

# The Messenger

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

8<sup>th</sup> April 2012

## Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 10.00am Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (courtesy of Mgr Jeremy Garrett) 11.00am Mass at St Michaels
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - Mass at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of reconciliation until 11.00am (Liturgy: Octave of Easter)
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	Second Sunday of Easter 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 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, For all those who have helped prepare for Easter, Margaret Jones RIP Anniv B'day.

**For the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> April:** 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.

### 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)

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### 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 6pm

## RESURRECTION – THE RESPONSE OF THE FATHER

When Mary of Magdala goes to visit the tomb of Jesus she expects to make a rendezvous with death. It is very early on the first day of the week. It is still dark, but there is light enough to see that the stone has been moved from the entrance to the tomb. Mary's reaction is not immense relief that Jesus is not dead. She does not cheat herself with that mad groundless hope. The only conclusion she can come to is that some unknown people must have stolen the dead body of Jesus. Even in death Jesus is not allowed to rest in peace.

When Simon Peter and the Beloved Disciple hear Mary's story they run to the tomb. The account in John's Gospel is clearly written in favour of the Beloved Disciple. When Peter enters the tomb he sees the burial clothes; when the Beloved Disciple enters the tomb he sees and he believes. The disciple who was closest to Jesus in love is the one who is first to believe in him as the risen Lord. Perhaps the Beloved Disciple reckoned that if someone had stolen the body he would not have taken the trouble to strip the body first and then roll up the burial clothes. Or perhaps the evangelist John is simply telling us that beloved disciples are always the first to get to the heart of the matter. For the heart of the resurrection is the matter of love.

What we celebrate in the resurrection is God's liberating love for his beloved Son. Resurrection is the Father's response to the cross, his defiant answer to a world that hoped violence could keep Jesus in its hold. In raising Jesus from the dead God raised every value that Jesus stood for, every story that Jesus told, every preference that Jesus made, every purpose that Jesus followed. All this was given new life and new significance.

If death had spoken the final word about Jesus, it would only have been a matter of time before everything about Jesus would have been reduced to a curiosity, a forgettable footnote in the crowded history of lost causes. But God had the last word. As indeed he had the first. The resurrection of Jesus was not a hysterical invention of people who refused to accept the death of their master. On the contrary, resurrection is the original act of accepting Jesus' death. The Father's act of raising Jesus from the dead is the Father's way of accepting his Son's death. Jesus is wakened to new life by the applause of his Father, by the sheer energy of his Father's love, by the loud shout of his Father's gratitude. The dead Jesus has no alternative but to rise to the occasion. The tomb can never be his permanent address. The Good News is that the Father's affirmation is not confined to Jesus; it is extended to all who follow the way of the beloved Son. As Paul says in today's second reading: "When Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him." In the meantime, however, we struggle to let some of that glory shine through our halting efforts to follow the Lord. We know the way of the cross leads to our own doorstep and that we are challenged to take it. It leads us to the Father's ultimate affirmation, to the God who will laugh us out of our tombs. Today let us bless the God who insists on having the last laugh! (from Denis McBride: Seasons of the Word)

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Pat Bolton, Molly Booth, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Magdalen Forshaw, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, George Hutcheson, 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.)

**PRAYER POTTERY:** Prayer Pottery will revert to the normal monthly pattern after Easter with the next meeting being on Tuesday, 24th April. The prayer time is led by Christine Olden & all are welcome.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Zoltan Szalas & Evelina Mackeviciute who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil in St Bernard's. We also wish them every blessing for their wedding in June (in Lithuania) & their married life together.

**THE EASTER OFFERING -** As is traditional the collection at Easter is for your parish priest and forms a part of his ordinary income for the year. Fr David will be very grateful for whatever you give at this time.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED US CELEBRATE LENT & EASTER:** To our deacons, Steve & Ian, to all who pray, to Tony & Irene for liturgical preparation & music, to Linda for extra help, to our choir (St Michaels) & music arrangers (St Bernards), to our Servers, to Ministers of Holy Communion & Readers, to Childrens Liturgy Catechists, to our Welcomers, to Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Collectors & Collection Auditors & all helpers.

**STILL NO NEWS ON THE NEW BISHOP:** Unfortunately there is still no news yet as to who has been chosen to be the next Bishop of Portsmouth. As the Vatican offices will not be open again until the end of April. We cannot now expect a decision much before the end of May. So please keep the prayers going.

**JUBILEE MASS:** After further discussion and in view comments from parishioners it has been decided by the PPC that there will be **only one Parish Mass on Sunday 3rd June at 10.00am at St Bernard's** but there will **not** be any picnic afterwards.

**A DAY FOR MEN:** A spiritual journey for men to meet their true selves. "There is nothing to prove and nothing to protect. I am who I am and its enough" *Richard Rohr*. This day will provide a safe space to be listened to and to listen to others. Its not about protecting patriarchy or encouraging male chauvinism. It is about the fraternal support that enables men to be their true selves. **Saturday, 21st April, 9.30am-4.30pm. Venue: Geo House (St Joseph's, Ashurst).** Minimum contribution to the costs of the day £15. Simple lunch provided. For more information contact Fr David.

**FAITH CARDS:** The Catholic Bishop's of England and Wales have provided credit card sized "Faith" cards which can be carried in one's wallet or purse. Please help yourself.

**VOCATIONS PROMOTION:** Cards are also available for parents and young people to help them think and pray about personal vocation.

## CAFOD CAMPAIGN

### GIVE IT UP DURING LENT FOR CLEAN WATER

The campaign has raised an amazing £2623.01 which will be doubled by the Government's matching scheme to £5246.02 and CAFOD will be able to reclaim tax on nearly half the donations. 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:** There is a continuing need for regular donations of food for Waterside Foodbank. Especially in these times of economic difficulty, there is a growing number of individuals and 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 types of food needed. We are in Eastertide - the ideal time to be generous to those in need, and to resolve to continue to donate regularly throughout the year ahead.

**STREET PASTORS:** Prayers are requested for this initiative in the New Forest as the organisers seek: a) a volunteer administrator, b) more members for the co-ordinating committee and c) to organise the training of street pastors.

**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:** Tickets will be back on sale on 15th April. The draw will take place after 11am Mass on 6th May.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** are now available at the back of the churches. Please note Special Collection envelopes are now all together at the back of the 1st Collection envelopes. You may want to put them all in date order.

**FOLD-UP BED:** free to anyone who wants it. A parishioner has a fold-up (Z) bed that she no longer needs. Contact Fr David if you are interested.

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

