

The Messenger

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

17th June 2012

11th Sunday of the Year (Year B; Psalter Wk.3)

Sun	17 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon	18 th	No Service (Liturgy: 11th Week of Ordinary Time)
Tues	19 th	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: 11th Week of Ordinary Time or St Romuald)
Wed	20 th	10.00am - Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: 11th Week of Ordinary Time, or St Alban)
Thurs	21 st	10.00am - Mass at Our Ladys, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Memorial, St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious)
Fri	22 nd	No Service (Liturgy: Feast, Ss John Fisher & Thomas More)
Sat	23 rd	No Service (Wintershall Trip) (Liturgy: 11th Week of Ordinary Time, or St Etheldreda)
Sun	24 th	The Nativity of St John the Baptist 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Guidance for choice of new Bishop, All Fathers, spiritual & natural, All Childrens Liturgy Catechists & helpers, Hand in Hand Trust, Amanda Bowden (Health), Liz Jones (B'day), Lynne Parker (B'day), Pauline Prestage (B'day), Jim & Pat Connaughton RIP, Dermot Crean RIP, Canon Brian Murphy-O'Connor RIP, Elizabeth Stride RIP, Peter Jarlath-Muller RIP Anniv, Patrick Kirwan RIP Anniv, Dennis Stanfield RIP Anniv

For the week beginning 24h June: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Linda Guilding (B'day), Ann Wilton RIP, Paul Connolly RIP Anniv, Kathleen Cummings RIP Anniv, Lorraine Shearing RIP Anniv, Paul Sherrington RIP Anniv.

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

All correspondence to: The Parish Office, Angel House,
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New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Geo House (Ashurst) - Sun 9am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

New Forest Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm
Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 11.30am,
Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

The Growth of the Kingdom

In the first parable of today's Gospel Jesus compares the kingdom of God to what happens when seed is sown by a farmer. Once the seed is sown, the farmer waits for harvest time. The cycle of growth follows its own secret rhythm; how it all happens the farmer does not know. Even though nothing much seems to be happening, the miracle of growth is taking place. The farmer cannot improve the crop by staying awake at night and worrying; the seed is nurtured in its own silence. The harvest will not be rushed; neither will the kingdom of God be advanced by those restless for instant results. Just as the harvest comes in its own time, so the kingdom will reach its completion in God's appointed time. It is God's kingdom, not ours. In the second parable Jesus compares the kingdom to a mustard seed that grows into the largest shrub so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade. In the ancient world the size of the mustard seed was a byword for the smallest and most insignificant thing anyone could imagine. According to the Koran: "God will bring good and evil to light, even if they are no bigger than a mustard seed." In Jesus' parable the contrast is made between the smallness of the seed and the exuberance of its growth. Unremarkable beginnings can make for mighty achievements. Littleness is no index of importance. The small mustard seed grows to become a shelter for all the birds of the air.

It is worth noting that the phrase "birds of the air" was a traditional Jewish expression for the Gentiles, all the non-Jews. In today's first reading, for example, the prophet Ezekiel speaks of the universal openness of God's welcome in the image of the tree where all birds can find a resting place. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. Similarly in Jesus' teaching: the kingdom of God is open to all peoples. The greatness of the kingdom, which grows from such a small beginning, is for the benefit of all peoples; it is not the exclusive domain of any one flock.

When we think of the small beginnings of Jesus' ministry in Galilee to the spread of his message throughout the world, we can appreciate the vast growth that has taken place in history. The seed which Jesus planted has indeed grown: who could have guessed in Galilee in 27AD what would emerge from Jesus' ministry? From small beginnings – Jesus' preaching, his attention to the afflicted, his quiet transformations, his unusual company of followers – there did indeed arise the greatness of the kingdom of God.

God's work still continues, not only in the Christian churches but in people and places unknown and unrecognized by us. At the heart of the familiar God works in so many ways. His kingdom grows of its own accord; how, we do not know. This doesn't mean that we can be complacent, but it does save us from cynicism and despair. We have reason to rejoice in God's work, that his kingdom still attracts and welcomes so many different people. We are part of that kingdom. And we shouldn't be surprised if we seem to be sharing the shade with some really strange birds! (from Denis McBride – Seasons of the Word)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Amanda Bowden, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Sheila Godwin, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Lyndsey Keggins, Gillian Plummer, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

CANON BRIAN MURPHY-O'CONNOR RIP: You will be sad to hear that Fr Brian passed away on 11th June. He was parish priest at Brockenhurst for a time 7 well known throughout the Diocese.

THIS SUNDAY: On Sunday, June 17th Josie Masters will speak at both Masses about her recent trip to Peru for the "Hand-in-Hand Trust" which she & Roger established in Peru to help poorer families in early years child-care & education.

PRAYER POTTERY: next meeting Tuesday, 26th June at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. The prayer time is led by Christine Olden and comprises of music, quiet time & readings. All are welcome

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: We now have three children being prepared for their 1st Holy Communion. They are Laura Libakaite, George Lovelock & Rebecca Mitchell. They are being prepared by their parents. The 1st Holy Communion celebration will take place at St Bernard's on Sunday, 29th July at 9.00am. We will keep them & their parents in our prayers over the next few weeks.

HEALING MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S, ASHURST: These will be on Mondays: June 18th, and July 2nd at 7.15pm. Fr Des Connolly SMM will be celebrating these initially. (St Joseph's Chapel is at the rear of Geo House).

PETERS PENCE: On Sunday, 24th June there an obligatory 2nd Collection for Peter's Pence. This is a contribution from the local churches to the costs of the Papal ministry & administration.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: The Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul is on Friday, 29th June. Masses will be: Brockenhurst 10.00am; St Michaels 12 noon; St Bernards 7.30pm

ADVANCE NOTICE: "Celebrate" - Catholic Charismatic Conference - on 29th-30th September 2012, at St Mary's College, Bitterne, Southampton. A Faith-Filled family event with something for everyone, children especially catered for. The theme is a "Highway to Holiness". There will be teachings, worship, Mass & Reconciliation available all in a very friendly & relaxed & joyful atmosphere.

OPEN EVENING: St Anne's Catholic School & Sixth Form College are holding an Open Evening on Wednesday, 27th June, 6.00pm - 8.00pm. See the poster in the porch for more information.

LIVING OUR FAITH: The latest newsletter from the Diocese is now available. It details how the funds are being allocated etc. A copy has been put on the church noticeboards. It is also available on the parish website.

CAFOD CAMPAIGN

GIVE IT UP DURING LENT FOR CLEAN WATER

Following the receipt of some further donations and pyramids, the total for the collection has reached an amazing £2817.47 which will be doubled by the Government under the special Aid Matching Scheme to £5634.94. CAFOD has written to express thanks for this great generosity which will enable them to make a lot of difference to poor people's lives. The collection is now closed.

THANKS AGAIN TO THE ST MARTHA GROUP & TO STEVE BOWLER: for another successful Quiz night on Saturday evening. Thanks to everyone who attended & thanks to all those who contributed raffle prizes.



WINTERSHALL TRIP IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Date of Trip: NEXT SATURDAY, 23rd June

Departure Time: The coach will leave St Michael's at 8.00am

Return Journey: The coach will leave Wintershall at 4.30pm arriving back at St Michael's at approximately 6.00pm.

There is a 10 minute walk from the coach park to where the play begins.

The audience is requested not to move about during the scenes

Very limited light refreshments are available for purchase. Toilet facilities are available.

What you need to bring:

- A packed lunch, including drinks
- Suitable footwear for grass & country walking
- Raincoat or umbrella, sunscreen &/or hat
(Check the weather forecast the night before)
- A light, folding garden chair or rug to sit on.

Walking with Prayer – A day with the Labyrinth on Saturday 23rd June 2012 1000-1600 at Wisdom Centre, Romsey
A quiet day of reflection, encouraging each of us to explore our life of prayer as an ongoing journey. Throughout the day there will be opportunities to walk the labyrinth in the grounds of Wisdom House, to take a prayer walk to Romsey Abbey and the river nearby. The suggested donation for the day is £22 and lunch will be provided. Please telephone 01794 830206 or email reception@wisdomhouseromsey.co.uk to find out more.

NEW WATER HEATER AT ST BERNARD'S: We have installed a new water heater in the kitchen at St Bernard's. It should be able to deliver constant hot water for washing up, washing hands etc. This is being paid for by funds raised through parish social events organised by the St Martha group. We have also installed paper towel dispensers in the toilets there.

WISDOM WORDS: "Even the highest tower began from the ground" (Chinese Proverb) Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them? (Abraham Lincoln)

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA
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