

The Messenger

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

Sun 23rd February Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass at SB
 11.00am Mass at SM

Year A, Weekdays Yr 2: Psalter week 3

Mon 24th Feb No Service
 Tues 25th Feb No service
 Wed 26th Feb No Service
 Thurs 27th Feb No Service

Fri 28th Feb Mass 10am SM
Sat 1st March Mass 10am SM

(Liturgy of the day: St David, Religious, Bishop)
Sacrament of Reconciliation straight after Mass

Sun 2nd March

Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass at St Bernard's
 11.00am Mass at St Michael's

Mass Intentions: For the week beginning 23rd February

For Fair Trade networks in the Diocese, for the sick, and those who care for them, for those whose homes and businesses have been flooded, the people of Wales and all those named after St David.

Anniversaries : Linda Hayes (22nd), Annunciata White (23rd), Phil West (25th), Dorothy Horner: *FM* (1st March),

Those who have died recently: Gary Mitchell, Sir David Price

Other Intentions: Baby Elijah (Health), Baby Dylan Guilding (Health), Ruth Rowan (Health)

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

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

Rev Vincent Convery

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

Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) Tel: 02380 897354

All correspondence to: Linda Guilding, The Parish Administrator, The Parish Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR
 Tel: 02380 843479 e-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
 website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

New Forest East Pastoral Area: Lyndhurst, Totton & Waterside,

Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am

Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

Parish priest : **Rev Innaiah Maddineni** : Tel: 023 8086 2270

Rev Andrew Philpott (Deacon)

New Forest West Pastoral Area: Brockenhurst, Lymington, Milford on sea & New Milton

Parish Priest :**Rev David Adams** Tel: 01590 676696

Rev Stephen Morgan (Deacon)

St Anne-Brockenhurst, Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-Lymington,
 St Francis of Assisi-Milford on Sea.

Parish Priest: **Rev Marcín Drabik** : Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes- New Milton

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm

Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 10 am,

New Milton 6.30pm *Mass in Polish*

Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

WHOLENESS & HOLINESS

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us: *You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect*, (Matt 5:48). The context of the words makes it clear that Jesus is talking about a perfect love which extends to everyone including enemies. In Luke's Gospel the parallel saying is re-worded to make the meaning clearer: *Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate*, (Lk 6:36).

This being perfect in love is not to be understood in a negative way, that is, it is not about never putting a foot wrong. Nor is it to be trivialised as if it concerned the minutiae of life. Jesus criticised the Pharisees because they got all worked up about little things and were blind to the big issues: justice, faith & mercy.

In its Greek origins the word "perfect" has the sense of completeness, wholeness & fullness. So the New Jerusalem Bible translates the verse: *'You must therefore set no bounds to your love, just as your heavenly Father sets none to his'*.

In the Gospel today Jesus invites us to maintain our freedom, our initiative & our dignity when the wicked force us into subservience. We are to be creative in non-violent strategies. Over the last two thousand years, apart from some saintly exceptions Christians and so called Christian nations have not been noted for non-violence. With gentle mischief Gandhi once remarked that everyone knows Jesus taught non-violence except the Christians. When we respond to violence with violence it only condemns us to become what we hate and only increases the destructive force of evil. Wounds between individuals, family members, tribes and nations are not healed but only aggravated & deepened.

This compassionate, boundless, whole and perfect love is not, of course, ours to bestow. We have to receive it first from God as beneficiaries. Then we have to surrender to the desire of Divine love to reach out to all others through us. Allowing Jesus' words & Spirit to transform our love develops and brings towards wholeness the three polarities of our existence: self, other & God. Bill Plotkin has written helpfully about this, (see note below). He refers to the three realms of human development: ego growth, soul embodiment, and spirit realisation. He says most cultures, traditions and philosophies emphasize only one. Development in one area will help but cannot substitute for development in the other areas. Now we recognise the need to grow and mature in all three realms. This is growth towards wholeness. It is never completed in this life because the horizon of our soul is always expanding even as our physical frame deteriorates. So we will always be a work in progress.

We need a healed, wholesome and healthy ego to relate to others co-operatively and not competitively.

We need to be at home in and with the psychic and somatic powers of our soul rooted as they are in the natural world as it and we have evolved. It is from this realm that we are, perhaps, most alienated. We fear the wildness of nature and our own interior wildness. Developing this realm is not about capitulating to base, irrational instincts. It is about integrating & reconciling the body-soul energies with the other two realms.

We need to surrender to union with the Ultimate Mystery, the Divine. This surrender can only be given in the power of the Divine love which has brought us into being, sustains & nurtures us in being and holds the future of our being. The gifts of the natural world, others & our own unique individuality mirror God to us and draw us to the Mystery. Christ is the universal mirror. In & with Christ all comes from the Father & returns to the Father. This is the paschal mystery of life, death & resurrection.

(Fr Ron Rolheiser, internationally acclaimed spiritual writer & conference speaker wrote: *Bill Plotkin, Soulcraft, Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche*. *Written from a naturalist rather than a faith perspective, this book might be disturbing to some, but contains many psychological insights (and testimonies about inner transformation) that can, I believe, be very helpful in understanding how the soul journeys*). (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Baby Elijah, David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Peter Gray, David & Joan Grennell, Amanda Gudge, baby Elijah & baby Dylan, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Serena Hoskyns, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Sarah Marshall, Tony O'Connell, Karen O'Donovan, George Raffray, Anthony Richards, Lilly Ricketts, Norma Rudd, Pauline Sharpley, Susan Soutter, Ronald Stevens, Neil Tisdale.

(If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Linda via the Parish office)

PLEASE SPONSOR: Paul Flaherty's daughter, Sofie, will be running in the London Marathon supporting Pancreatic Cancer UK. If you would like to support her donations can be made online at www.justgiving.com/sofie-flaherty

M THE ST MARTHA GROUP would like to thank Dave King for compiling the quiz and also thank all the parishioners and their friends and family for supporting the event. It made £298.00, £100 of which came from the raffle held by Veronica. Everyone had a great evening and look forward to the next one on May 3rd.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents, if your child is in Year 3 at primary school and will be 8 yrs old this year, and you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion, please see Deacon Steve or Deacon Ian. At the moment we are only able to offer support for a home & parent centred programme of preparation. Closing date 28th February.

ECUMENICAL PANCAKE NIGHT- unfortunately there will not be an Ecumenical pancake night on Shrove Tuesday at St Bernard's this year.

ANYTHING FOR THE NEWSLETTER? The Messenger goes to print on Thursday morning and copies are put out in St Bernard's & St Michael's in the afternoon. If you have anything you wish to be included in the newsletter please let me know by Tuesday, or Thursday morning at the latest. Thank you.

PARISH REGISTER - we are constantly updating the register with parishioners details. If your details have changed, or you think you may not be included on the register, please let us know. An accurate parish register is essential to provide the best service to parishioners. Please complete one of the New Parishioners Forms in the porch & hand it in to the Parish office. Thank you.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER- 'Streams in the desert'-prepared this year by the Christian women of Egypt. **Friday March 7th, 2p.m. Methodist church, Dibden Purlieu.** The speaker will be Rev Christine Coran. Calling all males of the species! Although it is called *Women's world day of prayer* it does not exclude men. You will be made very welcome.

THE CREAM BINS at both churches look like swing bins for rubbish, but they are in fact there for stamps, old mobile phones and foreign coins for CAFOD. If you have any of the above your donations will be gratefully received.

FOODBANK At present there is a particular shortage of long life milk, toilet rolls, tinned fish (for example tuna, salmon, pilchards or sardines); sugar; and custard (tins or packets) plus, of course, the usual tins and packets. If you can help with any of these items they will be greatly appreciated.

FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY. Thank you to Tina, & all those who work in our parish shop, for their recent payment of £2,000. Depending on the takings, the shop pays between £5,000-£6,000 a year to parish funds. The more goods donated or gifts and cards sold the more FHC can contribute to the parish.

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882



The Pope Tweets: Pope Francis @Pontifex

'Let us learn from Christ how to pray, to forgive, to sow peace, and to be near those in need'



CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE The collection for the CES was £107.50. The CES represents the Bishops in matters concerning Catholic Education. Thank you for your generosity.

'During the year there are 13 collections authorised by the Bishop, some are voluntary and some are obligatory. The majority are charity collections taken for specific causes on specific days. The remainder are special appeals.'



SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

The Diocese's 6th Significant Anniversaries Mass and Reception will be celebrated at 11 am Saturday 28 June at St Bede's, Basingstoke for those celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2014. Bishop Philip will preside at the Mass. Attendance is by invitation; **if you are celebrating one of these anniversaries**, email the Bishop's Office at bishopspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Or telephone 023 9282 0894.

WHAT'S ON AT THE WISDOM CENTER, ROMSEY

LENTEN QUIET DAY Saturday 22nd March & Friday 5th April 10am-4pm Wisdom Centre £25 to include lunch. See posters for booking details.



LENT: ASH WEDNESDAY is on Wednesday 5th March.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent in the Catholic Church, and many Catholics attend Mass on Ash Wednesday to be marked with ashes as a sign of their own mortality. While all Catholics are encouraged to attend Mass on Ash Wednesday in order to begin the Lenten season with the proper attitude and reflection, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. It is, however, a day of fasting and abstinence.

Mass on Ash Wednesday: 10am SM, 7.30pm SB



PAUSE FOR PRAYER: Tuesday 25th February in the chapel at St Michael's. 10-11am. All are welcome.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: 24th February- 9th March.

Next Sunday, **2nd March**, a selection of Fairtrade goods (tea, coffee, biscuits, jam & sweets) will be on sale after Mass at both churches. Sales of Fairtrade goods help small producers to feed their families AND send the children to school.

CAFOD SOUP LUNCH: Thursday **13th March** at St Bernard's hall. Tickets are £5 and will be on sale after Mass and from our parish shop-Faith, Hope & Charity in Hythe. All proceeds to CAFOD. All are welcome.

CAFOD: Advance notice: **Lent Fast Day Friday 14th March.** *'Tonight, one in eight of us will go to bed hungry. For some, finding food is a daily struggle. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, so they can put food on the table. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. When you get your Fast Day envelope please give as much as you can so that hunger doesn't remain a fact of life.'*

LENT



PAUSE FOR PRAYER: will take place on the 11th, 18th, 25th March & 1st, 8th April.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

during Lent, alternating SB and SM.

Sunday 9 March	3pm	SB
Sunday 16 March	3pm	SM
Sunday 23 March	3pm	SB
Sunday 30 March	3pm	SM
Sunday 6 April	3pm	SB
Sunday 13 April	3pm	SM
Good Friday 18 th April	7pm	SB