

All correspondence to:
The Parish Office,
Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn,
Hythe SO45 5GR
Tel: 023 8084 3479
e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

*For St Bernard &
St Michael's churches*

**20th December 2009
Year C
divine office wk 4**

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 (Mon & Tue only)

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

8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON, SO45 6DA

Tel: 023 8020 7882

**PARISH SERVICES****FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Sun	20	9 am	SB	Mass: Fourth Sunday of Advent
		11 am	SM	Mass: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mon	21	10 am	SB	Requiem Mass: Charles Duffy RIP
Tue	22	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: Proper for this day
Wed	23	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: Proper for this day
Thur	24	10 am	SM	Christmas Eve - Sacrament of Reconciliation: Until 11am
		8.30 pm	SM	Christmas Carols & Readings Christmas Night Mass - 9pm
Fri	25	9.00 am	SB	Christmas Day Mass
		11.00 am	SM	Christmas Day Mass
Sat	26			No Mass today
Sun	27	9 am	SB	Mass: The Holy Family
		11 am	SM	Mass: The Holy Family

This week we will be offering Masses for:

People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, All the Departed, John Adams RIP, Ernest & Michael Ball RIP, Clare Dickinson (Thanksgiving), Bill & Mary Mulveney (Intentions), Elizabeth (nee) Mulveney (Intentions), Charles Duffy RIP, Fred Haacke RIP,

Next week (27th December) we will be offering Masses for: *People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, All the Departed, Gabor Marek RIP and John Murphy RIP, Tony & Irene O'Connell's 50th Wedding Anniv.*

Total Roof Fund collected to date

£7,747.12

(Target - £13,500)

Thank you all, for your continued generosity**MARY IS EAGER TO HELP HER COUSIN ELIZABETH**

Mary is a young girl. She is pregnant and vulnerable. According to Matthew's Gospel Joseph is at first unwilling to continue the relationship. Yet Mary does not think of herself but goes "with haste" to support her older cousin who is expecting a child of her own. She goes to help, to share her joy and in some mysterious way to share the Spirit of God who is at work in all their lives. Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people according to the Law but they stand at the end of an epoch. With Mary God has begun a whole new thing! It is the beginning of the era of grace when the gracious love and forgiveness of God are poured out on the whole of humanity. Mary is the first one to say Yes to this gracious initiative of God. It is all about letting God work and trusting in what God does and what God will do. Its so much surer, more reliable, more effective and more wonderful than any of our meagre efforts. Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

At this time of year we can let ourselves be over whelmed by God's goodness and undeserved love. We can like Mary allow this grace to overflow in concern for others and in a desire to share the joy God gives us. Yes we probably do go to excess but if we sweeten it with kindness, forgiveness and forbearance, with gracious and benevolent giving then we honour, celebrate and echo the largesse of God for all. (DMA)

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

As Christmas fast approaches I would like to thank you all for your friendship, your prayers and your support during the past year and for your kind wishes and generous gifts this Christmastide.

Thank you to everyone in the parish for your prayers and commitment, your love of God and your support. A special thank you to those whose faith, good works and service is known only to God.

It is good to know that there are many supporting the parish very generously. God works through and with us all and therein lies our strength as a community. We are all encouraged that despite our busy lives and many responsibilities we can still support our faith community. I know God blesses us all. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Maureen Cain, Anne Candrl, Mary Crisp, Petra Daniels, Anne Donoghoe, Margaret Flynn, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Jane McClatchey, Joan Olden, Leslie Palmer, Bridget Reeves, Bill Topple. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

FROM ANN DONOGHOE: "I would like to thank all our friends, acquaintances, members of the congregation of St Bernards & St Michaels for all the cards, messages and calls. The support has been very much appreciated by myself and the family".

FR PETER WILKIE: I am away for a week after Christmas and Fr Peter has kindly offered to say Mass for the parish for the next two Sundays (27th Dec & 3rd Jan) while I'm away. I know, as always, you will make him most welcome and give him every support.

A BIG THANKS: to everyone who helped to make the Senior Citizens Lunch so successful with special mention of Win, Liz, Veronica & Linda from the Martha Group and to Win's daughter in law Sue, Yvonne, Mulveney, Anne Harding, Deacon Steve & Lexley George. Thanks to all who attended and to all who donated raffle prizes. £100 was raised for the Roof Fund from the raffle.

WATERSIDE FOOD BANK - The organisers have thanked our parishioners who have donated 142.3kg between October 2008 and October 2009. They say that the total amount of food received during this period was 3845.9kg from businesses, groups, schools, churches and individuals in the local area. 3468.4 kg of food has been distributed in Emergency foodboxes. Well done everyone, though they still value your continued support.

CAFOD - Used Stamps, old Mobile Phones, and Foreign Coins can be left in the flip-top bins at both churches. Please include the postmarks for stamps and remove SIM-cards for phones. Thank you for your past contributions, which go to help raise funds and provide practical help for CAFOD.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING - As is traditional the collection at Christmas is for your parish priest and forms a part of his ordinary income for the year. Fr David will be very grateful for whatever you want to give at this time. A leaflet explaining how priests are financially supported is available at the back of church for your information.

FEELING THE COLD? - MODERN (3yrs old) COAL EFFECT ELECTRIC FIRE is available for anyone who wants it. Call Pat on 023-80-844617

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTAS - These are available now at the back of the churches.

POINSETTIA REMEMBRANCE AT ST MICHAELS: Would you like to have a friend or relative remembered over Christmas. If so, why not buy a cream or red poinsettia plant, put the name of the person on the card provided, and leave at the back of the church. The plants will be displayed around the church and we will pray for all those named. The plants can be handed in at the office (Mon & Tues 9am till 2pm) or at St Michaels on Wednesday morning when the flower arrangers will be in. This is being tried at St Michaels only this year because there is more space to display the plants.

FUNDRAISING - please don't forget that if you shop online for your food, drink or Christmas presents, if you log onto www.easyfundraising.org.uk and then click on 'find a cause' and then register, you can help raise funds at no extra cost for this parish. You still shop directly with each retailer, but simply by using the links from our site first, each purchase you make will generate a cashback donation to Waterside Catholic Parish. For example if you shop with Marks & Spencer you will find that they have generously doubled their donation on all purchases to 5%. So each time you shop with M&S you will generate 5% of your purchase to Waterside Catholic Parish. You can shop with 2000+ Brand Name retailers and to raise funds you just use the links from our site first - it's that simple! If you ALREADY shop online, why not help good causes at no extra cost from purchases you would make anyway.

RESULT OF THE VOTE ON ST BERNARD'S CHURCH LAY-OUT: Those in favour of leaving it as it is (43); those in favour of changing it (33); those who didn't mind either way (6). Therefore the layout of the pews and altar at St Bernard's will remain unchanged. Thank you everyone for the calm and conciliatory way you all responded to this ballot.