

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

11th OCTOBER 2009
Year B
divine office wk 4

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 daily (Mon & Tue only)

PARISH SERVICES**28th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Sun	11	9 am	SB	Mass: 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Tue	13	10 am	SM	Mass: Of the Day
Wed	14	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: Of the Day
Thur	15	10 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: St Teresa of Avila
Fri	16	7 pm	SM	Confirmation Mass with Bp Crispian
Sat	17		SM	No Mass or Reconciliation today

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	18	9 am	SB	Mass: 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time
		11 am	SM	Mass: 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

THE RICHES OF GOD'S WISDOM

In today's Gospel a rich man appears seeking something more. In Luke's version, he is a rich, *young* man. From the start we are given the distinct impression that this person knows nothing about what is really important. He is rich, he is young, he knows nothing! His words only confirm the impression. He begins with a subtle flattery – "Good Master". Then he wants to know what *he can do* to guarantee *his* future security. He thinks goodness is another thing you can possess.

Jesus begins the process of stripping him of his illusions. *Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.* We too think goodness/holiness is something we must have, something we must do. When we think like that we start judging ourselves and others, we divide and separate. With this approach to life we cannot enter the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is about love, acceptance, gratuity, freedom and community.

Jesus then starts probing this person. What has he learnt and experienced, what are his desires? Has he kept the commandments? Jesus outlines the ethical commandments and then quite unexpectedly throws in "You must not defraud". Jesus either knows something specific about how this person acquired their wealth or is presuming that no one could become wealthy without some root injustice. The man doesn't hear what Jesus is saying, he has a blind spot on the acquisition of wealth. He still wants something more. Jesus looks steadily at this person. It is a look of acceptance and love. Jesus is not shaming him or judging and rejecting him, just calling him further on the spiritual path.

Then comes the word that exposes the young man's problem that he himself doesn't even realize. He thinks he lacks that something that will enable him to possess eternal life. The irony is that he is possessed by his possessions and what he lacks is the freedom to let them go. If, as Jesus implies, he has acquired his wealth by some sort of fraud then he needs to give it back to the poor and follow Jesus. The young man is totally dejected by this and goes away sad. Hopefully the sadness and disillusionment will be the things God uses to eventually free him from his dependency.

Jesus' teaching is not just a shock for the young man it is a big shock for the other disciples! Help! What can we do? Who can be saved? We can do nothing to get saved. It is impossible for us. But nothing is impossible for God! They presumed that wealth was a blessing from God. Jesus is now saying it can be the very thing that keeps us from God. Our affluence has provided us with *weapons of mass distraction* – we are permanently too busy, too pre-occupied, always trapped within prisons of our own making, there is never any real space for God or others. God's wisdom exposes the shallowness of conventional thinking. We all believe in ownership, in acquisition, in possessing. But this worldly thinking doesn't get us into the kingdom of God. In God's kingdom all are brothers and sisters, God's gifts are there to be used well and responsibly, to be shared freely and joyfully without judgement or distinction (*God sends his sun to shine on good and bad alike*) but they are never ours. And the ways of the kingdom are so subversive of popular thinking that there is always persecution. (DMA).

For the Ideal Gift visit
Faith, Hope & Charity

8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA
Tel: 80207882



This week we will be offering Masses for:

People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, Benefactors of the Clergy Retirement Fund, Harry Hopper RIP Anniv, Margaret Jones RIP, Stuart King (Health), Anne Ohly RIP (Anniv), Confirmation Candidates

Next week (18th October) we will be offering Masses for: Trudy King (Health)

Total Roof Fund collected to date

£7223.26

(Target - £13500)

Thank you all for your continued generosity

Information & Notices:

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Iris Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Kath Breen, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Dave Donoghoe, Ruth Freemantle, Pat Gallanagh, Trixie Johnson, Stuart King, Jane McClatchey, Irene Mitchell, Joan Olden, Bridget Reeves, Jack Smith. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

HOLIDAY: Fr David will be on holiday from Sat. 17th Oct to Sat. 24th Oct inclusive. Fr Peter Wilkie has kindly agreed to celebrate the Masses on Sunday 18th October.

EILEEN & GERRY BRADY would like to thank everyone for their prayers, help & support after Gerry was taken ill last Sunday. Thankfully Gerry is much better now.

MASS COUNTS: These are taken at all the Sunday Masses during October for Diocesan statistics.

CONFIRMATION 2009: Bishop Crispian will be confirming young people from our parish and Totton parish on **Friday, 16th Oct, 7pm at St Michael's**.

Rehearsal is this afternoon, Sunday, 11th October at 4pm in St Michael's at least one parent must accompany the young person(s) for the rehearsal. Please keep in your prayers the following young people from our parish who are going forward for Confirmation: Lauren Benham, Kerri Brannigan, Matt Carr, Verity Hickman, Niall Marshall, Niamh Mulhern, Sean Mulhern, Jonathan O'Brien, Josh O'Hare, Irene Riches, Sebastian Riches, Jack Smith, Laura Smith, John Stovell, Casey Tona, Shannan Wateridge & Carla Wateridge.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents of baptised children who are in Yr 3 at primary school please contact Fr David if you wish your child to make their 1st Holy Communion next year. The child must be supported in their preparation by at least one Catholic parent.

PATTERNS OF LIFE - Look out for this book of inspiring poems and prayers written and published by Anne Candrl, a parishioner, to raise money for the CLIC Sargent (cancer) charity. Price £5. Available in Church porch and at the Parish Shop.

CLIMATE JUSTICE: URGENT ACTION NEEDED BY ALL - 2009 is a crucial year for a global Climate Change Agreement. **What YOU can do:** **1)** Pray that world leaders will work for a fair agreement. **2)** Stand Up Against Poverty; the Great Persuasion on 18th October. Join our lobby of Dr Julian Lewis, MP on 17th October at 12 noon. **3)** Join Climate Justice Mass Mobilisation in London on 5th December: THE WAVE: Archbishop Vincent Nichols and Archbishop of Canterbury are among speakers. More information on <http://www.cafod.org.uk/copenhagen>. Copies of article by Cardinal Keith O'Brien in the porch.

CAFOD FAST DAY COLLECTION: Thanks to everybody who gave to CAFOD's Harvest Fat Day. Our parish raised an impressive **£857** which will help poor communities to survive the devastating effects of the financial crisis.

SPECIAL THANKS: to Francis Waddington who spent many hours re-painting windows & doors at St. Bernard's last month.

CAR TREASURE HUNT & CREAM TEA: Great fun was had by all, & special thanks to the Martha Group for organising the event. A total of **£100** was raised for Breast Cancer Care and **£70** for the Roof Fund. Well done everyone.

SAFEGUARDING - Are you a doctor, social worker or police officer with current or recent experience of safeguarding adults or children? Would you like to offer your skills and experience to the Diocesan Safeguarding Commission? If interested please contact Angela McGrory, Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator for an informal chat on 02392 816396 or 075 544 27064. This is a voluntary role that is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced CRB Disclosure.

GREAT SOUTH RUN 2009 - Catherine, Marcus and Stephanie Smith will be taking part in the UK's biggest and most popular 10 mile run for CAFOD on Sun 26th October in Portsmouth. Please support them - sponsor forms will be placed in the porches.

The Department for Pastoral Formation is planning a gathering in January called **The Christ we are, The Christ we share**. This is an opportunity for people involved in ministry in the Church, from across the diocese, to deepen our experience of the person of Jesus and to consider how we share that experience with others. We will approach the theme through input, practical sessions, prayer, reflection, liturgy and conversations. Although this inspirational and nourishing weekend at the Hallmark Hotel in Bournemouth takes place in January (supper on Fri 22nd- 2pm on Sun 24th), bookings need to be confirmed **by mid-October** to ensure we have the rooms we need in the hotel. Sign up now to be sure of a place! For further details and online booking, see https://clarahost.clara.net/forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/the_christ_we_are/the_christ_we_are.php For Enquiries ring 01329-835583.