

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Part of the New Forest Pastoral Area

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

Parish Priest & Pastoral Co-ordinator: Rev David Adams -
based at Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Lymington:
Tel: 01590 676696

Rev Vincent Convery

Deacon: Rev Steve Bowler (Chair Parish Pastoral Council)
Tel: 02380 207449

Deacon Rev Ian Tobin Tel: 02380 897354

All correspondence to Parish Administrator, Linda Guilding, Parish
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2nd Sunday of Advent 7th December 2014

Year B, Weekdays Year 1: Psalter week 2

9.00am Mass SB

11.00am Mass SM

Monday 8th December No Service

(Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: joint Principal Patron of the Diocese)

Tuesday 9th December No Service

(St John Diego Cuatlatatzin)

Wednesday 10th December No Service

Thursday 11th December No Service

(St Damasus I, Pope)

Friday 12th December Mass 10am SM

(Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Saturday 13th December Mass 10am SM

(St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr)

Sacrament of Reconciliation straight after Mass

MASS INTENTIONS 7th - 13th December

Anniversaries this week: Andy Anderson (11th), Aidan Prestage (13th), Neil Tanner (13th)

Remembering those who have died recently: Doris Lamb

Other Intentions: All pregnant mothers

New Forest Pastoral Area

WATERSIDE: Hythe & Holbury - see above

LYNDHURST & TOTTON

Parish Priest: Rev Innaiah Maddineni Tel: 023 8086 2270

St Theresa of the Child Jesus-Beaumont Road, Totton &
Our Lady of the Assumption & St Edward the Confessor-
Furzy Lawn, Romsey Road, Lyndhurst:

Deacon: Rev Andrew Philpott (Totton)

Deacon Rev Stephen Short (Lyndhurst)

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm Totton

Sunday Mass 9am Lyndhurst

10.30am Totton

BROCKENHURST, LYMINGTON, MILFORD ON SEA

Parish Priest: Rev David Adams Tel: 01590 676696

St Anne-Rhinefield Road, Brockenhurst
Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-High Street, Lymington,
St Francis of Assisi-Park Lane, Milford on Sea.

Deacon: Rev Stephen Morgan

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm Lymington

Sunday Mass 9am Milford on Sea,

10.30am Lymington

6pm Brockenhurst

NEW MILTON

Parish Priest: Rev Marcin Drabik Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes-Mount Avenue, New Milton

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday Mass 10 am and 6.30pm (6.30pm Mass is in Polish)

THE DEANERY is made up from the pastoral areas of New Forest, Avon Stour,
Bournemouth **Dean: Fr Tom Grufferty**

"AS FREE AS WATER"

We are going to take a closer look at the passage from Mark for this Sunday. The "beginning" is possibly an allusion to the first lines of Genesis, in other words this is about a new creation. The "Good News" or gospel or "glad tidings" is a term taken from the political/military scene. The phrase heralded victory after a battle, or the new era of a king or ruler. Jesus the Christ or Messiah is the new reality, starting a different world. Jesus (Saviour) loves us personally and calls us to a personal friendship with him. But Jesus is also the "Christ", the Anointed One who reconciles and unites all things and we are a part of that greater mystery.

Jesus is the Son of God. For Mark, brought up in Judaism, this is a shocking statement of faith. It would take the Church three centuries of intellectual struggle before it could begin to express what this might mean. Mark's gospel is written to lead us on a spiritual journey through which we will, hopefully, begin to see how this is true. And it was not and still is not what any of us expect.

Mark then actually quotes the prophet Malachi and then Isaiah. Malachi, in Jewish tradition, was supposed to be the last prophet. Mark is saying here: no, God's revelation is continuing! Religion is always making it difficult to get to God. John the Baptist was going to make a level road, an easy, wide & straight motorway to God. This is going to happen, not in the Temple (where Malachi said it would) but in the wilderness. It was into the wilderness that the scapegoat was driven on the Day of Atonement, bearing all the sins of the people. It will come not from established religion but from the margins, not from the centre but from the edge. John the Baptist is not a priest, or a Rabbi, he is a layman, (although he is the son of a priest he obviously made a conscious rejection of that role). This is why we are told what he is wearing. John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The word repentance comes from the Greek *metanoia*; *meta nous* means a new mind, or go beyond your mind, as in *metaphysics* (beyond physics). The word is not first of all about feeling sorry for ones sins. It means a turning around to think with a whole new mind, or a complete transformation of consciousness. It is a new way of seeing that sees God's free, undeserved love as the basis of everything. It means seeing God no longer as a vindictive deity but as a loving Father or Mother. John uses baptism (immersing in water) at the Jordan - symbolic place of crossing into the promised land - to proclaim a new liberation.

"For the forgiveness of sins" - this was scandalous because every Jew knew that sin could only be forgiven after certain religious rituals which required payment (animal sacrifices). The priests and scribes made a living from all this. The whole Temple complex existed to cater for this need. Here comes John the Baptist, a layman, declaring that forgiveness is as free as water! It is not surprising that "all" made their way to him. (Based on a recorded commentary on Mark's Gospel by Richard Rohr OFM)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Maureen Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Alice Bramhill, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Petra Daniels, Baby Elijah, Derek Faiers, Derek Francis, Mervyn Francis, David & Joan Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Reg Hills, Trudy King, Doreen Holman, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Sarah Marshall, Sarah Mc Cann, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Karen O'Donovan, Julie Poole, Sharon Poole, Norma Rudd, Cath Smith, Susan Soutter, Marion Teague, Emmie Walker, George Watson, Brian Weston.

If you wish someone to be included for prayers here, or if the person being prayed for is now well & you would like their name removed, speak to Deacons Ian or Steve or Linda via the Parish office.

REMINDER: THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH at The Old Mill. This Thursday 11th December 12 for 12.30PM.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE-Thank you to Tina and her team, and to everyone who turned up and made the Christmas Fayre such a success!



HELP NEEDED. Can someone from St Michael's please volunteer to put out, decorate & put away the Christmas tree? All sorted for SB's thank you.

The tree can go out anytime between after Mass on Sunday 21st to Tuesday 23rd December and go away after the Epiphany. Please contact Linda in the office if you can help.

If no one volunteers we won't have a tree in SM'S this year which would be very sad.



LOOKING OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER Do you know the people who sit next to you each week at Mass? If not, why not introduce yourself?

Have you noticed that someone who usually sits near you at Mass hasn't been there for a while? If so, please alert Deacons Steve and he will follow it up. We had a situation recently of someone who was ill and hadn't been to Mass for several weeks. They were desperate for a visit, but no one knew they were ill. We need to look out for one another.

ST ANNE'S ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION: As required by the Admissions Code, the Governing Body of St Anne's will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions policy for the school year 2016/2017. The consultation period runs from 17 November 2014 to 26 January 2015. Copies of the proposed policy can be obtained from the school office. Comments on the policy should be sent to the Clerk to the Governors at the school by 26 January 2015.



PARISH OFFICE: Advance notice: The office will be closed on 23rd, 25th & 30th December & 1st January. If you want anything to go in the newsletter over this period please let me know by 17th December at the latest as I have to get 3 newsletters out on the 18th.



SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT The Candle of Preparation - This candle reminds us to be prepared to receive the Lord.

Prayer for 2nd week of Advent: *O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.*

Faith, Hope & Charity.
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE
SO45 6DA



The Pope Tweets: @Pontifex *The Church is called to draw near to every person, beginning with the poorest and those who suffer.*



POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis' prayer intention "...*That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will*"

But how? How can remembering the birth of a baby over two thousand year ago bring about peace? This intention from the Pope seeks to affirm that precisely this child, Jesus of Nazareth, son of a humble woman married to the village carpenter, incarnates the answer that our planet needs. Stripped of power and prestige, without weapons and without violence, one more among the world's poor, this child became a model of humanity for all his brothers and sisters. Innocent of all the accusations against him, he let himself be rejected, insulted and killed for love of his friends. And this love to the end became the way to bring about new life and a new world for everyone. In a society wounded by injustice and violence, where too many people have died, and are still dying due to ambition for power and money, the Pope tells us that the answer is to be active in proclaiming Jesus, the Prince of Peace.



REVIEW OF DIOCESAN DEPARTMENT FOR SCHOOLS

The Trustees are currently engaged in a review of the future shape and remit of the diocesan Department for Schools. The questions below have been sent to Heads and Chairs of Governors for their views, **but we are also seeking the views of the wider diocesan community**, clergy and laity. If you have any views, these can be sent to Fr Jamie McGrath, Episcopal Vicar for Education, at eveduca-tion@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Many thanks.

- + **What do you value about the work of the Schools Department?**
- + **What could be improved about the work of the Schools Department?**
- + **In an ideal world, what support and services would you like the Schools Department to offer schools?**
- + **What services would you be prepared to pay for from a reformed Schools Department?**



CONGRATULATIONS to Monsignor Nicholas France who recently received an MBE from Prince Charles for services to Catholic & Faith communities, and to ethnic groups in Jersey.



FOODBANK In the 3 weeks up to Christmas the foodbank will provide Christmas food parcels for local individuals and families in crisis. Please leave any of the following items in front of the altar and they will be collected from there. Tinned ham, Christmas pudding, Christmas cake, box of biscuits, Children's selection box, box of chocolates, large bar of chocolate (150/200g), snacks and nibbles (e.g. peanuts), Christmas crackers. Thank you for your support.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- + Those struggling to come to terms with a bereavement or illness.
- + For those suffering as a result of conflicts around the world.
- + Those suffering from Ebola and the courageous medical staff who are nursing them.
- + Those who suffer abuse of their human rights. (Human Rights Day is 10th December)
- + All those travelling to the other side of the world to visit family.

WHAT'S ON



PAUSE FOR PRAYER 9th December 10-11am SM



ADVENT SERVICES

12th December 7.30pm Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington
19th December 7.30pm St Anne's, Brockenhurst

*"Reflect on the meaning of Christ's coming to the world.
What does the 'peace of Christ' mean to you?"*