

The Messenger

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

4th September 2011

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time - Divine Office: Week 3

Sun 4 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels
Mon 5 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the Day - 23rd Week)
Tues 6 th	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the Day - 23rd Week)
Wed 7 th	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the Day - 23rd Week)
Thurs 8 th	10.00am LT Mass (Liturgy: Feast, Nativity of Our Lady)
Fri 9 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the Day - 23rd Week, or optnl Memorial, St Peter Claver, Religious, 1580-1654)
Sat 10 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.30am (Liturgy: of the Day - 23rd Week, or optnl Our Lady on Saturday)
Sun 11 th	24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Staff & Pupils in all Catholic Schools & Colleges, Parish CAFOD group, Raoul Menoscal (Health & Peace), Lilly Ricketts (Peace), Michael McDonnell RIP, Bernard Kenny RIP Anniv, Flo Warrilow RIP Anniv B'day,

For the week beginning 11th September: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Ray & Pauline Moore 50th Wedding Anniv, Michael McDonnell RIP, Nessie Beggs RIP Anniv

New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Ashurst Community - Sun 9am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am

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)

All correspondence to: The Parish Office, Angel House,
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PRACTICAL WISDOM – BOTH OLD & NEW

If I were to say that every Christian can forgive sins and every Christian has a right to have a say in the decisions of the Church you might think I was coming up with some new fangled ideas. Actually they are really very old ideas – from Jesus himself. The reason they seem new is that different priorities have been in force for a very long time. At first the Church was an inclusive, charismatic & spontaneous collection of communities. But it wasn't long before it got absorbed by the prevailing patriarchal culture. So for most of its life the Church has been (& still is, of course) an authoritarian, hierarchical, male clerically dominated institution. Some of the recent changes are designed to protect or reinforce this model of Church. Jesus clearly envisaged a different kind of community. But here lets explore Jesus' wisdom in regard to reconciliation.

When we are confronted with the damaging behaviour of others we usually react in one of two ways, either fight or flight. We may be tempted, first of all, to go in like the proverbial "bull in a china shop", or with "all guns blazing" and to have an angry confrontation. Secondly we can be tempted to take flight, to ignore the situation and avoid confrontation or challenge. Scripture tells us that our anger does not produce God's righteousness (James 1:20). Today Scripture is telling us that avoidance is no solution either. We have a duty to warn people about the consequences of their bad behaviour. The duty becomes even more urgent when other people are being endangered or damaged. We must at least try even if we have no guarantee our words will be heeded. A lot will depend on how we approach the other person. Here we need the gifts of patience, understanding, wisdom and love. These gifts will come through humility, prayer and openness to the Holy Spirit.

Let us look more closely at the Gospel. First, from the context and from earlier verses of the passage it is beyond doubt that Jesus is addressing all the disciples. It is also clear from the illustration that the matter is serious. In classical catholic terminology we are dealing with grave matter, potentially mortally sinful. It is very important to recognise this.

In Matthew's Gospel three opportunities for reconciliation are proposed. Each one has the purpose of trying to welcome back the erring person and to help them let go of the sinful behaviour. This means we have to approach people with the right attitudes. Anger, judgement, rejection, humiliation will tend to drive people away and could make matters worse.

Notice the gentle process of reconciliation, first it is one to one, in private. This is damage limitation, preserving the good name of the person, keeping things low-key. It is trying to "nip the problem in the bud". If this doesn't work bring in two or three trusted people. Again it is being careful not to over-react. Finally if this fails then the matter should be reported to the community but still with a view to healing and reconciliation. Only as a last resort should a person be expelled from the community. Even this extreme measure is for a salutary purpose, as St Paul indicated in his letter to the Christians at Corinth, (1 Cor 5:5).

If this attempt at reconciliation is not done in a spirit of compassion then the community could be sinning just as seriously as the offender. Notice too, that the power of binding & loosing is given to everyone, especially where two or three are in agreement. Individual decisions have to be made individually, family decisions within the family etc. Jesus is giving everyone authority at their level. God is ready to respect our decisions, it is up to us to make sure those decisions are in harmony with God's love. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Marion Butler, Bishop Crispian, Petra Daniels, Mervyn Francis, Amanda Gudge, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Sarah, Jason Singleton, Simon Smith, Ronald Stevens, Jim Walker, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

BISHOP CRISPIAN' HEALTH: Bishop Crispian has announced that his surgery is scheduled for Monday, 12th September. So please keep him especially in your prayers.

BISHOP CRISPIAN'S LOURDES REFLECTION: Our Bishop reflects on his new experience as a sick person at Lourdes. Some copies are available at the back of church.

BISHOP CRISPIAN'S RETIREMENT COLLECTION: The parish will have the opportunity to contribute to this collection **NEXT WEEKEND** (11th Sept). Bishop Crispian has served the Diocese faithfully and untiringly for the passed 21 yrs.

NEW TRANSLATION OF THE LITURGY: This Sunday, we begin using the new translation of the Order of Mass. Mass cards are available to assist us. To understand why a new translation is being introduced please consult the various resources available from the Parish Shop or search online.

NEW TRANSLATION OF THE LITURGY - RESOURCES These can be obtained from the Parish Shop, together with Fairtrade products, religious artefacts, and various gift items. Gift vouchers are available too! Please support the shop in any way you can. It is vital to the survival of our parish as we know it.

THE MINISTRY OF READER & THE NEW TRANSLATION OF THE LITURGY. All Readers in Church, please take note that the changes in the new translation affect you. Please take the pink hand out sheet available at the back of church and study it carefully.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MASSES: the next few dates for young peoples Masses at St Bernard's are: 2 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec.

Forthcoming Dates:

The next **PPC Meeting** is on Thursday, 22nd September, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at St Michaels.

Praying with Children - a workshop for Christian adults. Saturday, 24th Sept, 10am to 4pm, Brockenhurst Village Hall, see poster for details & booking information.

Celebrate Weekend - Southampton: on 1st & 2nd October, at St Mary's College, Southampton. (see main item for details)

QUIZ NIGHT & AMERICAN SUPPER: parish social event at St Bernard's Hall, Saturday, 1st October at 7pm. (see main item for details)

The next **Finance Committee Meeting** is on Thursday, 13th October at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.

Vocations Discernment for Women, Saturday, 22nd October at Wisdom House, Romsey. More details later.

AUTUMN JAZZ on Saturday, 5th November at St Bernard's Hall, 7.30pm (see main item for details)

THANK YOU FOR ENORMOUS GENEROSITY TO THE STARVING PEOPLE IN SOMALIA, ETHIOPIA AND KENYA: You gave £2100.91 and the tax refund will add more. **CAFOD COFFEE MORNING** : A huge thank you from Theresa and Louise to ALL who supported the coffee morning on 4th August. £300 was raised to help with Famine Relief in East Africa.

PARISH FINANCIAL APPEAL: Please can everyone consider making some increase to their weekly/monthly contribution. We need to find an extra £500 a month to repay a debt we owe to the Diocese & have enough in reserve to meet inevitable repair bills. Thanks to those who already have signed up for Gift Aid. If you are a tax payer & have not signed up for Gift Aid, please consider it. For every £10 you give, Gift Aid will add another £2.82p making a total of £12.82p!

SPUC LEAFLET DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEERS

The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child plans to conduct a nationwide leafleting campaign later this year (no specific dates yet known) with a target distribution of 9 million! If any parishioners feel that they or someone they know may be able to assist with distribution please contact Louise Blacker on 07708 954 993, louseblacker@hotmail.co.uk or let her have your contact details after Mass.

CHANGING THE ALTAR AT ST BERNARD'S: The round altar at St Bernard's was a temporary construction comprising a round piece of MDF skilfully attached (thanks to Bruno) to a liturgical side table. After listening to some concerns & consulting with our deacons I have decided to replace this with the original purpose built wooden altar that was in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. Another wooden altar (too long for St Bernard's) which has been in storage is now being used in the small chapel at St Michael's.

CELEBRATE WEEKEND: opportunities for prayer, healing, teachings, praise worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass each day at 3pm. On 1st & 2nd October (Sat 9am - 9pm & Sun 9.30am - 5.30pm) at St Mary's College, Bitterne Park. Speakers to include Charles & Sue Whitehead, Steve Murray, Jim Graham, Jenny Baker & David Matthews Workshops & Seminars: both days; Dramas by Steve Murray & Local Youth Groups. Worship by Tom Bonard, Steve Szymanski & friends. Children's groups for all ages and a Young Adult stream. See the poster in the porch for further details & how to book or else ring Peter and Lynda Szymanski on 023 8029 2058.

QUIZ NIGHT & AMERICAN SUPPER: This will take place on Saturday, 1st October at 7pm in St Bernard's Hall. There will be a Raffle (donations of prizes gratefully received!). American Supper so bring your own refreshments & a plate of food to share. Those who require special diets will need to bring their own.

AUTUMN JAZZ: with The New Cavalier Jazzmen (including our own Mike Slipper) on Saturday, 5th November from 7.30pm. Venue: St Bernard's Hall. Raffle & American Supper (Bring your own refreshments & a plate of food to share. People requiring special diets must bring their own). Tickets are £7.00 each. Tickets will be available from Mike Slipper (023 8084 3908), from Faith Hope & Charity Shop, Hythe & from St Bernard's & St Michaels Churches.

