

The Messenger

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

8th December 2013

2nd Sunday of Advent Yr A (Psalter Week 2)

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's

11.00am Mass at St Michael's

All Liturgies are for Advent unless otherwise stated

Mon 9th December No Service
(Liturgy: memorial Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Tues 10th No Service

Wed 11th No Service

Thurs 12th No Service

(Liturgy: memorial Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Fri 13th 10am Mass SM

(Liturgy: memorial St Lucy, Martyr)

Sat 14th 10am Mass SM

(Liturgy: memorial ...St John of the Cross, Religious, Doctor of the Church)

Sacrament of Reconciliation immediately after Mass.

Sun 15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent -

Gaudete Sunday

"Rejoice ('Gaudete') in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice."

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's

11.00am Mass at St Michael's

Mass Intentions: For the week beginning 8th December:

For all expectant mothers, For all Clergy, For all young people, Andy Anderson RIP Anniv, Baby Dylan Guilding (Health), Aidan Prestage RIP Anniv, Anthony Richards (Health), Neil Tanner RIP Anniv.

For the week beginning 15th December Ruth Adams (RIP Anniv), Baby Dylan Guilding (Health), Ann Harding RIP, Anthony Richards (Health), Flo & Fred Warrilow RIP

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastoral Team: Rev David Adams (Parish Priest), Rev Vincent Convery
Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon & Chair Parish Pastoral Council) (023 8020 7449)
Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)

All correspondence to: The Parish Administrator, The Parish Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR

Tel: 023 8084 3479 e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
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New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

New Forest West Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm
Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 10 am,
Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

EXPOSING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

Often disclosures are uncomfortable for us and our institutions because we are not ready for the whole truth. But whenever & wherever the truth is told in love, there the Christ's presence is dawning, the Light is returning.

Most of our relationships in the many different spheres of life are severely limited by competing ambitions or fears that arise from self-interest. Only in a few personal relationships do we take the risk of being perfectly honest and open and vulnerable. We can only do this when our truth is spoken and received in love. We cannot receive this love from another if we are not willing to give the same kind of love in return. *Unless we change and become like little children we will not enter...*

Until we let the Light of Truth/Love expose, heal and transform our entire being, personally and collectively, we will not experience the full coming of Christ.

We have nothing to fear, only the chaff, the delusional pride and every other disease of the soul & the system are earmarked for surgical removal, (John the Baptist's warning). The wheat, the true beauty of every individual as created by God will be gathered, healed and restored.

I do recommend the Advent Scripture readings as compiled for us in the lectionary. They are full of hope and encouragement but never divorced from the real world with all its pleasure & pain, joy and sorrow, (cfr 1st Reading, Sat Advent week 1, & today's 1st Reading).

There is a mysterious reconciliation of opposites, and an alchemy of transformation that is worked between the blessing and the curse, the grace and the grit, the suffering and the consolation. And the way, the path of wisdom which guides us securely through all the apparent contradictions of life is the path of self-emptying love, the way of Jesus. This way of love receives everything gratefully from the Father but doesn't cling to anything except the love that binds all together as one.

God has given us this gift of life but it could not be given without risk. All of us lose our innocence (literally: unwoundedness), all of us get wounded in one way or another. As we are drawn into relationship with Christ we are gradually healed. The powers and capacities of the soul which once seemed so dangerous are drawn into a wonderful creative synergy. This dynamic harmony mirrors the glory of God. When we have learnt not *to hurt or harm* anyone or anything then the knowledge of God, that is the taste & experience of God will flood the earth, and truly & finally Christ will have come again. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Vicky Carter, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Daphne Gooch, Peter Gray, Amanda Gudge, Baby Dylan Guilding, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Serena Hoskyns, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Sarah Marshall, Tony O'Connell, Karen O'Donovan, George Raffray, Anthony Richards, Lilly Ricketts, Norma Rudd, Pauline Sharpley, Susan Soutter, Ronald Stevens, Neil Tisdale. **(If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Linda via the Parish office)**



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

NEW PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE NOW AVAILABLE

REMINDER: THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH

at The Old Mill. This Thursday 12th December 12 FOR 12.30PM.

FOODBANK ADVENT APPEAL

next Sunday after Mass

Terry and Theresa will take our donations to the Foodbank to be made into Christmas hampers for the families in crisis over Christmas. Try to make it a bumper delivery and make their cars groan with the weight! Thank you for all donations so far.



ABOUT THE ADVENT WREATH - It is a wreath, or circle, of evergreens, made in various sizes. Fastened to the wreath are four candles standing upright, at equal distances.

These candles represent the four weeks of Advent.

Three of the candles are purple, reminding us of the penitential nature of the season.

A rose or pink candle is lit for the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete ('Rejoice') Sunday. The name is taken from the entrance antiphon or Introit - "*Rejoice ('Gaudete') in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice.*"

It is reminding us that the end of Advent is almost here, and we can hardly contain our joy.

The wreath should be in a circle, a symbol of eternity, and a reminder that God has no beginning nor end.

The evergreen is a symbol of eternal life and a reminder that God is immutable or unchangeable.

TWELVE POEMS FOR CHRISTMAS by Lexley George will be on sale at the back of Church for £3. *£1 from each booklet will be given to Waterside Cancer Support Centre.* It would make a nice gift for Christmas. *Please put the money in the repository box in the wall*

ANTHONY RICHARDS- Anthony is the 15 year old son of Mrs Richards, the Headteacher of our Catholic Primary school in Lymington. Anthony is dangerously ill in hospital in Bristol and the family has asked for your prayers.

BABY DYLAN GUILDING Thank you to all those who have been praying for Dylan and asking how he is. I really appreciate it. Dylan is at home but still on anticonvulsive drugs. We might know more after his assessment with the Consultant in a few weeks time.



ADVANCE NOTICE!

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS

Bring your Poinsettia to church on **Sunday 22nd Dec (NOT BEFORE)**, write the name of your loved one on a tag, attach it to the plant and leave it at the back of the church. The flower arrangers will display the Poinsettias as part of the Christmas display and parishioners, on reading the tags, will pray for your loved one.



FROM THE DIOCESE:

HOME MISSION- Advent and Christmas are wonderful times of the year for every member of the Catholic community to share the joy of his/her faith in Jesus Christ. Why not invite three people that you know to celebrate *the reason for the season* with you and your parish?



YEAR OF FAITH IN ACTION The Year of FAITH ended on the Feast of Christ the King. We concluded this grace-filled year by consecrating ourselves, both as individuals and communities, to the Sacred Heart of

Christ. As a follow-up to the many fruits of the Year of Faith, Bishop Philip would like to announce a 'Year of Faith in Action.' As we read in the Letter of St James, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?" (James 2:14) Please see the Bishop's message for the Year of Faith in Action which was handed to you as you came into Mass today.

CARITAS PORTSMOUTH In his homily during the Mass at the Guildhall last Sunday, with 600+ people present, Bishop Philip said that the Diocese is going to set up 'Caritas Portsmouth', a new diocesan agency which will support and develop the charitable activities of the diocese. Its base will be in the Parish of The Holy Family, Millbrook. He felt that Southampton was an appropriate base for this as City Catholics have been in the forefront of social outreach for many years with groups like Home Care, Medaille, Poitier, EU Welcome and the Innovation Centre to mention a few. *(from Southampton parish newsletter)*

EVANGELII GAUDIUM On the Feast of Christ the King, Pope Francis released his Encyclical, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). In it he develops the theme of the proclamation of the Gospel in the contemporary world. It is an extraordinary read, in a style unlike anything in the past!

The Encyclical can be found at [www.vatican.va/holy-francesco.apost_exhortation](http://www.vatican.va/holy-francesco/apost_exhortation)

I am sorry I cannot print a hard copy.

THINGS TO DO IN ADVENT:

COME, LORD JESUS, COME- An Advent quiet day on Saturday 7th & Tuesday 10th December, 10am to 3.15pm. Coffee & registration from 9.30am. Wisdom Centre, Romsey Suggested offering £23 to include lunch. Please telephone 01794 830206 or email reception@wisdomhouseromsey.co.uk for more information.

PRAYER POTTERY- The next prayer pottery will be held on Tuesday, 10th December at 11am in the Blessed Sacrament chapel at St Michael's. All are welcome.

A CELTIC CHRISTMAS- A retreat day at St Joseph's Ashurst, 10am-4pm Saturday 7th December £20 (including lunch)
Ring 07702054198 for more information and to book a place. You will be looking at Christmas from a Celtic perspective contemplating Advent; Wisdom (Magi); Simplicity (shepherds) & the Incarnation of Christ.

LADIES' BRUNCH- Cornerstone Church hall, Hythe .Dec 14th 11am Bring & share continental meal. Speaker : Representative from Night Stop.

See poster in porch for contact details.

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

