

# The Messenger

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

9<sup>th</sup> September 2012

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Yr B (Psalter Wk.3)

Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: - 23rd Week of Ordinary Time)
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am SM Service of Word & Holy Communion (Liturgy: - 23rd Week of Ordinary Time)
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am St Anne's, Brockenhurst Service of Word & Holy Communion (Liturgy: - 23rd Week of Ordinary Time)
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am - Our Lady's, Lyndhurst Service of Word & Holy Communion (Liturgy: Memorial, St John Chrysostom)
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: Feast, Triumph of the Cross)
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: Memorial, Our Lady of Sorrows)
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 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 (Happy Retirement), Bishop elect Philip Egan, Staff & Pupils in all Catholic schools & colleges, For the Parish CAFOD Group, Ray & Pauline Moore (Wedding Anniv), Magdalen Forshaw RIP, Dick Greest RIP Anniv, Teresa Slipper RIP Anniv, Flo Warrilow RIP B'day Anniv,

**For the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> Sept:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Bishop Crispian (Happy Retirement), Bishop elect Philip Egan, For all those starting University, Nessie Beggs RIP Anniv,

## 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)

All correspondence to: The Parish Office, Angel House,  
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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 9.00am, New Milton at 11.30am,  
Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

## A CLASSLESS FAITH

Each of us has inherited a mixed bag of beliefs and suspicions, some of which we have grown to discard, others we have adopted and made our own. The prejudices that serve to prop up our sense of superiority, while keeping others in diminishment, are particularly difficult to tear down. We can all decorate our insecurity by regarding as inferior those who are different from ourselves, for reasons of class or race or religion or whatever. But if our own sense of worth is maintained at the expense of other people's dignity, what value is it?

In today's second reading, which comes from the letter of St James, we hear this simple advice: "My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people." The letter goes on to criticise the attitude which presumes that the well dressed man who enters the synagogue, with gold ring glinting its own message, naturally deserves more attention and care than the poor man who enters at the same time. If preference is going to be made, it should reflect the declared preference of God: he chose those who are poor according to the world, to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom he promises.

God's preference for those who are poor according to this world is seen clearly in today's Gospel. Jesus comes face to face with a deaf man who has a speech impediment. The man is doubly afflicted: he is a Gentile, hence regarded by orthodox Jews as unclean, and is also physically handicapped. Jesus takes him aside, away from the crowd, and cures his deafness and his stutter. Mark emphasises the response of the crowd, who publish their judgement that Jesus had done all things well. Thus the messianic prophecy of Isaiah heard in the first reading is seen to be fulfilled: the ears of the deaf are unsealed and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy.

Out of his infinite passion Jesus' love is available to everyone; without any presuppositions or any conditions. He is not disconcerted by the handicapped; neither is he prejudiced against those not of his own race or religion. His own uniqueness is not employed to lord it over others but to be of service to them. In his presence no one has to conceal his handicap, no one has to remain isolated in a wordless world, no one has to be rejected because of his difference. Jesus' acceptance and love open up new possibilities; for him, nothing is settled. Prejudice, on the other hand, tries to settle everything.

Jesus knows that people shrink back under indifference, are wounded by prejudice, are hurt when they are rejected. Prejudice handicaps everyone it touches; it allows fear to dress up as social and religious propriety; it sneaks its way into our laws. It is a killer disease. It is always good to remember that whoever we meet, God has first loved them. So let us be challenged by the words of wisdom:

Our first task in approaching another people, another culture, another religion is to take off our shoes for the place we are approaching is holy. Else we may find ourselves treading on another's dream. More serious still, we may forget that God was there before our arrival.

(from *Seasons of the Word* by Denis McBride)

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Amanda Bowden, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Judith Morrison, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Pauline Sharpley, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**PRAYER POTTERY:** the next meeting will be on Tuesday, 25th September at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. The prayer time is led by Christine Olden and comprises of music, quiet time & readings. All are welcome

**WATERSIDE FINANCE COMMITTEE:** The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 26th September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Angel House.

**WATERSIDE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 27th September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Angel House.

**MGR PHILIP EGAN - BISHOP ELECT OF PORTSMOUTH.** Mgr Philip's ordination to the Episcopate will take place on Monday, 24th September at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

**WATERSIDE FOODBANK - Harvest Festival Time:** There has been a 25% increase demand for Emergency Foodboxes since April 2012. A foodbox for a family of four weighs in at approximately 22kg and demand is an average of 100 people per month. Waterside Foodbank is a community based project, totally reliant on the community for donations of food and Harvest Festival is the time we rely on to boost the food stocks for the coming year.

Food List: Milk (UHT 500ml or 1 litre), Powdered Milk, Coffee (50g or 100g) Tomatoes ( nned), Sugar (500g or 1kg), Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Rice pudding ( nned), Biscuits, Instant mashed potato, Cereals, Carrots/Peas/Sweetcorn ( nned), Fruit ( nned), Soup ( nned), Beans ( nned)

**THE ENNEAGRAM FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY:** Want to understand your self better? Want to deepen your walk with God and your spiritual life? Introduction to the Enneagram for Christian Spirituality **14-16 September 2012 led by Gordon Melvin.** At Geo House, Ashurst. Book Now. Residential and non-residential places available. Suggested Offerings have been kept low. Book now on reception@geohouse.org.uk or 023 8029 2337.

**Autumn Retreat at Geo House** The Steps of Humility—how trust in God and twelve step spirituality can begin to transform your life. Fr Peter Burrows and Fr Rob Morland join us with much experience in retreats and group therapy. **5th-7th October 2012** Book now on reception@geohouse.org.uk or 023 8029 2337.

**ADVENT RETREAT** (at Geo House, St Joseph's, Ashurst). We are very fortunate to have Fr James McCafferey OCD to lead our Advent Retreat. 7th- 9th December 2012 Theme: 'Prayer in the Gospels and prayer in our everyday lives' Book now on reception@geohouse.org.uk or 023 8029 2337

**CAFOD SUPPORTERS MEETING ON SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER AT BASINGSTOKE:** FEEDBACK ON LENTEN APPEAL SUCCESS AND HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE SPENT. Plus question and answer session on any aspect of CAFOD's work and news of forthcoming activities. ALL WELCOME. Full details on poster in the church porches or from Louise (80898213). Booking is requested.

**CAFOD - GREAT SOUTH RUN:** - entrants need to register now for this event. See poster in church porch for details.

**A BIG THANKS TO THE MARTHA GROUP:** - for organising the BBQ and skittles evening which was a great success despite the weather. Special thanks to Jim Ross for use of his super-wiz BBQ and for Veronica for transport. Thanks to Keith Turner for helping put together the skittle ally. Thanks to all the members of the St Martha group who each paid for different things themselves & kept costs down. The total amount raised was an amazing £403. This was made up of £241 tickets sales, £122 raffle proceeds & £40 from the whisky bottle game



**THE YEAR OF FAITH: (Oct 2012 - Nov 2013).** This was announced by Pope Benedict last year. It is an invitation to every Catholic to re-discover the riches of their faith. "The Year of Faith will have to see a concerted effort to rediscover and study the fundamental content of the faith"; "if we interpret it (the 2nd Vatican Council) guided by a right hermeneutic, it can be and can become increasingly powerful for the ever necessary renewal of the Church"; "In order to arrive at a systematic knowledge of the content of the faith, all can find in the Catechism of the Catholic Church a precious and indispensable tool" (Extracts from Porta Fidei). Materials and national events are being prepared by the Bishops of England and Wales. Our own Diocese is preparing a booklet to guide us through the year and offer suggestions as to how we might respond. **See also the Geo House / St Joseph's, Ashurst programme.**

## EXPLORE YOUR FAITH:

At Geo House (St Joseph's, Ashurst) **on the first Saturday of each month from September 2012 onwards**—inspired by the naming of 2013 as the 'Year of Faith' by the Holy Father Pope Benedict, we will be launching our 'Explore your faith days. **Starting at 10am with Mass the day includes prayer, music, talks and sharing. Bring a packed lunch. Refreshments available.**

October 6th David Matthews— former free church pastor  
November 3rd Alice Hall—Sion Community  
December 1st Geoff & Gina Poulter—Catholic Bible School

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:** Mike Slipper is organising another **Jazz Night** for Saturday, October 27th at St Bernard's Hall. More details to follow.

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

