

The Messenger

All correspondence to:
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For St Bernard &
St Michael's Churches

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

18th January 2009
Year B
divine office Week 2

St Bernard's Church
Southbourne Avenue,
Holbury, SO45 2NT

Waterside Catholic Parish

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams
Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)
Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's
call between 9am - 2pm daily (Mon, Tue, Wed)

Inspiration and last-minute gifts
available at The Parish Shop!

"You'll be sure to leave with
something you hadn't intended



Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA

Tel: 023 8020 7882

Volunteers Required in the shop
3 hours in the afternoons
3.4 hours in the mornings
Please contact Tina on number

Gift Aid

Would Mr & Mrs Boot and Mr & Mrs
Mullen please contact Carmel
McClatchey as soon as possible on
80842403. Many thanks

Happy Birthday



Ann Harding

(who is celebrating today a
significant birthday with an "0"
in it!!)

Let us know if you need a fire
extinguisher on hand for all those
candles!

St Martha Group

Bingo/Fish & Chips - 7th Feb 7.30pm
at St Bernards £7.50
(Tickets on sale after 18.1.09)



Prayer Pottery

led by Christine Olden
Tues 20th Jan 11 - 12 pm in the Side
Chapel at St Michael's. All welcome for
quiet prayer and reflection. Tel: 80848754

Win a Waitrose/John Lewis Voucher

Tickets on sale after Sunday Mass
at 9 & 11 am on 8th February
Draw taking place 1st March after
11 am Mass
** Tickets £1 **



PARISH SERVICES

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	18	9 am	SB	Mass: for Christian Unity (Andy Anderson RIP)
		11 am	SM	Mass: for Christian Unity (Michael Guilding RIP)
		6.30 pm		United Service, Blackfield Baptist Church, Hampton Lane, Blackfield

Tue	20	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: of the Day (Jean Watson - Health)
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Wed	21		SM	No Service this evening
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Thur	22	10.00 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: of the Day
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Sat	24	10 am	SM	Mass: St Frances de Sales (People of the Parish)
		11 am		Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30am)

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	25	9 am	SB	Mass: 3rd Sunday Ordinary Time (Andy Anderson RIP)
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		11 am	SM	Mass: 3rd Sunday Ordinary Time (George Krzymuski RIP)
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UNITED SERVICE this Sunday at 6.30pm at Blackfield Baptist Church, Hampton Lane, Blackfield. Please do your best to support this expression of shared faith, hope and love.

CAFOD's Congo Crisis Appeal: We have received a letter from CAFOD thanking the parishioners for their generosity. The amount received was £626.67. Please continue to pray for all whose lives are touched by this crisis.

Parish Pastoral Council: The first formal meeting of the PPC is on Thursday, 22nd January 2009 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at St Michael's Church.

WEDDING - SATURDAY, 31st JANUARY: We look forward to the marriage of Celene Prestage & Andrew Gillies at 1pm in St Michael's on the above date. Please keep the couple in your prayers for a joyful celebration on the day and a happy life together.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults: Our parish safeguarding representatives are Helen Kitson & Polly Read. Fr. David will be working with them over the next few weeks to ensure that all those with ministries involving children and/or vulnerable adults are appropriately authorised according to Diocesan guidelines. This includes ministers of Holy Communion, catechists, parish visitors, adult altar servers etc. Please do not be offended if you are asked to complete (perhaps again!) a CRB declaration. This is standard procedure for everyone. If you have already received your CRB clearance this suffices for the time being until the new system is introduced in 2009/2010. (DMA)

GLUTEN ALLERGY: If anyone has an allergy to gluten to such an extent that they are not able to receive Holy Communion in the form of bread, please let Fr David know as gluten-free altar breads can be made available.

THE INVITATION

If we have experienced something of God's love (which was celebrated at our Baptism) we will also experience an attraction. This will be to compassion, goodness, virtue, holiness or some other quality of God. This attraction draws us and is, itself, a kind of invitation. The invitation is to "come and see" where Jesus lives. This is not just about a house in Capernaum, it is about the whole mystery of God. Jesus lives with the Father before all time, Jesus is in my heart, Jesus is in my sisters and brothers, Jesus is in the poor and suffering, Jesus is in the word, Jesus is in the Eucharist. Jesus, as eternal Word made flesh, is the personal, discernable, knowable face of God present in all creation.

The invitation is then, to journey in this relationship with God made visible in Jesus. The Scripture readings for this Sunday highlight three key elements of that journey. These are prayer (listening to & talking with God); life-style (how we relate to others) and service (how we help others).

Samuel (1st reading) shows some of those attitudes that help prayer. Are we ready to respond to God? Do we cherish the "word" God gives us in prayer? Prayer has to be real, rooted in everyday life yet open to the great mystery which permeates everything. We should express to God how we really feel, think and what we have done and are doing. This honesty is absolutely vital for us. God knows everything already. Our greatest temptation in prayer is to hide our shadow side from ourselves and then imagine we are hiding it from God. God has great blessings for us of grace and transformation but we can't receive them if we don't acknowledge that we need them. Scripture will help unmask the areas we'd rather not see. Persevering in this embarrassing struggle with God is the discipline of prayer as the great St Teresa of Jesus wrote in the 16th century..

The most important area where we need help and change is in our relationships with others. Excessive dependence, exploitation, abuse, ill-will and ill-treatment of others etc, as an individual or member of a group need to be changed. The change has to start from within and can only come from God, even though God's presence and action may not at first be consciously recognised.

God is not going to leave us idle. There are a multitude of good works to be done. This good must have begun to happen in us. I have to be good news for others. What we need is to discern the right service for us to do. This brings us back to prayer and God's word. (DMA)