

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Part of the New Forest Pastoral Area

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

Parish Priest & Pastoral Co-ordinator: Rev David Adams -
based at Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Lymington:
Tel: 01590 676696

Rev Vincent Convery

Deacon: Rev Steve Bowler (Chair Parish Pastoral Council)
Tel: 02380 207449

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All correspondence to Parish Administrator,

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The Gospel of Luke- The Gospel of Mercy

21st February 2016 2nd Sunday of Lent

Year C, Weekdays Year 2; Psalter week 2

9.00am Mass SB
11.00am Mass SM

Monday 22nd February No Mass
(The Chair of St Peter)

Tuesday 23rd February No Mass
Pause for Prayer SM's 10am

Wednesday 24th February No Mass
Thursday 25th February No Mass

Friday 26th February 10am MASS SM's
Saturday 27th February 10am MASS SM's

Anniversaries this week: Gary John Sussex (21st), Linda Hayes (22nd), Annunciata White (23rd), Phil West (25th)

Remembering those who have died recently:

Mass Intentions:

New Forest Pastoral Area

WATERSIDE: Hythe & Holbury - see above

LYNDHURST & TOTTON

Parish Priest- Rev Innaiah Maddineni Tel: 023 8086 2270

St Theresa of the Child Jesus-Beaumont Road, Totton &
Our Lady of the Assumption & St Edward the Confessor-
Furzy Lawn, Romsey Road, Lyndhurst:

Deacon Rev Stephen Short (Lyndhurst)

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm Totton

Sunday Mass 9am Lyndhurst

10.30am Totton

BROCKENHURST, LYMINGTON, MILFORD ON SEA

Parish Priest-Rev David Adams Tel: 01590 676696

St Anne-Rhinefield Road, Brockenhurst

Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-High Street, Lymington,

St Francis of Assisi-Park Lane, Milford on Sea.

Deacon: Rev Stephen Morgan

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm Lymington

Sunday Mass 9am Milford on Sea,

10.30am Lymington

6pm Brockenhurst

NEW MILTON

Parish Priest: Rev Marcin Drabik :Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes-Mount Avenue, New Milton

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday Mass 10 am

6.30pm Mass is in Polish

THE DEANERY is made up from the pastoral areas of New Forest,

Avon Stour, & Bournemouth **Dean: Fr Tom Grufferty**

Life Changing Encounters

It seems to be one of those twists of Divine providence that an easily overlooked, obscure story from the Hebrew Bible should become (later in Paul's theology) the pivotal point for God's work in Christ which is received "by faith". The whole weight and burden of the Law is side-stepped and by-passed. "Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified". Abram is at rights with God, not because of obedience to Law, but by accepting and trusting the God who makes us holy. An ancient and, to our minds, crude cultural sacrifice involving the split carcasses of animals is the ritual context for a deep and life changing experience of the Divine. The setting sun, the deep sleep, the terror, the darkness, the fire and the smoke all symbolic images evoking and expressing something of the awe, mystery and power of God's self-revelation. For Abram, (whose name was changed to Abraham to signify his new relationship with God), it was the beginning of a journey of faith - he set out "not knowing where he was going" (Heb 11:8).

The Gospel gives us Luke's account of what we have come to call the Transfiguration. Again we have the language of spiritual experience in its different aspects: prayer, seeing the Divine aura, the connection with the Law & the Prophets, the "passing" that was to happen, the heavy with sleep, keeping awake, seeing the glory, wanting to stay in a comfortable "place", being drawn further into the mystery of Christ - the cloud, the shadow, the fear, the Voice, the revelation, Jesus now alone - the Son, the Chosen One, the counsel of wisdom - "Listen to him". God has taken Peter, James & John way out of their comfort zone. They realise Jesus is not just another like Moses & Elijah. They could settle down to that quite easily. No, the Law and the Prophets have done their work. They now fade away. The old religion is now an empty shell, a vacated cocoon, an empty tomb. Only trusting, having faith in God, guides them through the fear, the shadow and the cloud. It is anything but certainty, clarity and self-assurance. It is incomplete, imperfect, "through a glass darkly". Intriguingly, when Peter is giving encouragement to the new Christians he refers back to this experience: For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts (2 Peter 1:6ff).

Paul reminds in the extract from Philippians that a shallow consciousness, focussing only on outward things, blocks out the things of the Spirit. When we begin to be open to the heavenly realms within the mystery of our being, or when we are awakened to this, we begin to experience the transfiguring of our mortal nature. The awakening happens by the action of God's Spirit. It happens when we are ready. It is not something that is in our control. However a growing desire for God or the experience of great joy or suffering can open us up to this Divine initiative. The old self, with all its anxieties and preoccupations, with all its living in the past or the future, has to die so that the new self, the Christ-self can shine through. When we are drawn into prayer, into silence, we enter the landscape of our soul. In this landscape we begin to experience the healing light of Christ which is one with the light of our own being. All the stuff of our life, the memories, the wounds, the hurts, the joys and pleasures, all our little ego world is "passed over", is relativised, is seen for what it is, good but ephemeral and passing. We begin the journey of Passover into the Promised Land of Divine Life. This is what Eucharist celebrates, expresses and realises: "By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the Divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity" (Prayer said when the water is added to the wine). (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Freda Roche-Adams, David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Alice Bramhill, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Nick Candrl, Kathryn Cox, David Culver, Jo Culver, Baby Finlay Drozd, Baby Elijah, Keith Ellison, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Ruth & Dennis Freemantle, David Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Doreen Holman, Chrissy James, Trudy King, Peggy & Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Susan Marlow, Sarah Marshall, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Ann O Connor, Graham Poole, Julie Poole, Michelle Ripley, Joan Smith, John Stevens, Emmie Walker, Brian Weston, Maureen Weyman. Mary & Lawrie Wittchell, Bridget Wyatt

If you wish someone to be included for prayers here, or if the person being prayed for is now well & you would like their name removed, speak to Deacons Ian or Steve, or Linda via the Parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS The Mass is the greatest act of worship we can ever take part in. Every Mass is offered for 'the peace and salvation of all the world' However, we can also have Mass offered for a particular person, or intention. We can have Mass said for someone who has died (for the repose of their soul), or for someone living - perhaps someone who is sick, or anxious. Of course we can also have Mass said on joyful occasions - perhaps for a special anniversary, or in thanksgiving.

If you would like Mass to be said for someone, or for any special intention, ask at the parish office or fill in one of the brown envelopes marked 'MASS OFFERING', which are available at the back of church. The average donation for the stipend is £10. *Please return the envelope via the collection basket or Angel house.* This way the person you are remembering will be mentioned in the newsletter at the appropriate time.

If you need a Mass card : you can get one from the Sacristy, the parish office or our parish shop.

READERS & MINISTERS OF COMMUNION SB's and SM's:
Please let me know via the parish office if you are here over Easter so I can prepare the rota. **NIL RETURNS REQUIRED.** (Linda)

40 ACTS: Do Lent generously. Practical suggestions for each day of Lent. This is an excellent website. Visit www.40acts.org.uk

CAR PARK SB's Try not to park on the grass if we have had heavy rain as your car may get stuck in the mud. You may have to park in the street instead until we can rectify the situation.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 29th FEBRUARY- 13th MARCH
The Waterside Parish is committed to supporting Fairtrade to help ensure that farmers in poor countries get a fair deal for what they produce. The people who grow the food we take for granted can't always feed their own families, so please support Fairtrade fortnight by buying Fairtrade goods either from our parish shop or supermarkets.

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2016/2017 are now ready for collection. *Please note that some envelope numbers have been changed* due to the fact that approximately 40% of numbers are no longer used. The redistribution of numbers will save unnecessary expense due to wastage. This will not effect your gift aid in any way. I will be in both church's before mass for the next couple of weeks. (Carmel Mc Clatchey)

STATUE OF OUR LADY is now positioned at the back of the church. Please be aware that people may be praying in this area &/or lighting candles. Please be sensitive to this and give them space & quiet by avoiding this area and leaving church via the main aisle or via the door with the ramp. Thank you.

Father David has asked that each week (space permitting) there will be something written here about the Year of Mercy &/or Laudato Si to help us gain a greater understanding.



THE YEAR OF MERCY: Sacrament of Reconciliation



It is hoped that during the Year of Mercy many people will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession as it's better known, offers us an important way of getting closer to God- to be forgiven for our sins. As Pope Francis puts it "Its an encounter with the Lord's mercy which spurs us to do our best." *"In preparation for Easter, please fulfil your Easter duties by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation."* (Bishop Philip)



Walking gently upon this planet has to become a lifestyle rather than making the odd pledge and then breaking it. Having said that, starting with a pledge and sticking to it is the first step towards caring for God's creation, so what might your pledge be? This month we are invited to join in Pope Francis's prayer intention, **... "That we may take good care of creation-a gift freely given-cultivating and protecting it for future generations."**

COLLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY Collection TODAY
CAFOD FUND RAISING LUNCH Thursday 25th February.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- + All those who are sick and all those who care for them
- + The needy & hungry in the world.
- + Those affected by storms, floods and droughts: that through God's grace we may work together to help rebuild lives and communities, and prepare for future disasters. (CAFOD)



WHAT'S ON ?



PAUSEFOR PRAYER Throughout Lent: 23rd February & March 1st, 8th & 15th.



BBC RADIO 4 LENT TALKS : There are 6 x15 minute episodes which started on 17th Feb. The next episodes will be : 24th Feb & 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd March 8.45-9.00pm The Christian season of Lent is traditionally a time for self-examination and reflection on the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. Throughout Lent, six writers will reflect on these events through a variety of locations as they explore the theme of "**Lent in the Landscape**".

CAFOD just one world **CAFOD FUND RAISING LUNCH** Thursday 25th February at 12.30pm, St Bernard's. This year the lunch will be a Ploughmans with either ham or cheese, plus the usual crumble and ice cream. There will be a raffle. Tickets available after Mass today or from Faith, Hope and Charity. *Many thanks to Louise Croll for organising this.* (Fr David)



Women's World Day of Prayer- Friday 4th of March at St Andrew's @ 2pm. *"Receive children. Receive Me"* prepared by the Christian women of Cuba. All are welcome.



SING IN SPRING An evening of song with the *Melody Makers & Forest Folk*. Totton & Eling Community centre **Saturday 19th March 7pm. £8.** In aid of Water Aid & Poppy Appeal. See poster for more details.

