

The Messenger

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

6th May 2012

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Psalter Wk. 1)

Sun 6 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 2.00pm Baptism at St Michaels baby Henry Jee 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon 7 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the 5 th Week of Easter)
Tues 8 th	9.30am St Bernards - Requiem Mass Bill Chainey RIP
Wed 9 th	10.00am - Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: of the 5 th Week of Easter)
Thurs 10 th	10.00am - Mass at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst 11.30am St Michaels - Requiem Mass Pat Bolton RIP
Fri 11 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the 5 th Week of Easter)
Sat 12 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.00am (Liturgy: of the 5 th Week of Easter)
Sun 13 th	Sixth Sunday of Easter 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 3.00pm Baptism at St Bernards baby Connor Bridges 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, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Amanda Stratton & Hamish Campbell (Wedding), Nick Candri (Health), Dave King (Health), Louise Tempest (Health), Maria Tinkler (B'day), Ernie Ball RIP Anniv, Michael Ball RIP B'day Anniv, Bridget Bell RIP, Pat Bolton RIP, Bill Chainey RIP, Mary Goddard RIP, Alex Toral RIP, Vera West RIP Anniv

For the week beginning 13th May: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Guidance for choice of new Bishop, James Cummings 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)

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

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 8:30am, New Milton at 10am,
Lymington at 11:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

PAUL'S STORY: A NEW BEGINNING

In Syria there is a small village called Deraya which stands on the ancient road between Damascus and Jerusalem. Like thousands of other rural settlements, it looks remarkably unimpressive - as if history has kept its pledge to pay it no heed. Most of the Syrian inhabitants are not sure why their village is called Deraya, but Christians are. In Arabic the name Deraya means "the vision". Something that happened on the Jerusalem-Damascus road gave this village its name. For it was there, according to tradition, that the persecutor Saul encountered the Christ. The small Catholic chapel in Deraya stands as a memorial to the most significant conversion in the early Church, when the man who went out of his way to hunt down Christians was confronted by the God who went out of his way to meet his persecutor. Saul believed that his vocation from God was the persecution of the Christian community. As he declared: I once thought it was my duty to use every means to oppose the name of Jesus the Nazarene. This I did in Jerusalem; I myself threw many of the saints into prison, acting on authority from the chief priests, and when they were sentenced to death I cast my vote against them...my fury against them was so extreme that I even pursued them into foreign cities. (Acts 26:9-11)

Whatever actually happened on the road to Damascus, Paul dates his new beginning from that experience. He never claimed that his change was just an afternoon episode: his conversion began on the Damascus road and continued throughout his life. For the first three years of his life Paul underwent a wilderness novitiate in the Arabian desert. After that he went to Damascus, where he managed to throw the Jewish colony into complete confusion. The new missionary escaped with his life when he was lowered from the city walls in a basket.

Paul's story is picked up in today's first reading. He escapes to Jerusalem where he tries to join the disciples, but he is in for a rude awakening. The disciples are all afraid of Paul; they simply cannot believe that he has really changed. Given Paul's punishing track record, the disciples' suspicion seems all too reasonable. By his own admission, Paul had signed the death warrants of Jerusalem Christians; now he seems to expect ready admission into their inner circle. Barnabas, whose name means "son of encouragement", takes charge of the new arrival. He introduces Paul to the apostles, telling them the story of his conversion and recent preaching. We are not told if the apostles are impressed, only that Paul begins preaching in the city. He does the same favour for Jerusalem that he did for Damascus - he causes a riot and turns his hearers into willing assassins. Another deadly response, another security operation, another emergency exit. And when he is gone, Luke tells us, the churches in the region are now left in peace. But not for long. Paul refuses to go into hiding or retire from his new career; he cannot because he believes that he has been appointed by God to be an apostle and missionary. For all his belief in the divine authority of his appointment, however, the burden of his past never seems to leave him completely. Paul's apostleship is never effortless - he admits that he appears before people in fear and trembling. He is always anxious to prove that he is as good as the other apostles, that he preaches the same message, that he has been chosen by the same Christ, that he suffers more than they do for the sake of the Gospel.

That need to overcome any suspicions about his authenticity makes Paul an energetic preacher, a tireless traveller, a fierce debater. He is no "yes man" submitting to authority before he has thought through the propositions. He is a great example of authentic humanity: he is sensitive, impulsive, obstinate, moody, thoughtful, demanding, driven, caring. His idealism is tempered by his sense of realism, and his own struggle always serves to educate his spirituality. Above everything Paul's great lesson to us is his abiding love. He was a man who longed for friendship and the affection of people. As he wrote in his second letter to the Corinthians: "I may have hurt you, but if so I have hurt the only people who could give me any pleasure...it was not to make you feel hurt but to let you know how much love I have for you." (Denis McBride Seasons of the Word)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Janice Bird, Richard Blacklock, Nigel Bolton, Molly Booth, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Magdalen Forshaw, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Sheila Godwin, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, George Hutcheson, John Keane, Lyndsey Keggin, Gillian Plummer, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Eileen Shanley, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens, Ann Wilton, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

PARISH BEREAVEMENTS:

BILL CHAINEY R.I.P. lived in Holbury and attended St Bernards until a couple of years ago when his health deteriorated. Bill's wife Tess & their daughters Joan & Jill are parishioners here. The Requiem Mass for Bill will take place at St Bernards on Tuesday, 8th May at 9.30pm followed by burial at Blackfield.



PAT BOLTON R.I.P. lived in Hythe and attended St Michaels until a few months ago. Pat's wife Iris is a parishioner here. The Requiem Mass for Pat will take place in St Michaels, on Thursday, 10th May at 11.30am followed by burial at Blackfield.



May Bill and Pat rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen. Our condolences & our prayers are with Tess & Iris & their families.

PRAYER POTTERY: next meeting Tuesday, 29th May at 11.00am.

NEXT SECOND COLLECTION SUNDAY (May 20th): This is an obligatory collection for World Communications. This helps to fund the Bishops efforts to spread the Good News.

Celebrating Marriage 2012: On Saturday, 16th June 2012 there will be a special Mass with the Bishop at St Bede's, Basingstoke for couples in our diocese celebrating significant wedding anniversaries during 2012. If you are celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th anniversary during 2012, or any anniversary over 60 years, please let your parish priest know as soon as possible so that you can be sent an invitation. Attendance will be by invitation only and numbers are limited. For more information contact: Katja Babei, Advisor for Marriage and Family Life. kbabei@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Tel: 01329 835583

JUBILEE MASS: On Sunday 3rd June there will only be one parish Mass at 10.00am at St Bernard's. It will be a children's Mass but there will **not** be any picnic afterwards. **DO YOU NEED A LIFT? Or CAN YOU OFFER A LIFT?** Sign up sheet available at the back of St Michaels.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED: Since Brenda retired some months ago, Veronica has been trying alone to keep St Bernard's church clean and tidy. Is there anyone who could spare an hour or so every two or three weeks to put a vacuum cleaner around the church; any time or day would be fine. For more information phone Veronica tel 8089 7458 or let Father David know.

METHODIST CHURCH - ANNIVERSARY SERVICE: The Waterside Fellowship Dibden Purlieu Methodist Church is having their Anniversary Service on **Wednesday, May 16th at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church in North Road.** The speaker will **Rev. Eileen Wetherall** from St Johns Church, Hythe. The soloist will be **Val Mead** from St Andrews, Dibden Purlieu. Tea & refreshments will follow the service. All are welcome. If you haven't done so already, please let Linda (c/o of Parish Office) know **THIS WEEKEND** if you wish to attend.

CAFOD CAMPAIGN

GIVE IT UP DURING LENT FOR CLEAN WATER

Following the receipt of some further donations and pyramids, the total for the collection has reached an amazing £2722.47 which will be doubled by the Government under the special Aid Matching Scheme to £5444.94. CAFOD has written to express thanks for this great generosity which will enable them to make a lot of difference to poor people's lives. The collection closes on 17 May. Very many thanks to everyone for their very generous support and help in organizing and supporting fund raising activities and their donations. Special mention goes to our young people and their parents for their great fund-raising activities. There are excellent photos of the events on CAFOD's blog at <http://cafodportsmouth.wordpress.com/2012/03/27/amazing-waterside/>

WATERSIDE FOOD BANK: The Food Bank organizers have written to thank parishioners for their ongoing support which saw **448 kilos** donated by the parish in the past year. However the need has increased by 25% and there is a continuing need for regular donations.. Especially in these times of economic difficulty, there is a growing number of families suffering hardship through redundancy, illness, unemployment, homelessness etc. Collection boxes are in the foyers of St Michael's and St Bernard's churches with leaflets listing the type of food needed. This month there is a particular need for coffee, tea bags, sugar, cereals, UHT milk and tinned fruit and veg. The Food Bank Newsletter is also displayed. We are in Eastertide, the ideal time to be generous to those in need, and to resolve to continue to donate regularly.

HEALING MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S, ASHURST: These will be on Mondays: May 7th, June 18th, July 2nd, 6th August, 3rd September at 7.15pm. Fr Ronnie Mitchell will celebrate the Masses. (St Joseph's is at the rear of Geo House).

PARENTING TEENAGERS: The Department for Pastoral Formation is leading a series of four enrichment sessions for parents of teenagers at **Christ the King and St Colman Hall, Commercial Street, Bitterne, Southampton, SO18 6LY on Wednesdays: 9th May, 16th May, 23rd and 30th May.** These sessions will explore the ways in which a parent can encourage their teenage child, create an effective framework for discipline within the home, and enjoy the parenting experience to the maximum! The course will be led by Katja Babei, Advisor for Marriage and Family Life, and Dave Hill, Advisor for Youth Ministry. **Sessions will run from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.** Refreshments will be provided. Please book in advance. Booking can be done through the Diocesan website or by contacting Eileen Stephenson by email: estephenon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or by phone 01329 835583.

NEXT ST MARTHA GROUP EVENT: This will be a Quiz Night and American Supper and will take place at 7pm on 16th June in St Bernard's Hall.



PLANT SALE/SPRING FAIR, SATURDAY 19 MAY

10am-12noon The annual Plant Sale (St Bernards) is being widened this year into a Spring Fair which will include the traditional plants but also offer giftware, jewellery, crafts as well as home made cakes and a grand raffle. Gardeners, please get planting and craft experts please get crafty! Raffle prizes welcome. Info on plants from Veronica (80897458, other items Tina at Faith Hope and Charity (80207882) and publicity Louise (80898213)

MEAT RAFFLE: The draw will take place, this Sunday, (6th May) after 11am Mass.

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882

