

All correspondence to:

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e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.comwebsite: watersidecatholics.org.uk*For St Bernard &
St Michael's churches***21ST march 2010
Year C
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 (Mon & Tue only)

For the Ideal Gift visit

Faith, Hope & Charity8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON, SO45 6DA**PARISH SERVICES: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Sun	21	9 am	SB	Mass: Fifth Sunday of Lent
		11 am	SM	Mass: Fifth Sunday of Lent
		6 pm	SM	Mass: Fifth Sunday of Lent
Tue	23	10 am	SM	Mass: of Lent Followed by Prayer Pottery at 11am
Wed	24	7.30 pm	SM	Mass: of the day
Thu	25	10 am	LT	Lyndhurst: The Annunciation of the Lord
Sat	27	10 am	SM	Mass: Lent followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation (11am - 11.30 am)

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

Sun	28	9 am	SB	Mass: Palm Sunday
		11 am	SM	Mass: Palm Sunday
		6 pm	SM	Mass: Palm Sunday

So what do we do with all the mercy?

God has done a whole new thing. Where sin abounded grace abounded all the more. God does not *hold our sins against us*. At the very time when we were enemies God showed the greatest love.

God does not judge or condemn us because of our behaviour. Nothing we can do, however bad, can negate God's goodness or God's love. We may be unfaithful, God is always faithful. We may rebel and disown God but God does not disown us because God cannot disown his own self. We are part of the self of God. We are God's sons and daughters, God's children.

We are no longer subject to the Law which brings condemnation but we are subjects of grace which brings justification. So we no longer try for a perfection by our own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law but we want only the perfection that comes through faith and trust in Christ, and is from God and based on faith and trust. God made the sinless one into sin so that in him we might become the goodness of God. Jesus Christ has become our justification, our holiness, our freedom and our virtue. All that is safe and inviolable within us because it is rooted in God within us. Our sin can never destroy God's life in us but it can certainly badly damage ourselves and others.

So in the face of all this mercy do we wallow in our sins? Do we become complacent, indifferent? Do we allow our selfish ways to go unchecked? Do we keep taking the poison we have become addicted to? Negative, selfish, destructive behaviour has only one outcome. It damages ourselves and others. In so far as the ego takes its identity from whatever is false, negative and destructive it is doomed to dissolution and destruction. This is not a punishment it is just an obvious and natural consequence. God's work in us is however inviolate and indestructible, as St Paul wrote in 1 Cor 5:5: *you are to hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh (i.e. ego / false self), so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord*. St Paul says in Galatians 5:13: *For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another*.

"Go and sin no more", Jesus says to the poor humiliated woman. How do we "sin no more" in a way that is not "by our own efforts". It seems an impossible contradiction. Surely it takes effort not to sin? The thing is we cannot do this on our own we can only let God do this in us. It is through the relationship of trust and faith in God that God's goodness flows through us. There has to be a "Yes", a surrender on our part to God's love and then we have to let God do the healing, the sowing, the planting and the bringing to fruition. *It is by grace that you have been saved through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus for the good works which God has already designated to make up our way of life (Ephesians 2:7ff)*.

It is in the relationship of faith and love and it is by the power of Christ in us (which we experience as a new mind, a new consciousness) that we are freed from sin and empowered to do good. *I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies (i.e. your whole selves) as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1)*

As Christ consciousness grows in us, and, like the yeast in the flour, gradually permeates all the areas of our life we are freed from sin. However no one exists in isolation. The healing of the individual member is dependent in part upon the healing of the whole "body". Moral sickness, injustice and relationship dysfunction in society wounds the individual. There are also no magic cures for certain pathological conditions. Incarnational grace – that is grace working, long, hard and patiently through the love, care & compassion of others is nearly always required for and healing. "It is not the healthy who need the doctor", says Jesus, "but the sick. Go and learn the meaning of the words: What I want is mercy, not sacrifice". (DMA)

Roof Fund still to be raised -

£4,586.67

(Target - £13,500,

already raised - £8,913.33)

Thank you all, for your generosity

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, Joan Cocker, Petra Daniels, Bill Feltham, Pat Gallanagh, Andrew Handol, Roy Nicholas, Joan Olden, Leslie Palmer, Bridget Reeves, Eileen Shanley, Lena Westfoot (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

PRAYER POTTERY - Tuesday Mornings 11-12 am led by Christine Olden. Tel: 023 80848754 at St Michael's Hythe We 23rd & 30th March (Lent). All welcome for quiet scripture, prayer and reflection.



Lenten Reconciliation Service at St Michaels on Tuesday, 23rd March at 7.30pm. All being well Frs Kevin O'Brien & Peter Wilkie will be with us to help with individual reconciliation.



The Soup Lunch was a very enjoyable event and raised £372 for the CAFOD Give It Up Campaign. Very many thanks to our super cooks for delicious soups and fruit crumbles and to all who supported and attended the event. *Give It Up* continues until the end of Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS using CAFOD reflections, prayers & pictures on **Friday, 26th March at 2pm at St Bernards.** All welcome, tea & coffee afterwards.

Concert in St Michaels, on Saturday, 27th March at 7.30pm given by the Woodside Singers—various classical choral pieces suitable for Lent. £3.00—pay at the door. Light refreshments during the interval. After costs have been met surplus monies will be donated to **CAFOD**. See the poster for details.

Good Friday Open Air Service - Fri 2nd April at 11 am. Meeting points are Jones Lane Car Park, Library Car Park, St John's Car Park all at 1045 am. Hot cross buns, tea & coffee at St John's Hall afterwards. Organised by Waterside Churches Together and this year Waterside Catholic Parish is leading the service.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: will meet on Thursday, 25th March at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at St Michael's. Minutes of the previous meeting will be approved and then subsequently displayed on the notice boards of both churches. Members of the Pastoral Council are: Kevin Barnett (chairperson), Eileen Brady, Louise Croll, Phil Hopkins, Christine Olden, Polly Read, John Reilly, Francis Waddington, Rev Steve Bowler, Rev Ian Tobin & Rev David Adams. Parishioners can raise issues with any PPC member to be considered for discussion at a subsequent PPC meeting.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE: tickets on sale after Mass proceeds for St Michaels Roof Fund

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: for the year 2010/2011 are now ready for collection and will be in the porch at St Bernard's & St Michael's this Sunday, 21st March and for the next two weeks. Thanks to Carmel McClatchey for organising the envelopes. Anyone wishing to join the scheme should contact either the Parish Office on 80843479 or Carmel McClatchey 80842403.

BLUESTAR BUS SERVICE NO 9 (which links our churches) is now half hourly during the day on Sundays.

PLEASE SAY "YES" TO SHOPPING VOUCHERS next time you do your shopping and you are offered vouchers at Sainsbury or Tesco checkouts. You could then place them in the CAFOD stamps flip-top bins and we will then pass them on to Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School, who are asking for them. Also...A huge sack of used stamps, foreign coins and some old mobile phones was handed over to the CAFOD office at Wonersh, Surrey recently. Thank you all very much, and keep them coming in. Why not get friends and relatives, at home and abroad, to collect them too?

MARTHA GROUP SOCIAL EVENTS: Next function: Quiz Night & American Supper, 24th April.

THE DIOCESAN FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN - "LIVING OUR FAITH":

Message from Bishop Crispian: "This initiative has touched all our communities from Maidenhead to the Isle of Wight, from Bournemouth to Liphook and from the outskirts of Oxford and Wantage to Jersey. There have been amazing—and humbling—acts of generous and sacrificial giving from over 3000 families, all of whom have been eager and willing to play their part in building and sustaining the life and future of our diocese. They have readily given new money for the new work that faces us". (*So far money given and pledges made amount to £8 million; £4.5 million towards the Diocesan target of £6.5 million and the remainder for specific parish projects*).

This campaign is to raise funds so that the Diocese can continue: 1) vocations work for priesthood & diaconate; 2) the training of students for the priesthood; 3) the work of adult formation and training for lay ministry; 4) the provision of financial support for parishes. The campaign has been running very successfully in other parishes. **The Parish Team meeting is set for Thursday, 25th March at 5pm at St Michaels in the Meeting Room.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

THE 2010 PLANT SALE: will be held on May 15th this year and organised by Veronica Chadwick. So all you gardeners please get busy.

Average Income & Expenditure for Sept 2009—Feb 2010

Ord. Income: Average per Month

SOs & Envs & Loose:	£3185
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed:	£704
Rent	£703
FHC Shop	£648
Other incl Fund Raising	£629

Total Av Mnthly Income £5869

Ord. Expenditure: Av per Month

(actual figures incl. half yr insurance & exceptional costs provision)

Ordinary Expenditure	£5321
Exceptional Cost Provsn	£600

Total Av Monthly Exp. £5921

Giving to Other Charities Through the Parish:

Average per Month: £1247
(includes Christmas Offering)