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For St Bernard &  
St Michael's churches

**18th OCTOBER 2009**  
**Year B**  
**divine office wk 1**

**St Michael's Church**  
Langdown Lawn  
Hythe SO45 5GR

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

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams

Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)

Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

Parish Administrator: Helen Hughson

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

### PARISH SERVICES

#### 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	18	9 am	SB	Mass: <b>29th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
		11 am	SM	Mass: <b>29th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
Tue	20	10 am	SM	Service of Word & Holy Communion
Wed	21		SM	No Service Today
Thur	22		LT	No Service Today
Sat	24		SM	No Mass or Reconciliation today

#### 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun	25	9 am	SB	Mass: <b>30th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>
		11 am	SM	Mass: <b>30th Sunday of Ordinary Time</b>



### A NEW WAY TO BE GREAT

Mark's Gospel doesn't spare the apostles any embarrassment. Rather it uses their weaknesses to teach us. And presuming that they were happy for this to happen it is an example of a form of service. We can help people not just through our achievements and successes but also through our losses and failures. We can witness to where we were (and to some extent still are) and to how the Spirit of Jesus has led us forward in God's ways.

So we see James and John trying to negotiate a big favour. They want priority, status and power over and above the others. Notice how they say: *Grant us to sit with you ...in your glory.* Jesus had already mentioned that he was very likely to be rejected by the civil and religious authorities, to be cruelly treated and to be put to death. James and John gloss over this minor detail. They go straight for the glory!

So Jesus reminds them again – there is no glory without sacrifice (the “baptism”). Are they ready for this? They answer, one suspects rather too glibly, that they can drink the cup. Anyway they are in for a further disillusionment. Jesus doesn't have the power to grant these places of honour anyway! It is reminiscent of last week: *What makes you think I have such power? Only God can grant such things.*

Not only are James and John shown up to be devious schemers the remaining ten apostles are not much better. They get angry with them – ambition, jealousy, anger – all too typical of us weak mortals.

Jesus then teaches them a new way to be great. First rule: Do not copy the world around you. Worldly rulers govern by force and favour. We are not to copy them. If we want real greatness, which is greatness in God's eyes, then we must become servants and slaves to all. This service is not about becoming subject to another person's whim but it is about being subject to the will of the Father for the sake of everyone.

So we must ask ourselves and God: What do you want me to do for the sake of your people? Only God can answer this question in the heart of each one of us. This is one reason why prayer is so important; it helps us listen to God. God's answer may be: in your relationships and in your daily work discover and share my truth and love; raise your children in a loving, faith-filled home, work to educate people; work to heal and care for others; work to help society function properly; work to bring freedom to the oppressed; work to alleviate poverty and suffering; work to bring the Good News of God's love; work to serve the faith community.

The Church is neither a democracy nor a hierarchy. It is called to be a community of brothers and sisters whose only ambition is to do good for others, that is to be of true service to others (cfr. Matt 23:8-12). Too often we are a community of frightened people whose only concern is to save our souls and maintain whatever we think we need to save our souls. This is not really what Jesus is asking of us. Jesus did not reveal a God of fear and he has no interest in bullying, coercing or frightening people into submission. He is not interested in controlling what people think or say. He knows that truth and honesty are the first casualties of domination and fear. He is not concerned about status, vested interest or self-centred and self-serving assumptions of what constitutes credibility. These selfish concerns make people afraid of admitting mistakes, afraid of admitting the limitations and inadequacies of received ideas and positions. He knows that the fact that something has remained unchanged for centuries is no necessary indicator of its truth or value. Having come to know Jesus better people no longer believe in the caricature of a God who rewards the “good” and threatens the “wicked” with eternal torture. People no longer believe in a church that operates on the basis of this distortion of the Gospel. People know that virtue brings happiness and vice brings misery and they also know that their Heavenly Father “sends his sun to shine on good and bad people alike” (Luke 6: 35-36; Matt 5:45). People know that imagining new things is one of the ways the Spirit leads the Church forward. To suppress seeking & searching & knocking, questioning and challenging is to suppress the Spirit. (DMA)

For the Ideal Gift visit  
**Faith, Hope & Charity**

8 ST JOHN'S STREET  
HYTHE  
SOUTHAMPTON  
SO45 6DA  
Tel: 80207882



*This week we will be offering Masses for:*  
People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell,  
Trudy King (Health)

*Next week (25th October) we will be offering*  
**Masses for:** Lily & Eric Allen RIP Anniv.,  
Elsie Horrill RIP Anniv., Gabor Marek RIP, John  
Murphy RIP, Lady Price RIP Anniv.

Total Roof Fund collected to date

**£7223.26**

(Target - £13500)

**Thank you all for your continued  
generosity**

## Information & Notices:

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Iris Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Kath Breen, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Dave Donoghoe, Ruth Freemantle, Pat Gallanagh, Trixie Johnson, Stuart King, Jane McClatchey, Irene Mitchell, Joan Olden, Bridget Reeves, Jack Smith. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**HOLIDAY:** Fr David will be on holiday from Sat. 17th Oct to Sat. 24th Oct inclusive. Fr Peter Wilkie has kindly agreed to celebrate the Masses on Sunday 18th October. There will be a Service of Word and Communion on Tuesday, 20th October at St Michael's.

**MASS COUNTS:** These are taken at all the Sunday Masses during October for Diocesan statistics.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This week an obligatory collection for Foreign Missions.

**A BIG THANKYOU:** to all who helped to make the Confirmation Celebration a very happy occasion. Thanks particularly to our young people of course, to Bishop Crispian & our Deacons, to Peggy & the team for cleaning the church, to Christine, Val, Monica & Yvonne for the lovely flowers, to Tony for preparations for the Mass & MC duties, to Irene and the choir for the great music & singing.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Parents of baptised children who are in Yr 3 at primary school please contact Fr David if you wish your child to make their 1st Holy Communion next year. The child must be supported in their preparation by at least one Catholic parent.

**PATTERNS OF LIFE** - Look out for this book of inspiring poems and prayers written and published by Anne Candrl, a parishioner, to raise money for the CLIC Sargent (cancer) charity. Price £5. Available in Church porch and at the Parish Shop.

**CLIMATE JUSTICE: URGENT ACTION NEEDED BY ALL** - 2009 is a crucial year for a global Climate Change Agreement. **What YOU can do:** **1)** Pray that world leaders will work for a fair agreement. **2)** Stand Up Against Poverty; the Great Persuasion on 18th October. Join our lobby of Dr Julian Lewis, MP on 17th October at 12 noon. **3)** Join Climate Justice Mass Mobilisation in London on 5th December: THE WAVE: Archbishop Vincent Nichols and Archbishop of Canterbury are among speakers. More information on <http://www.cafod.org.uk/copenhagen>. Copies of article by Cardinal Keith O'Brien in the porch.

**CAFOD FAST DAY COLLECTION:** Thanks to everybody who gave to CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. Our parish raised an impressive **£857** which will help poor communities to survive the devastating effects of the financial crisis.

**GREAT SOUTH RUN 2009** - Catherine, Marcus and Stephanie Smith will be taking part in the UK's biggest and most popular 10 mile run for **CAFOD** on Sun 26th October in Portsmouth. Please support them - sponsor forms will be placed in the porches.

The Department for Pastoral Formation is planning a gathering in January called **The Christ we are, The Christ we share**. This is an opportunity for people involved in ministry in the Church, from across the diocese, to deepen our experience of the person of Jesus and to consider how we share that experience with others. We will approach the theme through input, practical sessions, prayer, reflection, liturgy and conversations. Although this inspirational and nourishing weekend at the Hallmark Hotel in Bournemouth takes place in January (supper on Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>- 2pm on Sun 24<sup>th</sup>), bookings need to be confirmed **by mid-October** to ensure we have the rooms we need in the hotel. Sign up now to be sure of a place! For further details and online booking, see [https://clarahost.clara.net/forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/the\\_christ\\_we\\_are/the\\_christ\\_we\\_are.php](https://clarahost.clara.net/forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/the_christ_we_are/the_christ_we_are.php) For Enquiries ring 01329-835583.

**Remembrance Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November** Traditionally Remembrance Sunday is a day to remember all those killed or injured in conflicts around the world. On Remembrance Sunday this year, we will *also* be remembering all our friends and relatives who have died. When you come into the **11a.m. Mass at St Michael's** please write the names of your loved ones on the paper provided and put it in the basket. The basket of names will be taken up in the offertory procession.

Always  
&  
Forever

