

All correspondence to:

The Parish Office,
Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn,
Hythe SO45 5GR
Tel: 023 8084 3479
e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

For St Bernard &
St Michael's churches

4th OCTOBER 2009
Year B
divine office wk 3

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**27th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Sun	4	9 am	SB	Mass: 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Tue	6	10 am	SM	Mass: Of the Day
Wed	7	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: Our Lady of the Rosary
Thur	8	10 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: Of the Day
Sat	10	10 am	SM	Mass: Our Lady on Saturday followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30 am)

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	11	9 am	SB	Mass: 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time

THE HAPPINESS GOD WANTS FOR US

In Jesus' time and place divorce was easily available, that is, for the man. It was also given a cloak of religious acceptability by Moses' concession to what Jesus refers to as their *hardness of heart*. Generally divorce was bad news for the woman who had virtually no rights under the law. She could face destitution and social rejection and would not have any rights over her children either. In Rome, where Mark's community probably was, the law allowed for women to divorce their husbands too. We see here how Mark is interpreting the teaching of Jesus for a different situation.

Jesus himself gets away from all the legalism and goes back to the ideal that God intended. God made man and woman to be together and to find help and happiness together. God doesn't want the man-woman relationship to break down or be broken. God wants the true happiness of all and certainly cannot be invoked to justify any injustice or ill-treatment of others. This is basically what was happening in Jesus' time – the practice of divorce was saying in effect "God says its OK". Jesus says: "Its not OK! Don't bring God into this to justify your selfishness and cruel treatment of others!

Jesus doesn't talk directly about coping with a marriage breakdown that has actually happened. What Jesus does elsewhere is to call everyone to forgiveness. Wounds and hurts are to be surrounded by the healing grace of forgiveness, patience, prayer and compassion. If possible, reconciliation is to be sought and prayed for. At the very least we are called not to add to the sum of human misery. If the hurt turns to bitterness and hatred then we have lost our peace of mind and strayed from the way of love. Peace and forgiveness makes the process of healing and reconciliation possible but it does not condone a wrong that has been done.

What of our situation today? God is the same, yesterday, today and forever. God stills wants people to find happiness through a love that is faithful, lasting and forgiving. Couples who want their relationship to work out now realize that they have to take responsibility for it. They are taking time to listen to each other and to share their thoughts, feelings, hopes and fears. They are sharing more equally the responsibilities of home making and child-rearing. They make time for their relationship and try to keep it alive, joyful and spontaneous. They are grateful for the support of family and friends if they are fortunate enough to live nearby. If they find there are problems that are not easily resolved they are humble and sensible enough to seek help from voluntary or professional agencies. If the couple shares faith in God then they can be more open to God's help. God can renew the gift of love and make forgiveness possible.

We cannot guarantee anything to ourselves or to anyone else. We can only do our best, trust in God, and if there have been failures, trust that God will bring good out of them if we are willing to see it and receive it – which is *welcoming the kingdom of God like a child*. (DMA).

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,
Parishioners who are unwell,
Margaret Bull RIP, James & John Donlan
RIP Anniv, Fred Warrilow RIP
Stuart King (Health), Joy Godbold
(Health)

Next week (11th October) we will be
offering Masses for:
Margaret Jones RIP

Total Roof Fund collected to date

£7208.08

(Target - £13500)

**Thank you all for your continued
generosity**

Information & Notices:

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Iris Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Kath Breen, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Dave Donoghoe, Ruth Freemantle, Pat Gallanagh, Stuart King, Jane McClatchey, Joan Olden, Bridget Reeves, Jack Smith. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David or to Helen in the Office.)

MASS COUNTS: These are taken at all the Sunday Masses during October for Diocesan statistics.

CONFIRMATION 2009: Bishop Crispian will be confirming young people from our parish and Totton parish on **Friday, 16th Oct, 7pm at St Michael's.**

Rehearsal is on Sunday, 11th October at 4pm. For those who missed the Park Place weekend there is a **catch-up session** on Thurs, 1st October at 7pm in St Michael's at least one parent must accompany the young person(s) for the rehearsal and catch-up session. Please keep in your prayers the following young people from our parish who are going forward for Confirmation: Lauren Benham, Kerri Brannigan, Matt Carr, Verity Hickman, Niall Marshall, Niamh Mulhern, Sean Mulhern, Jonathan O'Brien, Josh O'Hare, Irene Riches, Sebastian Riches, Jack Smith, Laura Smith, John Stovell, Casey Tona, Shannan Wateridge & Carla Wateridge.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents of baptised children who are in Yr 3 at primary school please contact Fr David if you wish your child to make their 1st Holy Communion next year. The child must be supported in their preparation by at least one Catholic parent.

PATTERNS OF LIFE - Look out for this book of inspiring poems and prayers written and published by Anne Candrl, a parishioner, to raise money for the CLIC Sargent (cancer) charity. Price £5. Available in Church porch and at the Parish Shop.

CLIMATE JUSTICE: URGENT ACTION NEEDED BY ALL 2009 is a crucial year for a global Climate Change Agreement which will help protect future generations and the most vulnerable in the poorest countries. **What YOU can do:** **1)** Pray that world leaders will work for a fair agreement. **2)** Support Harvest Fast Day on 4th October. **3)** Stand Up Against Poverty; the Great Persuasion on 18th October. Join our lobby of Dr Julian Lewis, MP on 17th October at 12 noon. **4)** Join Climate Justice Mass Mobilisation in London on 5th December: THE WAVE: Archbishop Vincent Nichols and Archbishop of Canterbury are among speakers. More information on <http://www.cafod.org.uk/copenhagen>. Copies of article by Cardinal Keith O'Brien in the porch.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: This week for CAFOD.

SAFEGUARDING - Are you a doctor, social worker or police officer with current or recent experience of safeguarding adults or children? Would you like to offer your skills and experience to the Diocesan Safeguarding Commission? If interested please contact Angela McGrory, Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator for an informal chat on 02392 816396 or 075 544 27064. This is a voluntary role that is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced CRB Disclosure.

GREAT SOUTH RUN 2009 - Catherine, Marcus and Stephanie Smith will be taking part in the UK's biggest and most popular 10 mile run for CAFOD on Sun 26th October in Portsmouth. Please support them - sponsor forms will be placed in the porches.



The Car Treasure Hunt leaves St Bernard's today between 1.15 and 1.30pm - cream tea begins at 4pm - if anyone wants to join the treasure hunt or come along for the cream tea please let Fr David know at the end of Mass.

The Department for Pastoral Formation is planning a gathering in January called **The Christ we are, The Christ we share**. This is an opportunity for people involved in ministry in the Church, from across the diocese, to deepen our experience of the person of Jesus and to consider how we share that experience with others. We will approach the theme through input, practical sessions, prayer, reflection, liturgy and conversations. Although this inspirational and nourishing weekend at the Hallmark Hotel in Bournemouth takes place in January (supper on Fri 22nd - 2pm on Sun 24th), bookings need to be confirmed **by mid-October** to ensure we have the rooms we need in the hotel. Sign up now to be sure of a place! For further details and online booking, see https://clarahost.clara.net/forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/the_christ_we_are/the_christ_we_are.php If you have any questions about the weekend, please get in touch.