

# The Messenger

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

20<sup>th</sup> March 2011

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent - Divine Office: Wk 2

Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 3.00pm SM Baptism - Ruby Grand-Scrutton 5.00pm - St Michaels - Talk on the Eucharist (2)
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent)
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent)
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent)
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>	No Service (Liturgy: of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent, or optnl memorial, St Turibius of Mongrovejo, (Peru) 1538-1606)
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	3pm SM Stations of the Cross (Liturgy: The Annunciation of the Lord)
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am SM Mass (The Annunciation) followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.30am (Liturgy: of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent)
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent - (Clocks go forward!!) 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 5.00pm - St Michaels - Talk on the Eucharist (3)

**Mass Intentions: For this week:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, all deceased of the parish whose anniversaries occur at this time; deceased clergy of the Provence

**For the week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> Mar:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, deceased members of the Chrzanowski family, all deceased of the parish whose anniversaries occur at this time, People of Japan & Libya

## 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)

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## THE PARADOX OF GLORY & SUFFERING

At a time when we are more painfully aware of the fragility of our life and our civilisation it is good to reflect on the paradoxical mystery of our existence.

In Psalm 82 verse 6 we have the words (later quoted by Jesus in Johns Gospel): 'I say "You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince". This is an example of paradox which is the relationship between things that seem to be contradictory yet are still perceived to be true. How they relate together is beyond our understanding. The closest we come to paradox in science is in quantum physics.

Another example is given us by St Paul in the Letter to the Christians at Rome, chapter 11 verses 28-29: *As regards the gospel they (the Jewish people who do not believe in Christ) are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.* Other paradoxes abound in our faith language: glory & ordinary, virgin & mother, one & three, human & divine, bread-wine & body-blood, grace & freedom, faith & reason, time & eternity, lose life to find life, suffer to enter into glory, and I'm sure that doesn't exhaust the list!

The wisdom sayings of Jesus and the "koans" of the Buddhist tradition are similarly paradoxical. They are ways of drawing us into deeper & more mysterious truths and relationships. Trying to rationalise the paradox, wisdom saying or koan is a futile business. It'll just make your head ache. We are encouraged rather to hold, to ponder, to treasure. We must let the paradox work on us and not try to work on the paradox. This is where contemplative prayer helps us. Taking an alert but relaxed posture we allow the river of consciousness to flow past the eye of the soul. We gently recognise but do not react to thoughts, feelings, memories, images etc. We let them float by, not trying to engage with them or judge them. A repetitive word or phrase can help such as "Abba, Father" or "Come, Holy Spirit". We can also focus on our breath as receiving the life of God and returning the life of God. These little practices are not an end in themselves but only a help to enable the mind / soul to rest in stillness. In this way one can begin to perceive and receive the "peace that surpasses understanding". You also begin to realise that you cannot be identified with any experience. So you can say to yourself: I have this thought but I am not this thought. I have this feeling but I am not this feeling. This relativises both our joy and our pain.

So on the one hand we are beautifully gifted sons & daughters of God with the potential to flourish in so many ways and receive the fullness of life. On the other hand we are weak, fragile, vulnerable, sinful and selfish. Some have a full life with little suffering, others barely draw breath before they die and others have lives of great hardship, suffering and challenge. Some rise to great courage, generosity and love, others less so. Some are drawn to virtue and holiness, others are drawn into darker realms of anger, violence, greed and lust. Whatever the scientific explanations maybe this planet (this universe) is certainly fine-tuned for life and fine-tuned for struggle. It is the perfect environment for learning and growing, for discovering and experiencing all the wonderful gifts of the Spirit - attributes of God - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness & self-control. Yet these delicate flowerings of grace are always emerging in a situation radically subject to the impermanence of this sphere of existence. The Transfigured One must go through death to resurrection. (DMA)

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Christina Drury, Amanda Gudge, Fr John Humphreys, Dorothy Minchington, Judith Morrison, Raphaelle Netto, Ellen Pick, Julia Plumtree, Eileen Shanley, Ronald Stevens, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**PRAYER POTTERY:** This will take place every Tuesday (after Mass) during Lent up to and including Holy Week (March 22nd, 29th, April 5th, 12th & 19th), **at 11am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michaels.** It is a time for quiet prayer and reflection guided by Christine Olden. All are very welcome.

**FAREWELLS & BEST WISHES TO:** Gwen & Frank Val de Marca who are leaving to settle in America (providing they like it!). Our prayers and blessings go with them and our thanks to Gwen for service as a church cleaner at St Michaels & for helping in the Parish Shop.

**THANK YOU:** The collection for the Cabrini Childrens Society raised £264.90. Thank you for your generosity.

**CAFOD Lent Fast Day:** There is a retiring collection at both Masses today. Please use the CAFOD envelopes to make your donation & please Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer.

**RED BOXES:** Would all Red Box holders please bring their boxes to Mass on Sunday asap, please. Thank you for your support. **SPECIAL THANKS & RECOGNITION** to Tony Cluett who has been organising the collection in Waterside parish since 1st March 1981 - 30 years service!

## WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH - LENTEN EVENTS

**Stations of the Cross;** - 3pm on Fridays; 25th Mar at SM; 1st Apr at SB - This one is the special CAFOD stations; 8th Apr at SM; 15th Apr at SB.

**Lenten Talks:** *Become One Body, One Spirit in Christ - Deepening our understanding of the Eucharist in our lives.* We will use an interactive DVD. This is designed to promote the new English translation of the Mass which will be introduced in part in Sept 2011. **There are four remaining sessions at St Michaels, on Sundays, 5pm - 6pm: 20th Mar; 27th Mar; 3rd April; 10th April.**

**Reconciliation Service:** 7.30pm, Tuesday, 19th April in St Michaels.

## Holy Week Services:

**Palm Sunday,** 17th April

**Chrim Mass**

11am, Tues, 19th Apr at Portsmouth Cathedral

**Maunder Thursday:** 8pm, Thurs, 21st April

Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Michaels.

**Good Friday:** Ecumenical Walk of Witness (Holbury) 10.00am, starts at New Hope Church, Hardley roundabout to Blackfield Baptist Church for service at 11.00am. Ecumenical Service (Hythe), 10.45am for 11.00am, outside Waitrose.

**Celebration of the Lord's Passion:**

3pm, Fri, 22nd April at St Michaels.

7.30pm, Stations of the Cross at St Michaels

**Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil, 9pm,** on Sat. 23rd Apr at St Bernards.

**Easter Sunday:** 9am Mass at SB; 11am Mass at SM



**PARISH CAFOD GROUP.** Next meeting Wednesday 23 March at 8pm at 46 Kings Ride, Langley SO45 1ZN (Tel 80898213).

**CAFOD SOUP LUNCH:** on Thursday, 24th March at 12.30pm at St Bernard's Hall. Tickets are £5. On sale after Mass & from the shop. All proceeds to CAFOD.

**Coffee Morning in Aid of CAFOD:** Wednesday 23rd March anytime between 10.00 and 12.30.

Amanda's house - Robin Cottage, West Common, Langley  
Come for a cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake to raise money for CAFOD this Lent.

Whilst I am very happy for people to decide last minute that they'd like to come, if you know you will definitely attend could you kindly let me know (at church or by phone 80891112) - just so I have an idea how much baking I need to do!!! We are about halfway down the left fork of West Common; there is not an awful lot of parking space in the lane so lift shares could be a good idea. Young children are of course very welcome too.

## THANKS FOR THE ECUMENICAL PANCAKE EVENING:

Special thanks to Sandra & her daughter Marianne for doing the cooking (lovely pancakes!!) & thanks to Monica, Theresa, Jill & Louise for organising, providing fillings, flowers & drinks. The event raised £100.50p for the parish.

**THANKS TO HELEN KITSON & FAMILY:** they managed to sell some copies of the "Beano" on Ebay and raised £75 for the Parish Shop.

**MARTHA GROUP:** Date for your diary: Quiz Night with American Supper, on 9th April, 7pm at St Bernards. Tickets £4, on sale soon



## PETITION RE: LOCAL CHILDREN'S CARDIAC FACILITIES:

Please sign the Daily Echo petition campaigning for the retention of local children's cardiac facilities at Southampton General hospital. Our thanks to Fiona Wiffen for bringing this to our attention.

## WARNING RE: ST BERNARDS CHURCH & HALL USERS:

Sadly, the other week while someone was helping an elderly person into the hall their car was stolen. The keys were left in the ignition only for a matter of seconds. The thieves were hiding close by at the side of the hall. So please be extra careful regarding your vehicles & property. Please DO NOT leave the church door unlocked; DO NOT let anyone see, or over hear mention of, the security code. At time of printing the persons car had not been recovered & their insurance company will not pay out. Please pray for all concerned.

**BRAVE DAVE KING:** is taking part in the Ben Nevis Challenge to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society. Please sponsor him. See him after Mass at St Michaels or go online: <http://www.justgiving.com/David-King/3>. See poster for more details.

**ECUMENICAL STUDY GROUPS FOR LENT 2011 - WATERSIDE CHURCHES TOGETHER (SOUTH)** The dates and venues are as follows: March 22nd, 29th & April 5th, 12th. On each date there will be a group at 1.30 for 2.00pm at Blackfield Baptist Church (Hampton Lane, Blackfield) and 7.00 for 7.30pm at Waterside Methodist Church (Chapel Lane, Fawley). The groups are open to all. **ON BEING COMFORTABLE WITH SILENCE IN PRAYER:** On Saturday, 26th March 2011, from 10am until 3.30pm in St Saviour's Church Hall, Brockenhurst. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation of £10. Please book by contacting Mary on 01590 622301, or [dunmary@mac.com](mailto:dunmary@mac.com).

**LENTEN TALKS ON DVD:** 6 of 10 Sessions remaining by internationally famous Christian speaker: J. John "The 10 Commandments" **At St. Joseph's House of Prayer, Ashurst at 7.30pm on Thursdays & Fridays in Lent; 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March, 31<sup>st</sup> March & 1<sup>st</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April.** Contact: Peter & Lynda 023 80292058, Email: [peterszymanski@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterszymanski@hotmail.co.uk)



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