

The Messenger

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

20th January 2013

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Psalter Wk.2)

9.00am Mass at St Bernards
11.00am Mass at St Michaels
6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst

Mon 21st No Service (Liturgy: Memorial, St Agnes)
Tues 22nd 10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the Day)
Wed 23rd 10.00am Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: of the Day)
11.45am Funeral Service Anne Morgan RIP Southampton Crematorium East Chapel
Thurs 24th 10.00am Mass at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Memorial, St Francis de Sales)
Fri 25th Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends. (Liturgy: Feast Conversion of St Paul)
Sat 26th 10.00am SM Mass then Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 11am. (Liturgy: Memorial, Timothy & Titus)
Sun 27th 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
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, Bishop Philip Egan, For Christian Unity, Parish Pastoral Council, Tina Bowler (B'day), John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Judith Morrison (Peace), Tony O'Connell (Health), Fr. Daniel Friel RIP, Anne Josephine Morgan RIP, Norman Jones RIP Anniv

For the week beginning 27th Jan: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Bishop Philip Egan.

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,
6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR
Tel: 023 8084 3479 e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

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

JESUS IS THE REAL BRIDEGROOM

In today's Gospel we hear from John that the wedding is on. At the festival of a Jewish wedding in Cana Jesus reveals his glory through his first great sign. It's an unusual wedding – for there are two bridegrooms! There is the bridegroom just married, and there is Jesus who is the real bridegroom. He is an invited guest at the wedding, but Jesus is the long – awaited bridegroom of Israel. Jesus will transform this private Jewish wedding into a great sign to show that the time has come when God will take his people to himself in a new way. Jesus has come as the bridegroom to claim his bride, Israel.

During the wedding feast the wine runs out and Mary expects Jesus to do something about it. Jesus' negative answer to Mary underlines the point that he cannot be bound by family relationships, but only by his Father's will. Mary's final words, "Do whatever he tells you," recognises the supreme authority of Jesus and what he must do himself.

There are six, large stone jars used to provide water for the Jewish ritual of cleansing. Jesus tells the servants to fill these to the brim, and after they do this they discover that the water has been changed into wine. All 120 gallons of it! When the steward tastes it he compliments the bridegroom for keeping the best wine until last – but he is complimenting the wrong bridegroom! Jesus is the one who has supplied choice wine in abundance, and in doing so has revealed his glory. When the disciples see what has happened they believe in Jesus.

The story gives us a marvellous image of the loving relationship we have with God through Jesus. Jesus has come to claim us as God's own, and he is generous in the gifts he brings. There is nothing mean about Jesus in the story: not a thimbleful of plonk, but gallons of the choice stuff! Luke has the same point in his Gospel: "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is still with them?" (5:34). It is not the time of fast, but the time of feast. And the feast is generous: "out of his fullness have we all received" (Jn.1:16).

Of course the ultimate generosity of Jesus is shown when he dies for the love he has – when the bridegroom lays down his life for his bride. Jesus gives his whole self in love. He gives us his body and blood in this Eucharist – so that we can be united with him and with our father. So, let us rejoice today that we know the name of the bridegroom and that he knows our name in love.

(From Seasons of the Word by Denis McBride)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Amanda Bowden, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Vicky Carter, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Serena Hoskyns, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Betty Marek, Judith Morrison, Tony O'Connell, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Ronald Stevens. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

ACCESS TO THE CHURCHES FOR PRAYER: If you want to go to the church at any time to pray before the Blessed Sacrament access is available via the code lock. If you do not know the code lock please ask Fr David in person.

PRAYER POTTERY: The next Prayer Pottery will take place on Tuesday, 29th January at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St Michael's. It is led by Christine Olden. There will be prayer, music & quiet reflection. All are welcome.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: begins on Friday, 18th January & ends on Friday, 25th January. See details of the service THIS SUNDAY at St Andrews on next column.

THANKS TO EVERYONE at St Bernard's & St Michael's who helped to put away cribs and Christmas decorations and to get the churches ready for the next liturgical time.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: Due to illness the meeting has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, 22nd January at 11.00am in the Meeting Room.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 24th January at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at St Michael's.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS:

ANNE JOSEPHINE MORGAN RIP: Ann's Funeral service will take place at Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel, on Wednesday, 23rd January at 11.45am.

THOMAS JOHN WEIR RIP: Thomas's Funeral service will take place at St Michael's Church, on Friday, 8th February at 11.00am, followed by burial at Blackfield Cemetery at 12 noon.

We extend our condolences to all the bereaved families and we pray for those who have died. May they rest in peace and rise in glory, through Christ our Lord. Amen

PASTORAL TEACHINGS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM BISHOP PHILIP: There are copies at the back of the churches of pastoral teachings given by Bishop Philip on "The Care of the Dying" & the "Liverpool Pathway". If further copies are required they can be found on the Diocesan website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or you can ask Fr David.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents, please contact Fr David if your child is in Year 3 at primary school and will be 8 yrs old in 2013 and you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion. At the moment we are only able to offer support for a home & parent centred programme of preparation.

CHURCH CLEANING AT ST BERNARD'S: Thank you to Bernadette Little who has joined the team to help keep the church clean & tidy.

BEING CATHOLIC IN A SECULAR CULTURE. How does our relationship with Jesus lead us to respond to the world around us? **Speaker: Bishop Philip Egan.** Wed. 20th Feb in Reading; Thurs. 7th March in Christchurch, Tues, 19th March in Portsmouth. Evenings 7.30pm until 9.00pm. For more details see the poster at the back of church.

ANNUAL WATERSIDE CHURCHES TOGETHER WORSHIP at St. Andrews, Dibden Purlieu on **Sunday 20th January at 6.30pm.** Jan Hyter, local ecumenical co-ordinator says: *Please urge as many of your fellowship to attend as possible. In these times, Christians must stand united in fellowship and prayer. We are so blessed that there are ecumenical projects on the Waterside. These and other things need our prayers. Please do come!*

SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP IN BROCKENHURST: There will be an opportunity to experience **Godly Play** on Saturday, 9th February, 10am to 3.30pm at St Saviour's Church Hall. Those of us who attended the Praying with your Children and Grandchildren Day two years ago were impressed and moved by the demonstration of this approach to the presentation of the Gospel. We have asked the presenter (Carolyn Pritchard) to come back and give us a whole day, with an emphasis on both adults and children this time. There is no expectation that people who come will then use Godly Play as catechists. If you decide to come you will discover an approach to the Gospel that will renew your connection to the stories that you have been hearing all your life. Please let Mary Dunn know if you are coming: (01590 622301; email: dunnmary@mac.com)

YEAR OF FAITH: "EXPLORE YOUR FAITH DAYS"

at St Joseph's Chapel, Geo House, Lyndhurst Rd, Ashurst: All Saturdays, 10.00am to 4pm. Starts with Mass, bring your own packed lunch, tea & coffee provided. Donations welcome to cover the cost of the day. February 2nd - David Matthews; March 2nd - Geoff & Gina Poulter; April 6th - Fiona Castle, (& more afterwards!)

LIVING THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE: *John Paul II's 'Theology of the Body' and the language of God's love in Natural Family Planning & Naprotechnology.* Day Conference at the Maryvale Institute, Birmingham, Sat. 16th March 2013. See poster in church porch for details.

AMOUNTS RAISED FOR CHARITY: Details of recent 2nd Collections, including Gift Aid: (Diocesan) Cathedral - £235; Bamenda - £317; Racial Justice - £88; Mission Sunday - £239; Other Collections: CAFOD - £494; Cabrini Childrens Society (Crib Offerings) - £231; SPUC White Flower - £134; (This does not include anonymous cash donations to the Waterside Food Bank & families in need amounting to over £500.

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