

## WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Part of the New Forest Pastoral Area

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

**Parish Priest & Pastoral Co-ordinator: Rev David Adams** -  
based at Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Lymington:  
Tel: 01590 676696

**Rev Vincent Convery**

**Deacon: Rev Steve Bowler** (Chair Parish Pastoral Council)  
Tel: 02380 207449

**Deacon Rev Ian Tobin** Tel: 02380 897354

**All correspondence to Parish Administrator,**  
Linda Guilding, Parish Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn,  
Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR Tel: 02380 843479  
E-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com  
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### 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Gospel of Luke - The Gospel of Mercy

13th December 2015

Year C, Weekdays Year 2; Psalter week 3

9.00am Mass SB

11.00am Mass SM

Monday 14th December No Mass

(St John of the Cross, Religious, Doctor of the Church)

Tuesday 15th December No Mass

Wednesday 16th December No Mass

Thursday 17th December No Mass

Friday 18th December Mass 10am SM's

Saturday 19th December Mass 10am SM's

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION STRAIGHT AFTER MASS**

### MASS INTENTIONS 13th—19th DECEMBER

**Anniversaries this week:** Aidan Prestage (13th), Neil Tanner (13th),  
Pope Francis - Anniversary Ordination to Priesthood (13th), Patricia  
Leaver (14th), Daphne Gooch (19th), Ruth Adams (19th)

**Remembering those who have died recently:** Leana Keane,  
Eileen Kenny, Tom Sherlock, Canon Richard Hind

**Other Intentions:** Leana Keane RIP, James Fenn (Thanksgiving),  
Trudy King (Health)

### New Forest Pastoral Area

**WATERSIDE: Hythe & Holbury - see above**

### LYNDHURST & TOTTON

**Parish Priest- Rev Innaiah Maddineni** Tel: 023 8086 2270

St Theresa of the Child Jesus - Beaumont Road, Totton &  
Our Lady of the Assumption & St Edward the Confessor -  
Furzy Lawn, Romsey Road, Lyndhurst:

**Deacon Rev Stephen Short** (Lyndhurst)

**Saturday Vigil Mass** 6pm Totton

**Sunday Mass** 9am Lyndhurst

10.30am Totton

### BROCKENHURST, LYMINGTON, MILFORD ON SEA

**Parish Priest- Rev David Adams** Tel: 01590 676696

St Anne-Rhinefield Road, Brockenhurst

Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-High Street, Lymington,  
St Francis of Assisi-Park Lane, Milford on Sea.

**Deacon: Rev Stephen Morgan**

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 6pm Lymington

**Sunday Mass** 9am Milford on Sea,

10.30am Lymington

6pm Brockenhurst

### NEW MILTON

**Parish Priest: Rev Marcin Drabik** :Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes-Mount Avenue, New Milton

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 6pm

**Sunday Mass** 10 am

6.30pm Mass is in Polish

**THE DEANERY** is made up from the pastoral areas of New Forest,

Avon Stour, & Bournemouth **Dean: Fr Tom Grufferty**

## HAVING OUR CAKE & EATING IT

On the face of it the above phrase seems somewhat lacking in generosity. What is the point of having cake if you can't eat it? But we know what it means. It is about expecting too much and having more than our fair share.

Another phrase comes to mind here, it is "having the best of both worlds". This raises the question: In relation to God and God's love can you have the best of both worlds? One could put the question another way: If Jesus offers us the peace that the world cannot give, should we be seeking the kind of peace that the world tries to offer (i.e. security in health, job, status, power, good looks, money, possessions, qualities, virtues etc)?

What has all this got to do with Advent and this third Sunday of Advent? This Sunday was traditionally called "Gaudete" Sunday - literally Rejoice Sunday. The Liturgy, that is the prayers and readings for the Eucharist and the Prayer of the Church, emphasises God's gift of peace and joy.

We all want peace, joy and happiness. The question we all have to answer is: Where will I find peace, joy and happiness? What or who will provide these blessings?

There is a critique of Western Christianity in general and it goes something like this. We are always seeking consolation and reassurance. Whenever we read the Bible, say our prayers or attend Mass we are primarily seeking consolation. The suggested reason for this is that deep down we are uneasy and insecure because we have really invested most of our hope in the things of this world. The effect of this is two-fold. First of all, the world is inherently insecure and uncertain and deep down we know we have built our house on sand. Secondly, because we have hedged our bets, so to speak, and have not made a radical (i.e. to the roots) choice for God and the ways of the Kingdom we are not able to receive the "peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand". Hence our constant need for reassurance. This is essentially a self-centred quest which prevents us from having the freedom and energy to address the problems of the world.

What the Bible offers is something different to the above. It offers Challenge. It invites a radical conversion to God - a deep change of mind and heart. The fruit of accepting the Challenge and undergoing the Conversion is the gift of Peace and Joy. These come from the acceptance of God deep within. When we surrender to God and begin to know that "nothing can separate us from the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus" we will begin to experience true peace and joy.

There are two ways to this surrender of love - silent prayer and life experience. These are ways of both joy and pain. Pain as we face our own resistance to change and our love of the false self and the world. Joy as God reveals Godself to us and sets us free. (DMA)

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers:

David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Alice Bramhill, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Nick Candrl, Kathryn Cox, Baby Finn Drozd, Baby Elijah, Derek Faiers, Derek Francis, Mervyn Francis, Ruth & Dennis Freemantle, David Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Doreen Holman, Chrissy James, Trudy King, Peggy & Michael Kirwan, Sandra Lawrence, Theresa Leydon, Betty Marek, Susan Marlow, Sarah Marshall, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Ann O Connor, Karen O'Donovan, Michelle Ripley, Joan Smith, John Stevens, Emmie Walker, Brian Weston, Maureen Weyman., Mary & Lawrie Witchell, Bridget Wyatt

**If you wish someone to be included for prayers here, or if the person being prayed for is now well & you would like their name removed, speak to Deacons Ian or Steve, or Linda via the Parish office.**



**THE REQUIEM MASS FOR LEANA NORAH KEANE** will take place at St Michael's on **Monday 21st December at 1pm**, followed by Cremation at Wessex Vale. Please keep the family in your prayers.

## Christmas Fayre

**A ENORMOUS THANK YOU** to Tina Bowler and her team for the success of the Christmas Fayre. Thank you to everyone who took, bought and sold raffle tickets, those who made items for the arts and craft stall, the jewellery and the cakes, the two tombolas and children's toys, those who supplied the food for the kitchen, those who sold goods from the shop and all those involved in setting up and selling on the day. It was a fantastic effort which raised an amazing sum of £3100, ...yes, you read correctly £3,100!.....half of which was from the raffle! This is the biggest amount ever raised and it is all down to you! Finally thank you to those who supported the Fayre on the day. (Fr David)



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE AT CHRISTMAS WITH A FLORAL TRIBUTE?** If so, please bring a Poinsettia + a dish or saucer to SB's or SM's on **Sunday 20th December OR between 10-11am Tuesday 22nd Dec.** *Please do not bring them after this time.* Fill in the tag, attach it to your plant and leave your Poinsettia at the back of the church. The flower arranging teams will distribute them around the church when they decorate it on Tuesday morning.



**THE CANDLES ON THE ADVENT WREATH** Advent worship is like a journey through the Christmas story. Christians use the Advent candles to celebrate this period with one lit every Sunday of Advent so that during the last week before Christmas all four candles are lit. The last

central candle (which represents Christ), is lit on Christmas Day. In the centre of the wreath sits a white candle. As a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world. **Today is known as Gaudete Sunday.** The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near. The rose colour is a mix of the purple, and white - representing Christmas is coming. **Today** the pink, or rose-coloured candle is lit. This pink candle is customarily called the "Shepherds Candle" and it represents **joy**, reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.



**WATERSIDE PARISH SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCH** Thanks to Roisin & everyone at The Old Mill for hosting the Senior Parishioners Christmas lunch. Great hospitality, lovely venue, delicious food. Thanks to everyone in the Martha group for all their hard work preparing the event. It was greatly appreciated by all. (Fr David)



**CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE** We are organizing a Christmas Carol service on 3rd January (Sunday) at 4pm in St Bernard's church. We need volunteers to bake cakes and we need 4-6 people for readings. Also if anyone wants to help with the music please let us know. We would like some children to do a small nativity scene. All interested people contact Angela: 07735344628, email: [angela.slattery58@gmail.com](mailto:angela.slattery58@gmail.com), email: [gorzata5@poczta.onet.pl](mailto:gorzata5@poczta.onet.pl)



**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** 22nd & 24th December.



## YEAR OF MERCY 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for December: Forgiveness**

Forgiveness is a decision, and it's a decision that we can and must make because it is what Christianity is all about. When we make a decision to forgive, firstly we must try to adopt empathy for the person that has hurt us, but most importantly we must try to remember how good forgiveness has felt in the past when we have been in the wrong. This month we are asked to join in Pope Francis' prayer intention, **"That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving."**



**YEAR OF MERCY** Pope Francis has initiated a 'Year of Mercy' that will be celebrated in the Catholic Church from 8th December 2015. It's a time to focus on God's mercy and forgiveness. To mark this, many of the Bishops of England and Wales have recorded special reflections for Advent. The podcasts, released one a day throughout the season, cover those important themes of mercy, compassion and forgiveness. Listen at...

[www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Featured/Holy-Year-Jubilee-of-Mercy/Podcasts-Advent-Reflections-2015](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Featured/Holy-Year-Jubilee-of-Mercy/Podcasts-Advent-Reflections-2015)

## COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER

- + **This Sunday 13th December** Collection for Christmas flowers
- + Crib Collection
- + Your Christmas gift to Fr David & Fr Vincent

## PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- + The family and friends of Leana Keane.
- + All those who are sick or housebound in our parish
- + Pope Francis - on the anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood. (December 13th 1969)
- + Pope Francis - birthday 17th December (1936)
- + Canon Richard Hind R.I.P.
- + All expectant mothers

## WHAT'S ON?



**LIVING NATIVITY:** Churches Together Lyndhurst are presenting, Living Nativity Play and Carols: **Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30 pm** at **St Michael's & All Angels, Lyndhurst**, ending at the village Community Centre. Tickets available from the local churches. Refreshments available. Wrap up warm, it may snow! (Directed / Produced by Stephen Short.)



**CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE Sunday 3rd January 4pm**  
**St Bernard's Church** Everyone is invited together with their families and friends to sing carols together. Tea, coffee or squash and cakes will be served after the service to make it a celebration of the Christmas season.



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - WATERSIDE

**Thursday 24th CHRISTMAS EVE**  
7pm St Michael's Carols & Readings  
7.30pm Mass

**Friday 25th CHRISTMAS DAY**  
9am St Bernard's Mass  
11am St Michael's Mass

**Saturday 26th**  
**NO MASS OR SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Sunday 27th**  
9am St Bernard's Mass  
11am St Michael's Mass

**MASS TIMES FOR ALL OTHER CHURCHES IN THE NEW FOREST WILL BE DISPLAYED ON THE DOOR OF CHURCH.**

**OUR PARISH SHOP: FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY**  
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE  
SO45 6DA Tel: 02380 207882



**Christmas cards and gifts now in!**