

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 Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe,
Hants SO45 5GR Tel: 02380 843479

E-mail: waterside@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

The Gospel of Luke- The Gospel of Mercy

THE SEASON OF EASTER

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 8th MAY 2016

Year C, Weekdays Year 2 Psalter week 3

9.00am Mass SB

11.00am Mass SM

Baptism Jack Marshall Stanley-Boden 12.15 SM's

Monday 9th May No Mass

Tuesday 10th May No Mass

(St John of Avila, priest, Doctor of the Church)

Wednesday 11th May No Mass

Thursday 12th May No Mass

(St Pancras, Martyr)

Friday 13th May 10AM MASS SM'S

(Our Lady of Fatima)

Saturday 14th May 10AM MASS SM'S

(St Matthias, Apostle)

Sacrament of Reconciliation after 10am Mass

Anniversaries this week: Vera West (10th), Patrick Connaughton (12th), Chloe Godding (13th)

Remembering those who have died recently: Edward Parrett, Ann Boyes

Mass Intentions:

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 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

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**

CHRIST, THE YEAST THAT RAISES THE WHOLE BATCH

The telling of an event or a story is framed and expressed by how we see the world. For the ancient peoples the realm of heaven was literally up beyond the sky. But we know too that the writers of Scripture used meteorological metaphors, for example: the presence of God the Father is signified by a cloud as in - *a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved...'* (Matt 17:5). What is more difficult for us, if not impossible, is to distinguish the boundaries between symbol and metaphor on the one hand, and empirical references on the other. So is Luke imagining the ascension of Jesus much as we would watch the launch of a space rocket or is it all metaphor 'a cloud took him from their sight' meaning simply Jesus returns to the Father? Notice how, characteristically, Mark's Gospel avoids using too many atmospheric images but still has to use the royal throne metaphor: *the Lord Jesus ... was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place* (Mark 16:19). (If all this talk of metaphor seems strange remember Jesus himself said: *I have said these things to you in figures of speech (i.e. metaphors). The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures (i.e. metaphors) but will tell you plainly of the Father* (John 16:25)).

In our time and culture we have conventions of writing that, with the exception of poetry and poetic lyric, demand absolute clarity and separation between measurable events and forces and those which are of their nature subjective and unquantifiable, e.g. experiences of consciousness. Some people only accept as true and real things and events that can be verified by measurement. However even astrophysicists and quantum physicists have to resort to metaphor to describe phenomena indicated by observation, experiment and mathematical analysis.

Whatever the empirical evidence may be our relationship with God is most definitely experienced within the realm of consciousness or awareness. Indeed consciousness is the irreducible ground of every experience from the empirical to the ineffable. But it is here that we need to make an important distinction. This is the difference between the experience, the awareness or consciousness and the words, thoughts, images that we use to try to articulate that experience. In Western culture we have become more and more identified with thought, ideas and concepts. By getting our words right we imagine we have found the truth. But all we find, in fact, are ideas about the truth, although some ideas can clearly correspond more closely to the truth than others.

Truth is an experience of being, life and reality. Because everything is connected it is ultimately about relationship. In the Bible the word "know" is much closer in meaning to touch, taste & experience than to ideas that is why it has a sexual reference as in Mary's question: *How can this be since I do not know a man* (Luke 1:34). This is why Jesus blessed his Father for *hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children* (Matt 11:25). In Genesis (2:17) the prohibition concerning *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil* is not about preventing a theoretical understanding of morality but about preventing the violation of God's very good creation by presuming to judge and act as if some of it were good and some of it were evil. This divides and separates and breaks the unity of all things in God. We do this in a very small way every time we say, for example: *Its rotten weather today*. The term "rotten" is a value judgement not an impartial description.

Jesus once said that *the Kingdom of heaven was like yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened* (Matt 13:33). This is what happens in the Ascension. As the writer to the Christians at Ephesus put it: *The one (Jesus) who rose higher than the heavens to fill all things* (Eph 4:10). We connect with and perceive this mystery through our participation in the consciousness of God, in other words, through the Holy Spirit. As Paul puts it: *these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God* (1 Cor 2:10). The ascension of Jesus reconnects (in our consciousness) body, soul and spirit, earth and heaven, death and life, past, present and future, God, humanity and the world. It expresses the definitive victory of God's love over our sin, enmity and alienation. By the gift of God's Spirit we are awakened to the mystery of God-With-Us and faith is our acceptance of this reality, of who we really are - children of God. This God is *Father of all, over all, through all and within all* (Eph. 4:6). This means every moment, everything, every person is sacred, is lifted up. It is why justice, compassion and love are the imperatives of the here and now. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Violetta Baddour, David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Nick Candrl, Kathryn Cox, Avril & Michael Daniels, Baby Finlay Drozd, Baby Elijah, Keith Ellison, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Dennis Freemantle, David Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Doreen Holman, Chrissy James, Peggy Kirwan, Sue Knell, Betty Marek, Susan Marlow, Sarah Marshall, Niamh Mulherne, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Ann O Connor, Lynne Parker, Michelle Ripley, Joan Smith, Emmie Walker, Brian Weston, Maureen Weyman. Mary & Lawrie Wittchell, Bridget Wyatt

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.



BAPTISM We welcome baby Jack Stanley-Boden into our community as he is baptised today.



AN URGENT APPEAL FROM OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Churchill Insurance is holding a competition and *the prize is a fully funded lollipop person for the next academic school year.*

We'd love it if we could get as many nominations as possible. Hopefully the link will work <https://www.churchill.com/lollipoppers> but if it doesn't please can you google 'churchill . com / lollipoppers' The school post code is SO41 8GY : Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School, Lymington. Please share this with friends and family so that we get as many votes as possible a.s.a.p.. (I've just nominated them and it's really easy to do. The school is on a busy main road and a Lollipop person would really help. So, let's get nominating! (Linda)



PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD (READERS) We need some more Readers for Sunday Mass. Would you like to join this Important Ministry?

Our teams of Readers undertake the important task of proclaiming the Word of God at Mass. On Sunday this could include one of the two Sunday readings (as per the Missal), the Psalm (if not sung at the Mass) and (in the absence of a Deacon) Bidding prayers.

By proclaiming the Word of God you are facilitating the reception of the Word to the other members of the congregation, hence Readers must be able to project their voice so that all can hear and speak slowly and with clarity, and not just rely on the microphone. You would be added to the rota for the Mass that you normally attend on a Sunday. Instruction and advice is available. If you would like the opportunity to take part in this crucial ministry contact Linda in the parish office.



NEW WEBSITE: FOCUS ON REFUGEES: A new website dedicated to covering the refugee crisis in Europe has been launched by

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI). It aims to be a one-stop source of information covering news, policy, practical action and resources for those in the faith community interested in refugee and asylum issues. www.focusonrefugees.org.

➔ **PLEASE NOTE** Change of email address for the parish. It is now : waterside@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE
Tel: 02380 207882



The website for the New Forest Pastoral area has a weekly extract from Laudato Si. <http://www.nfwp.org.uk/>

The Pope's Prayer Intention for May



This month we focus on the stark reality that women in developing countries suffer disproportionately from poor access to health services, discrimination, the effects of war, and, at times, victimization by harmful traditions and trafficking.

Women around the globe should be celebrated for their extraordinary contributions in all areas of society - as professionals, as bread-winners, and as carers. This month Pope Francis asks us to join in his prayer intention for May, *"...That in every country of the world, women may be honoured and respected and that their essential contribution to society may be highly esteemed."*



MARY'S MONTH: There is a sense amongst some people, that since Vatican II, Mary has been demoted, especially in the liturgy. A familiar lament is, *"We don't sing Mary's songs at Mass anymore, not even during her month of May."* This may be true, but not without good reason. The Easter Season lasts from the Easter Vigil until Pentecost Sunday, and depending on the date of Easter, we can be celebrating this 50 day festival until at least mid May. The music chosen for Eucharistic Liturgy would reflect the Easter Season scripture readings. A song like *'Immaculate Mary'* probably would not fit. But this doesn't mean that Mary has been 'demoted'. Today the Church tells us that whilst honouring Christ's mother, these devotions should not overshadow her Son *this after all, is the last thing Mary would have wanted.* **This month Pope Francis asks us to pray the Holy Rosary for evangelisation and peace**



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR EVANGELISATION 8 May

The Bishops' Conference commends prayers and support for the Week of Prayer for Evangelisation.

COLLECTIONS FOR MAY

UKRAINE The collection last Sunday for the Pope's appeal for the Ukraine was £179.34 Thank you for your generosity.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS : TODAY The Church must make certain that her voice is heard through the media of television, radio and the press. This collection is for the upkeep of the Catholic Media Office in Ecclestone Square, London, through which priests, religious and lay people pass each year.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- + the week of prayer for Evangelisation.
- + the children preparing for their 1st Holy Communion at SB's 29th May: Clemence Bui, Milan Hutchinson, Amelie Ingham, Adam Oakley, Patryk Radziwillowicz & Sophia Tona,
- + the Catechists who are preparing the children for their 1st Holy Communion
- + our politicians, that they are guided by a greater good.
- + all those professionals who work in the field of communications
- + all those who communicate on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country through the Catholic Communications Network.
- + Jimmy Cummings (Birthday 13th May)

WHAT'S ON ?



CALLED & GIFTED: The workshop takes place on **Friday 13th May** 7pm-9pm; **Saturday 14th May** 9am-4pm at St Theresa's church hall, 20 Beaumont Rd. Totton SO40 3AL, totton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Tel: 023 8086 2270, Mob: 07515001645. BOOKING FORMS ARE IN THE PORCH.



PLANT SALE & SPRING FAIR: @ St Bernard's Hall on Saturday, **14th May 10am-12.30**. Please help to make this event a success: it makes a good contribution to the parish. Raffle prizes, plants and home made cakes all needed: Raffle prizes as soon as possible and plants and cakes the day before, on 13th May.