

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN

What do we do, as Christians, on Remembrance Day & All Souls Day? We may remember someone who is no longer with us on this side of life; we may remember extraordinary courage, tragic sequences of events, cruel and merciless carnage or a staggering blindness that led to folly on a monumental scale. Whatever the dimension of our remembering, it will doubtless involve much mourning and many silent tears.

The follower of Jesus can never see war as anything but failure and tragedy. As a well-known song puts it: *the military solution always leads to something worse*. War is never a good thing. In some extreme situations it may be a necessary evil. War invariably creates as many problems as it tries to solve, often it creates more. We can never celebrate it or glory in it. It always represents a failure of the ideal, which is peaceful coexistence. Both innocent and guilty are swept up in its turmoil and become victims. Bodies are broken, scarred and maimed, souls are numbed and traumatised and spirits soar either to heights of self-sacrifice and courage or sink to depths of dark, demonic brutality.

This means that mourning invites us to take a prophetic stance against the cultural and economic dynamics that rely on and exploit war. It calls us to challenge politics of hate and oppression. It calls us to expose the lie that creates an enemy "over there" in order to absolve us from facing our own darkness within.

So we mourn and we pray for all the departed and especially for those who lost their lives as a result of war. We are united with the whole of humanity in creation, in sin and death, and united with humanity in redemption and resurrection. Our trust & confidence is based on God's love: *When I am lifted up from the earth, says Jesus, I shall draw all people to myself (John); God has imprisoned all people in their disobedience only to have mercy on all people (Romans 11)*. Sin and death are God's enemies and our enemies and God wants to do away with their destructive power. God has done this by taking away the "sting" of death which is the power of sin to separate us from God. God reconciled us while we were still enemies. So the experience of death is transformed. It no longer symbolises separation from God but now in Christ it becomes the path to eternal life.

This is why we have to pray according to God's possibilities not according to our own impossibilities. That is why the Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. So our prayer is not our own it is the prayer of the Spirit praying within us. The Spirit yearns for the revealing of God's children. The Spirit intercedes according to the mind of God. It is an expression of the eternal desire of God to unite all things in peace (cfr Eph 1; Col 1). We can no more refuse to pray than we can refuse to let God's love flow through us. Just as we have no excuse for withholding God's love from anyone, we have no excuse for blocking the desire of God for them, which is the prayer of the Spirit. (DMA)

The Messenger

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

14th November 2010

Remembrance Sunday & All Souls - Divine Off: Wk 1

Sun	14 th	9am SB Mass; 11am SM Mass;
Mon	15 th	No Service <i>(Liturgy: Of the Day, or optl Memory - St Albert the Great Religious, Bishop, 1206-1280)</i>
Tues	16 th	10.00am SM Morning prayer & Mass <i>(Liturgy: Solemnity, St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop, Joint Principal Patron of the Diocese, 1170-1240)</i>
Wed	17 th	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass <i>(Liturgy: Of the Day, or optl Memorials - St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious, 1207-1231; St Hilda, Abbess, 614-680; St Hugh of Lincoln, Religious, Bishop, 1135-1200)</i>
Thurs	18 th	10.00am LT Mass <i>(Liturgy: Of the Day, or optl Memory - Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul)</i>
Fri	19 th	No Service <i>(Liturgy: Of the Day)</i>
Sat	20 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Reconciliation until 11.30am <i>(Liturgy: Of the Day, or Our Lady on Saturday)</i>
Sun	21 st	Our Lord Jesus Christ - Universal King 9am SB Mass; 11am SM Mass

Mass Intentions: For this week: All who have been injured or lost their lives as a result of warfare, departed family & friends of parishioners, all who are being prayed for or remembered, Katie Evans, Joyce Grimes RIP, Stephen Lilley RIP, Katherine Tobin RIP, Patrick Francis Keane RIP, Eileen Norah Keane RIP, Desmond Stratton RIP Anniv,

For the week beginning 21st Nov: All members of the Parish, deceased clergy of the Province, all faithful departed, all those who are unwell, Joyce Grimes RIP, Katherine Tobin, Katie Evans & family, Desmond Stratton RIP Anniv, Ruth Adams RIP Anniv, Phillip Manghan RIP Anniv, Tony Warrilow 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,
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**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, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Trevor Handol, Norman Haskell, Cath Heron, Bridget Reeves, May Sycamore, Betty Williams, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

THANK YOU: from the family of the late Joyce Grimes RIP to all who attended her Requiem Mass. The family were greatly comforted by the number of people who came to celebrate Joyce's life and pray for her and the family. The total of the CAFOD collection in memory of Joyce will be published next week.

LAST WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION FOR BAMENDA: Raised a total of £300.69p. This does not include the Gift Aid element. Well done everyone and thank you for your generosity to the people of Bamenda and to God..

WATERSIDE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: the next meeting is on Thursday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room

THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER: at St Bernard's & St Michael's, we will be remembering all our friends and relatives who have died. Please write the names of your loved ones on the label provided and put it in the basket. The basket of names will be taken up in the offertory procession during Mass at each of the Sunday's in November. You may add new names each week if you wish.

TODAY REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 14th NOVEMBER- we shall not only be remembering those who have died or were injured in conflicts around the world, we shall also commemorate all our departed. We will use the Scripture readings for the All Souls Mass (Isaiah 25: 6-9; Ps26; Romans 5: 5-11; Luke 7:11-17). Michael Kirwan a RAF veteran of the 2nd World War will bring up the poppy wreath.

At St Michaels at 11am parishioners will also be joined by bereaved families whose loved ones had their funerals at St Bernard's or St Michael's over the last two years. We shall be reserving seats for the families as they will be coming forward during the service to lay a candle in front of the altar in memory of their loved one. Also the 6 New Forest East Scout Group will be joining us. They recently did great work cutting down the weeds behind St Michaels.

HALF-DAY RETREAT: *Preparing for Advent* on Saturday, 27th November beginning with Mass at 9.30am and finishing at 1pm. The venue is St Joseph's, Ashurst. Tea & coffee only will be provided. Fr Bob from the Ashurst community will lead the day. It is open to all in our Pastoral Area (Totton, Lyndhurst & Waterside). A suggested donation is £5.00 per person which can be given on the day.

ADVANCE NOTICES: *Facing Christmas* will be at St Bernard's on the 10th December at 7.30pm at St Bernard's. This is a candlelit service for all those who find Christmas difficult for whatever reason, or for those who just wish to have some peace and quiet before the festivities. It is not just for those who have been bereaved.

On Saturday, 7th May 2011 there will be a Mass of the Risen Lord for the deceased loved ones of the parishioners of Waterside Catholic Parish.

THANKS TO IRENE FRANCIS: for all the help she has given in the sacristy over the past 10 years

SPONSORS OF CLARE DAVIES: a big thank you from Clare for all who sponsored her in the Great South Run on behalf of CAFOD. If you haven't paid Clare yet please do so asap. The total will announce soon.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE & RAFFLE: Bottles (non-perishable) are urgently needed for the Bottle Stall & Raffle prizes gratefully received also. The Fayre takes place on Saturday, November 20th from 10.00am until 2pm at St John's Hall opposite St John's Church in Hythe.

CAKES ARE NEEDED: the Cake Stall at the Christmas fayre. Please bring them early - St John's Hall will be open from 8.30am on Sat, 20th Nov.

All parishioners encouraged to pop in and support & its an opportunity to get Christmas gifts & cards.

QUIZ NIGHT AT ST BERNARD'S: There will be a Quiz Night at St Bernard's on Saturday, 27th November at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4.00 and will be on sale at all Masses from today onwards. American Supper to share & bring your own drink. It'll be a great evening.

WORK AT ST BERNARDS: The work has now been satisfactorily completed ahead of time. The area has been restored for parking but it would be advisable to let it settle for a while, particularly as we have had heavy rain recently. The grassed area at the back near the trees is particularly soft & muddy & should be avoided!! **Spaces immediately outside the church should be left free for our disabled parking.**

NEW FOREST EAST PASTORAL AREA: There will be a meeting of clergy and lay representatives from parish pastoral councils on Thursday, 25th November at 7.30pm at Ashurst.

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT: This will take place at Waterside Theatre, Holbury on Sunday, 28th November at 3pm. Senior citizens are warmly invited. The concert will feature the Hampshire Police Band which has provided excellent concerts over several years. If you wish to attend please call Mike Newland on 023-80-841844 or email: mikemary.newland@btinternet.com. If you have any special transport needs they will try to assist. Notifications by Saturday, 20th November.