

All correspondence to:
The Parish Office,
Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn,
Hythe SO45 5GR
Tel: 023 8084 3479
e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

For St Bernard &
St Michael's churches

11 April 2010
Year C
divine office Week 2

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

St Bernard's Church
Southbourne Avenue,
Holbury, SO45 2NT

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams

Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)

Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

Parish Administrator: Helen Hughson

To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's
call between 9am - 2pm (Mon & Tue only)



For the Ideal Gift
visit

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

Tel: 023 8020 7882

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sun	11	9 am	SB	Second Sunday of Easter
		11 am	SM	Second Sunday of Easter
		3 pm	SM	Baptism: Niamh Hughes
		6 pm	SM	Second Sunday of Easter
Tue	13	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: 2nd Week of Easter
Wed	14	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: 2nd Week of Easter
Thu	15	10 am	LT	Lyndhurst: 2nd Week of Easter
Sat	16	10 am	SM	Mass: 2nd Week of Easter followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation from 11am until 11.30am
Sun	17	9 am	SB	Third Sunday of Easter
		11 am	SM	Third Sunday of Easter
		6 pm	SM	Third Sunday of Easter

SEEING AND BELIEVING: THOMAS

After the death of Jesus the identity of the disciples and the direction of their lives changes dramatically. Now they are a group of men whose shared fear keeps the company together, and whose only direction in life is to lock themselves into their own no-go area. After the death of Jesus their lives are rooted in fear.

It is into that desperation that the risen Christ comes: not to disown his disciples for abandoning him but to reclaim them with his peace. He shows himself to them. The resurrection doesn't make the marks of cruelty and suffering disappear: the risen Christ is *the wounded Christ*. He is Jesus who was crucified: the same. In his gift of peace the disciples experience great joy, and they are commissioned to share that joy when they release others from sin through the power of forgiveness. Again because of Christ, they have a new-found identity and a new direction to their lives. Now they have his Spirit.

Being absent from the community means that Thomas missed meeting the Lord, and when he returns he cannot bring himself to believe in the disciples' story. His doubt is that of a man who is committed to the truth. There is a sparkling authenticity about Thomas: he refuses to say that he can understand or believe when he can manage neither understanding nor belief. Thomas is brave enough to have the conviction of his doubts.

Later, the risen Christ appears again to his disciples and the purpose of the visit is clearly to pay attention to the doubt of Thomas – not to scorn it. Thomas is invited to inspect a wounded Jesus to discover the reality of the resurrection. But seeing Jesus is enough for Thomas, and he is the one who proclaims the basic Christian Credo: "My Lord and My God." As Thomas is fearless in voicing his doubts, he is quick to proclaim his faith, and in John's Gospel it is he who makes the most important affirmation about who Jesus is – that he is Lord and God.

In coming to believe in the risen Jesus the disciples experience a profound change: they become spirited followers of their Lord. They have seen the Lord, they have met him, they have eaten with him. They can testify to others from the authority of their own experience. As John says: "What we have seen and heard we are telling you so that you too may have fellowship with us as we have fellowship with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." (1 Jn. 1:3) The apostles have a unique place in the Church: they experienced Jesus at firsthand and were authorised to be his witnesses. But what about all those people who never met Jesus or heard him or touched him? Can we believe without seeing the Lord for ourselves? And *that* is why the story of Thomas is so important because it tells us that *it is possible to believe in Christ without having seen him*. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" is the teaching of the Gospel. And it is in the Lord that we have our identity as his followers and follow his direction in our lives. Like the apostles, because we believe in him, we know now *who* we are and *what* we must do. (From Denis McBride: Seasons of the Word).

For the week beginning 11th April we will be offering Masses for: People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, Margaret Jones RIP; Noel Murray RIP, Michael Peake (Health)

For the week beginning 18th April we will be offering Masses for: People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, Mrs Ellen Pick, Win Cocker'B'day, Vera West RIP

ROOF FUND

Due to your amazing fundraising, contributions and proceeds from the Faith Hope and Charity Easter Egg Raffle we have reached a staggering 72% of our target with £9779.28 **raised in less than a year.**
Thank you all, for your generosity

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, Joan Cocker, Petra Daniels, Bill Feltham, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Andrew Handol, Irene Mitchell, Roy Nicholas, Joan Olden, Leslie Palmer, Michael Peake, Bridget Reeves, Margaret Scott, Valerie Slipper, Marcus Smith, Lena Westfoot (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

A BIG THANKYOU: for prayers, cards, kind wishes and a very generous Easter Offering (£1536.20) and thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to help us celebrate our faith journey over the Lent, Holy Week & Easter period: those who pray, cleaners, flower arrangers, our deacons Ian & Steve, Tony & Irene, choir & music organisers, Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Servers, Children's Liturgy group, CAFOD organisers, & all helpers.



Give it Up for Lent Campaign. Many thanks for your generosity. So far we have raised an amazing £2080 (Fast Day £1129, Soup Lunch £343, Coffee mornings/tea £158, cake and other donations to Shop £150, Give it Up Boxes on Easter Sunday £290.85. With latest news of starvation in Sudan every penny counts. Please return any more CAFOD Boxes or Pyramids to add to this total.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE: The Easter Egg Raffle at the parish shop "Faith, Hope & Charity" made £260 for the Roof Fund! Well done everyone and thanks to all those who contributed the lovely eggs and all those who took part. There is a list of prize winners at the back of the church.

QUIZ NIGHT & AMERICAN SUPPER: on Saturday, 24th April at 7.30pm in St Bernards Hall. Tickets should be on sale after Mass. This event is being organised by the Martha Group. It will be a great fun evening so please support this parish event.

YOUNG PEOPLE: We still have only 3 adult volunteers for the 9am children's liturgy. We could give the young more and better Catholic-based learning, worship, friendship and fun, both at Mass and beyond - but only with more help. Can **you** help the Church of the future? Irregular/occasional volunteers welcome too: please ring Clare (8084 2232) or Hilary (8084 3173).

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: for the year 2010/2011 are now ready for collection and will be in the porch at St Bernard's & St Michael's this Sunday, 21st March and for the next two weeks. Thanks to Carmel McClatchey for organising the envelopes. Anyone wishing to join the scheme should contact either the Parish Office on 80843479 or Carmel McClatchey 80842403.

THE DIOCESAN FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN - "LIVING OUR FAITH":

Message from Bishop Crispian: There have been amazing—and humbling—acts of generous and sacrificial giving from over 3000 families, all of whom have been eager and willing to play their part in building and sustaining the life and future of our diocese. They have readily given new money for the new work that faces us". (*So far money given and pledges made amount to £8 million; £4.5 million towards the Diocesan target of £6.5 million and the remainder for specific parish projects*).

This campaign is to raise funds so that the Diocese can continue: 1) vocations work for priesthood & diaconate; 2) the training of students for the priesthood; 3) the work of adult formation and training for lay ministry; 4) the provision of financial support for parish projects.

The campaign has been running very successfully in other parishes. **The Parish Team is now in place. They will be helping Fr David meet with parishioners to invite support for the campaign.**

PLEASE SAY "YES" TO SHOPPING VOUCHERS next time you do your shopping and you are offered vouchers at Sainsbury or Tesco checkouts. You could then place them in the CAFOD stamps flip-top bins and we will then pass them on to Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School, who are asking for them. Also... ..A huge sack of used stamps, foreign coins and some old mobile phones was handed over to the CAFOD office at Wonersh, Surrey recently. Thank you all very much, and keep them coming in. Why not get friends and relatives, at home and abroad, to collect them too?

RED BOX HOLDERS: Would all Red Box Holders please bring Boxes to Mass on Sunday 4th April (Easter Sun). Many thanks.

THE 2010 PLANT SALE: will be held on May 15th this year and organised by Veronica Chadwick. So all you gardeners please get busy.

BLUESTAR BUS SERVICE NO 9 (which links our churches) is now half hourly during the day on Sundays.

Average Income & Expenditure for Sept 2009—Feb 2010

Ord. Income: Average per Month

SOs & Envs & Loose:	£3185
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed:	£704
Rent	£703
FHC Shop	£648
Other incl Fund Raising	£629

Total Av Mnthly Income £5869

Ord. Expenditure: Av per Month

(actual figures incl. half yr insurance & exceptional costs provision)

Ordinary Expenditure	£5321
Exceptional Cost Provsn	£600

Total Av Monthly Exp. £5921

Giving to Other Charities

Through the Parish:

Average per Month: £1247
(includes Christmas Offering)