

LOOKING FORWARD TO RESURRECTION

In Jesus' time there was great diversity in religious thought and life-style. For example the Sadducees accepted only the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy) and did not believe in the resurrection to eternal life. Jesus believed in the resurrection, as did the Pharisees. In today's Gospel in response to the Sadducees, Jesus first of all points out their ignorance – life after the resurrection will be nothing like life here. Secondly he shows how they misinterpret the Pentateuch – God is God, not of the dead but of the living, for all people are alive to him.

What do we mean when we say we believe in the resurrection? We must first distinguish between the notion of immortality and biblical faith in the resurrection. Immortality assumes there is a part of us (usually called 'soul') that goes on existing after death. Resurrection is the belief that God raises us from death. It is like a new creation, but it is based on faith. Jesus says in John 11:25 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, they will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die'. Perhaps this brings the two aspects together.

We believe in the resurrection of the body. But the body will not be like the one we have now. St Paul (1 Corinthians 15) writes: 'it is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body'. We will be immortal, glorious and have spiritual 'power'. Because it is a new form of existence the things we do now (eating, marrying, working etc) won't be needed anymore, as Jesus tells us in today's Gospel.

How can we prepare for the resurrection? Of ourselves we can do very little, because it is God's work. However we can hold ourselves in readiness and pray to trust the preparatory work that God is doing. This preparatory work is leading us into the spirit of the beatitudes – poverty of spirit, gentleness, mercy, a concern for peace, justice and God's will, and a steadfastness in persecution. It is about receiving the heart of a child – having love, trust, simplicity and innocence. It is about learning to be docile to God's inspirations and sensitive in love to others' needs. It is receiving the perfect love that casts out fear.

It is not worldly success, wealth, power, good health, or popularity that help us here. More often they become a hindrance, like anxiety and worry. God instead works through humility, powerlessness, vulnerability and suffering. Through just a little suffering God prepares us for a tremendous weight of glory – laying foundations of patience, perseverance, character and hope.

Finally, risen life is intensely communal. There is a wonderful love and joy between everyone. The best way to prepare for this is to grow in love of all people and gradually to extend our horizons beyond, family, tribe and nation. This is why our experience of Church is so important. It should be where we learn to live as children of God, learn to receive and work with the gifts of the Spirit and to be all connected in the body of Christ. Look forward to the resurrection and prepare in earnest. (DMA)

The Messenger

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

7th November 2010

32nd Sunday of the Year - Divine Office: Wk 4

Sun	7 th	9am SB Mass; 11am SM Mass;
Mon	8 th	No Service (Liturgy: <i>Of the Day</i>)
Tues	9 th	10.00am SM Morning prayer & Mass (Liturgy: <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast</i>)
Wed	10 th	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: <i>Memorial - St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church, d. 461</i>)
Thurs	11 th	11.00am SM Requiem Mass - Joyce Grimes RIP followed by burial at Blackfield Cemetery 2pm SB Funeral Service - baby Tianne Evans followed by burial at Blackfield Cemetery (Liturgy: <i>Memorial - St Martin of Tours, Bishop, 315-397</i>)
Fri	12 th	No Service (Liturgy: <i>Memorial - St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr 1580 - 1623</i>)
Sat	13 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Reconciliation until 11.30am (Liturgy: <i>Of the Day, or Our Lady on Saturday</i>)
Sun	14 th	Remembrance Sunday & All Souls 9am SB Mass; 11am SM Mass

SECOND COLLECTION FOR BAMENDA TODAY

Mass Intentions: For this week: *People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, Katie Evans, Pat Gallanagh, Joyce Grimes RIP, Florence (Trixie) Eileen Johnson RIP Anniv, Eric Parker RIP Anniv, Katherine Tobin RIP, All the Faithful Departed.*

For the week beginning 14th Nov: *All who have been injured or lost their lives as a result of warfare, departed family & friends of parishioners, all who are being prayed for or remembered, Katie Evans, Joyce Grimes RIP, Katherine Tobin RIP,*

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) (023 8020 7449)
Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)
Kevin Barnett (Chair: Parish Pastoral Council)

All correspondence to: The Parish Office,
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**For the Ideal Gi visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882**

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Trevor Handol, Norman Haskell, Cath Heron, Bridget Reeves, May Sycamore, Betty Williams, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

JOYCE GRIMES RIP; KATHERINE TOBIN RIP: Parishioners will be sad to hear that Joyce has died. She and her husband were strong supporters of the parish. Also Mrs Katherine Tobin, mother of our Deacon Ian Tobin has died. Also Katie Evans lost her baby daughter of 4 months last week. Please keep all the bereaved families in your prayers. Funeral services for Joyce Grimes & baby Tianne Evans-Smith will take place on Thursday. See front of the newsletter for details.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY:

This is for the Diocese of Bamenda in the Cameroons. Our own Diocese has been supporting it for a number of years. See the leaflets for more information.

WATERSIDE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: the next meeting is on Thursday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room

THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER: at St Bernard's & St Michael's, we will be remembering all our friends and relatives who have died. Please write the names of your loved ones on the label provided and put it in the basket. The basket of names will be taken up in the offertory procession during Mass at each of the Sunday's in November. You may add new names each week if you wish.

ON REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 14th NOVEMBER- we shall not only be remembering those who have died or were injured in conflicts around the world, we shall also commemorate all our departed. We will use the Scripture readings for the All Souls Mass (Isaiah 25: 6-9; Ps26; Romans 5: 5-11; Luke 7:11-17).

At St Michaels at 11am parishioners will also be joined by bereaved families whose loved ones had their funerals at St Bernard's or St Michael's over the last two years. We shall be reserving seats for the families as they will be coming forward during the service to lay a candle in front of the altar in memory of their loved one. Also the 6 New Forest East Scout Group will be joining us. They recently did great work cutting down the weeds behind St Michaels.

HALF-DAY RETREAT: *Preparing for Advent* on Saturday, 27th November beginning with Mass at 9.30am and finishing at 1pm. Tea & coffee only will be provided. Fr Bob from the Ashurst community will lead the day. It is open to all in our Pastoral Area (Totton, Lyndhurst & Waterside)

ADVANCE NOTICES: *Facing Christmas* will be at St Bernard's on the 10th December at 7.30pm at St Bernard's. This is a candlelit service for all those who find Christmas difficult for whatever reason, or for those who just wish to have some peace and quiet before the festivities. It is not just for those who have been bereaved.

On Saturday, 7th May 2011 there will be a Mass of the Risen Lord for the deceased loved ones of the parishioners of Waterside Catholic Parish.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Any parent who considers that their child is ready to prepare for their 1st Holy Communion should contact Fr David. Once it is known how many children will be involved we can decide the best way forward.

CONFIRMATION: The parish is inviting young people, usually from the age of 14yrs upwards, to confirm their faith in God's love for them and to make a personal response to God's call. Anyone who wishes to go forward to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation should contact Fr David after first receiving their parents consent.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE & RAFFLE: Bottles (non-perishable) are urgently needed for the Bottle Stall & Raffle prizes gratefully received also. The Fayre takes place on Saturday, November 20th from 10.00am until 2pm at St John's Hall opposite St John's Church in Hythe.

All parishioners encouraged to pop in and support & its an opportunity to get Christmas gifts & cards.

QUIZ NIGHT AT ST BERNARD'S: There will be a Quiz Night at St Bernard's on Saturday, 27th November at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4.00 and will be on sale at all Masses from today onwards. American Supper to share & bring your own drink. It'll be a great evening.

WORK AT ST BERNARDS: Work has now begun at St Bernard's and the whole of the grass area east of the church is now fenced off. Work will take about 3 weeks. Please be considerate and careful when parking both in the road and on site. Spaces immediately outside the church should be left free for our disabled parking.

NEW FOREST EAST PASTORAL AREA: There will be a meeting of clergy and lay representatives from parish pastoral councils on Thursday, 25th November at 7.30pm at Ashurst.

ALLOTMENTS: The area behind St Michaels church needs looking after. Is there anyone who might like to turn it, or part of it, into an allotment? Please contact Fr.David.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT: This will take place at Waterside Theatre, Holbury on Sunday, 28th November at 3pm. Senior citizens are warmly invited. The concert will feature the Hampshire Police Band which has provided excellent concerts over several years. If you wish to attend please call Mike Newland on 023-80-841844 or email: mikemary.newland@btinternet.com. If you have any special transport needs they will try to assist. Notifications by Saturday, 20th November.