

MORE & MORE OF WHAT WASN'T WORKING OR SOMETHING COMPLETELY NEW?

Here is the gross demonic caricature: *God is now watching your every single move, every thought & fantasy, and feeling, every idle word and little action. God is just waiting for you to put a foot wrong and then he can throw you into hell. Unless you confess every single thing, and are truly sorry and resolve never to sin again, you've basically had it! Be especially anxious about anything to do with sex because every little indulgence, whether, in thought, word or deed is a mortal sin! And remember if you don't love God above everyone & everything else he is going to torture you in hell for all eternity! You better get to confession quick, you might die tonight!*

Well, if ever there was a recipe for guilt-ridden, anxiety ridden, fearful religion there it is! If anything was calculated to destroy the "joyful trust in God" that the Holy Spirit wants to give us (Romans 5:11) that was it. Is this the Good News Jesus came to bring? Is this the New Covenant of peace? Sadly too many people got fed on the caricature, the gross distortion of what Jesus was & is about, and too many people got spiritually damaged. The prophets Like Jeremiah, Isaiah & Ezekiel (over 2500 years ago) recognised that kind of relationship was doomed to failure. They foretold a new work of God which would be completely different, which really would be good news.

In the gospel passage today, Jesus is "fighting fire with fire" - instructing a legalistic, fear based mentality with a legalistic, fearful argument that forces it to collapse in on itself and finally accept the need for grace and for a whole new basis for our relationship with God which is God's graciousness not the Law.

So how do we do justice to "unless your virtue goes no deeper ... you will never get into the kingdom of heaven" and avoid falling back into fear based religion? How do we grow in holiness and in virtue "free from fear and saved from the hands of our foes" (Luke 1:74, 77)? The answer is both sweet and simple.

It is sweet because God is love and so loves the world and us. It is simple because it is a personal journey of growth, learning and discovery with Jesus. "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Matt 11:28). As long as we are willing to walk, to learn, to let go of what is harmful, negative, destructive and hurtful; as long as we are humble enough not to rely on our own efforts but on the grace of Jesus then we can go forward with joy.

All we have to do is stay with Jesus in our struggles, our temptations, our doubts and difficulties, our failures, our addictions and Jesus will guide us safely through the light & the shadow, through the gifts and the wounds of our soul which is such a stranger to us. Jesus loves us and guides to freedom.

Held in love & forgiveness, renewed each day in joyful confidence we have energy to build up what is good and dismantle what is bad, first in ourselves and then in society.

We are no longer haunted by the demons of fear and condemnation, no longer dispirited and discouraged by accusing voices either from within ourselves or from others (the literal meaning of *satan* is "accuser"), no longer consumed with anxiety about our death, about judgement, no longer drained of energy by constant agonising over real or imagined sins.

Instead the Holy Spirit gives us energy to grow gradually in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control. We discover that the Christ within is "wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption" (1 Cor 1:30). DMA

The Messenger

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

13th February 2011

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Divine Office: Wk 2

Sun	13 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels
Mon	14 th	No Service (<i>Liturgy: Feast, St Cyril, Religious, 827-869; & St Methodius, Bishop, 815-885, Patrons of Europe</i>)
Tues	15 th	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (<i>Liturgy: of the Day</i>)
Wed	16 th	No Service (<i>Liturgy: of the Day</i>)
Thurs	17 th	No Service (<i>Liturgy: of the Day, or optl mem. The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order, Religious, 13th cent.</i>)
Fri	18 th	No Service (<i>Liturgy: of the Day</i>)
Sat	19 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.30am (<i>Liturgy: of the Day, or Our Lady on Saturday</i>)
Sun	20 th	7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, deceased Clergy of the Province, Anne Candri RIP, Kathleen Cummings RIP (Anniv B'day), Ted Harding RIP (Anniv), Roy Nicholas RIP, Joy Prestage (Intentions), Bridget Reeves RIP, Fr. Peter Sprague RIP

For the week beginning 20th Feb: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, deceased Clergy of the Province, Benefactors of the Clergy Retirement Fund, Benefactors of "Living our Faith", Anne Candri RIP, Roy Nicholas RIP, Bridget Reeves RIP, Fr Peter Sprague RIP, Phil West RIP Anniv

New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Ashurst Community - Sun 9am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastoral Team:

Rev David Adams (Parish Priest)
Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon) (023 8020 7449)
Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)
Kevin Barnett (Chair: Parish Pastoral Council)

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, *Nicola Clayton*, Petra Daniels, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Margaret Hall-Patch, Joy Prestage, Norma Rudd, Eileen Shanley, May Sycamore, Betty Williams, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

NEXT WEEK: There is an obligatory Diocesan Collection for the Catholic Education Service.

NEXT PRAYER POTTERY: On Tuesday, 22nd Feb 11am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michaels. All welcome for quiet prayer & reflection led by Christine Olden.



9.00am Kids' Masses: Parents & young folk, please try to commit to these dates, so that these Masses can grow into something special for us all. The next few are: Sun 27th Feb (half term), Sun 27th March (clocks go forward!), 24th April (Easter Sunday), Sun 29th May (half term), Sun 26th June. We need you!

SUPPORT THE PARISH SHOP: If you have any quality items that you can donate to the shop, please do so, (but NOT electrical goods or videos). The shop also sells lots of **NEW** gift items, Bibles, Rosaries, devotional books, cards & craft items, also Fair-trade goods, jewellery and scented & decorative candles and more besides.

The parish depends on the shop & the volunteers who help for significant financial support.

WOMENS' WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: This year the service will be held at St Andrew's Church & centre, Dibden Purlieu on Friday, 4th March at 2pm. All are welcome.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 28 FEB - 12 MARCH: On 27th Feb & 6th March we will be selling a selection of Fairtrade goods (tea, coffee, biscuits, jam & sweets) after Mass at both churches. Fairtrade is a bit more expensive but high quality and sales really help poor Third World producers make a living and reduce their dependency on aid. So please do support Fairtrade.

LENTEN TALKS ON DVD: 10 Sessions by internationally famous Christian speaker: J. John "The 10 Commandments" At St. Joseph's House of Prayer, Ashurst at 7.30pm on Thursdays & Fridays in Lent; 10th & 11th March, 17th & 18th March, 24th & 25th March, 31st March & 1st April, 7th & 8th April. These talks were recorded in 2009 in the North-East of England with 14,000 people in attendance. Contact: Peter & Lynda 023 80292058 Email: peterszymanski@hotmail.co.uk

GOING FREE TO GOOD HOME: Panasonic Colour television, 32in with stand in full working order. Delivery can be arranged.

Also Mary lost an 18ct gold crucifix & medallion of the Madonna & Child. Does anyone have anything similar they wish to sell. For either of the above contact; Mary Newland on 02380-841844

CAFOD
just one world

CAFOD SUPPORTERS' MEETING - Saturday 19 February, 10am-1.15pm, St Bede's parish hall, Popley Way, **Basingstoke** RG24 9DX. An opportunity for all CAFOD supporters in our Diocese to get together and hear about plans for next Lent and Lent Fast Day. Francis McDonagh from the Latin America Team will be speaking about CAFOD's work in Colombia. **Booking essential.** Please contact the CAFOD Portsmouth office: portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385.

CAFOD IN LENT - DATES FOR DIARY:

Shrove Tuesday, 8th March, at 7.30pm in St Bernard's Hall, Ecumenical Pancakes, Prayer & Praise and burning old palms.

CAFOD SOUP LUNCH: on Thursday, 24th March at 12.30pm at St Bernard's Hall,

Coffee Mornings for CAFOD: Anyone to host?

M FISH & CHIP & BINGO NIGHT at St Bernard's on Saturday, 26th February at 7pm! Tickets are on sale at the back of church £7.50 each. You can choose your meal by ticking the relevant box on the form at the back of the church from next week. **Please note the new start time of 7p.m. for all Saturday evening events in 2011 (And advance notice: date for the Diary, the next Martha group event will be on 9th April , 7pm Quiz Night & American Supper)**

ON BEING COMFORTABLE WITH SILENCE IN PRAYER: On Saturday, 26th March 2011, from 10am until 3.30pm in St Saviour's Church Hall, Brockenhurst. The presented by Sarah Salisbury & Mary Dunne. Following the BBC Television series, 'The Big Silence' – we are offering a day to explore the experience of entering silence, in the context of our everyday lives and of the contemplative tradition. There will be an opportunity to gently discover how you personally feel about silence, as well as hearing about the experience of others. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation of £10. Please book by contacting Mary on 01590 622301, or dunnmary@mac.com.

ECUMENICAL STUDY GROUPS FOR LENT 2011 - WATERSIDE CHURCHES TOGETHER (SOUTH) Waterside Churches Together (South) have decided to repeat the successful ecumenical study groups for Lent. The dates and venues are as follows: March 15th, 22nd, 29th & April 5th, 12th. On each date there will be a group at 1.30 for 2.00pm at Blackfield Baptist Church (Hampton Lane, Blackfield) and 7.00 for 7.30pm at Waterside Methodist Church (Chapel Lane, Fawley). The groups are open to all.

BRAVE DAVE KING: is taking part in the Ben Nevis Challenge to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society. Please sponsor him. See him after Mass at St Michaels or go online: <http://www.justgiving.com/David-King/3>. See poster for more details.