERY: The next Prayer Pottery will take place on Tuesday, 5th March at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St Michael's. There will be prayer, music & quiet reflection. All are welcome.

SERVICES DURING LENT: Stations of the Cross: Sunday, 3rd March, 3pm at St Michael's; Tuesday, 12th March, 7.30pm at St Bernard's; Sunday, 17th March, 3pm at St Michael's, Good Friday, 29th March, 7.30pm at St Michael's. **Service of Reconciliation:** Tuesday, 19th March at 7.30pm in St Michael's.

LINDA HAYES RIP: Linda's body will be received into St Michael's church on Thursday, 14th March at 3.30pm. Her Requiem Mass will be at 10.00am on 15th March. The Committal will take place at Wessex vale crematorium. Our condolences to Anna & her family.

We extend our condolences to all the recently bereaved families and we pray for those who have died. May they rest in peace and rise in glory, through Christ our Lord. Amen

YEAR OF FAITH

The Universal Call to Holiness The universal call to holiness described in Chapter 5 of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Genium*) affirms that all Christians in whatever walk of life are called to be holy. Whether as ordained ministers or lay faithful, there is no dichotomy between the sacred and the secular - it is all holy. The loving and faithful example of parents to their children, the building up of a community which welcomes others and initiatives which serve the common good are all facets of the work of the Kingdom to which all are called. Simply put, if Baptism is our passport identifying us as members of the People of God, Confirmation is our work permit to "show compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness and patience (Colossians 3:12). See *Lumen Genium* 40.

CONGRATULATIONS: To all the ladies of the parish who took part in Women's World Day of Prayer. This year it was prepared by the women of France. There were approx. 100 people at the service in the URC church, Hythe. A good number of our parishioners were present to give support. Our ladies (Eileen Brady, Louise Brown, Simone Cluett -our secret weapon, Frances Connaughton, Linda Guilding & Joy Lovelock) were very professional, looked smart & appeared confident even though they were shaking!

YEAR OF FAITH: "EXPLORE YOUR FAITH DAYS" at St Joseph's Chapel, Geo House, Lyndhurst Rd, Ashurst: Saturdays, 10.00am to 4pm. Starts with Mass, bring your own packed lunch, tea & coffee provided. Donations welcome to cover the cost of the day. **April 6th - Fiona Castle**, (& more afterwards!)

A RETREAT EXPERIENCE IN FRANCE: Highly recommended by Terry George is an English retreat to be held at the Foyer of Charite Community at Tressaint in Brittany from Sunday, 30th June to Saturday 6th July. Retreats at Foyers are held in silence, in beautiful surroundings, with all the retreatants' needs catered for, including excellent home-cooked food. See the poster for details.

CAFOD: HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

VERY BIG THANKYOU TO CAFOD SUPPORTERS Warmest thanks from CAFOD for Sunday's Family Fast Day collection which has raised so far £931.80.

Many thanks to all who supported the CAFOD Soup Lunch by cooking, serving or attending. It raised £411.. And let us not forget those filling CAFOD Pyramids. Thanks to everyone.

Signing of Cards to the Prime Minister, and Fair Trade Stall after Masses on Sunday 3 March **Pyramids** available all through Lent

BEING CATHOLIC IN A SECULAR CULTURE. How does our relationship with Jesus lead us to respond to the world around us? **Speaker: Bishop Philip Egan.** Thurs, 7th March in Christchurch, Tues, 19th March in Portsmouth. Evenings 7.30pm until 9.00pm. For more details see the poster at the back of church.

CHANGES IN THE PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE DIOCESE: A year-long review, begun by Bishop Crispian and completed after Bishop Philip took over last September, has been conducted into the governance of the diocese. The purpose was to cut costs to avoid a budget shortfall while ensuring that the priorities of our Pastoral Plan *Go Out and Bear Fruit* continue to be delivered. The result is that the Department for Pastoral Formation will be closed, and henceforth catechesis, faith formation, marriage preparation, liturgical support etc will be provided locally, directly by parishes or pastoral areas. There are other changes too, mostly structural, which you can read about in a document produced by the Bishop and the Trustees that can be downloaded from the diocesan website at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

GREAT RESPONSE TO APPEAL FOR CLEANERS: A big thanks to Mary Fenn & Madeline Footit who have volunteered to join the cleaning teams for St Michael's. Peggy & Fr David are most grateful.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Quiz night and American supper : Saturday 20th April 7 p.m. @ St Bernard's. Tickets will be on sale at both Churches Sundays 7th & 14th April.



Bingo & fish n' chips supper: Saturday 22nd June 7 p.m. @ St Bernard's. Tickets will be on sale at both Churches Sundays 9th & 16th June.

Skittles & BBQ: Saturday 31st August 7p.m. @ St Bernard's Tickets will be on sale at both Churches Sundays 18th & 25th August

Quiz night and American supper : Saturday 5th October 7 p.m. @ St Bernard's. Tickets will be on sale at both Churches Sundays 22nd & 29th September.

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
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