

The Messenger

A NEW WAY TO BE GREAT

In Jesus' time women were virtually powerless, excluded from decision-making in both politics and religion and not accepted as credible witnesses. Jesus is always setting women free, free to listen to his teaching, free from taboos, free to be God's children. Jesus encourages and confirms their faith. Women were socially powerless but Jesus called them to the empowerment of faith and confirmed them in their dignity as daughters of God.

The male disciples were a different kettle of "fish". They had all the presumptions of male privilege, power and prestige. They thought in terms of promotion, advancement, and domination. They were ambitious, envious and contentious. Jesus' language of death and resurrection was completely alien to them and they were "afraid to ask" about it. So the disciples end up arguing about who was the greatest. They must have had some sort of awareness that this wasn't a discussion Jesus would have encouraged because they kept silent when questioned, clearly out of embarrassment.

In response Jesus turns all their worldly ambitions upside down. If they want to be first they should become last. If they want to be great they must be servant to all. Then we have the visual aid. The child is the symbol of powerlessness, helplessness and unimportance. Jesus identifies with the child and with all the poor and powerless. But he goes even further – to accept such as these is to welcome the very presence of God.

It is this presence of God with the "little ones" that is the basis of all Christian community. They are not to call themselves teachers or instructors because they are all disciples and there is only one teacher – the Christ. They are to call no one on earth "Father" because they have only one Father – God in heaven. Both hierarchy and democracy are alien political concepts. The community is one where all the sisters and brothers share an equal dignity as children of God. All have different gifts from the one Spirit but none is able to claim more importance than another. All are one person in Christ and worldly distinctions have no meaning.

As a Christian community we must constantly struggle against the mentality of the world that so easily influences us. We must seek the way of the peacemaker, the way of gentleness and patience (even if this is abused cfr 1st reading). We must not allow people, motivated more by a need for power and control, to abuse us and force us to bolster their own egos. We should challenge the abuse of power in society and in the church. Similarly we must resist the blindness of the "herd" mentality, the group think, which is not thinking at all but only a solidarity in greed, fear and violence. Only the Spirit of God, accepted and listened to in prayer, can help us follow Jesus' way. (DMA)

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

23rd September 2012

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Yr B (Psalter Wk.1)

Sun 23 rd	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon 24 th	Episcopal Ordination of Mgr Philip Egan
Tues 25 th	10.00am SM Mass & Morning Prayer (Liturgy: - 25th Week of Ordinary Time)
Wed 26 th	10.00am Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: - 25th Week of Ordinary Time)
Thurs 27 th	10.00am Mass at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Memorial, St Vincent de Paul)
Fri 28 th	No Service (Liturgy: - 25th Week of Ordinary Time)
Sat 29 th	10.00am Mass then Reconciliation until 11.00am (Liturgy: Feast, Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael)
Sun 30 th	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels (Baptism during Mass - baby Thomas Macklin) 3.00pm - Baptism at St Bernard's (baby Leon Miller) 6.00pm Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Bishop Crispian (Happy Retirement), Bishop elect Philip Egan, For all those starting University, William Farrelly RIP, Anthea Hayward RIP Anniv, Sarah Mitchell RIP Anniv.

For the week beginning 30th Sept: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Bishop Crispian (Happy Retirement), Bishop Philip Egan, Urban Paul RIP Anniv, Fred Warrilow RIP Anniv

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastoral Team: Rev David Adams (Parish Priest)
Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon & Chair Parish Pastoral Council) (023 8020 7449)
Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)

All correspondence to: The Parish Office, Angel House,
6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR
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New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Geo House (Ashurst) - Sun 9am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am, (Holy Day Vigil 7pm)

New Forest Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: Lymington and New Milton at 6pm
Sunday: Milford on Sea at 9.00am, New Milton at 11.30am,
Lymington at 10:30am, Brockenhurst at 6.00pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Amanda Bowden, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Helga Butler, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, George Hutcheson, John & Lena Keane, Judith Morrison, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Pauline Sharpley, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

PRAYER POTTERY: the next meeting will be on Tuesday, 25th September at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. The prayer time is led by Christine Olden and comprises of music, quiet time & readings. All are welcome

OBLIGATORY COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL: this will be taken next weekend on Sunday, 30th September.

WATERSIDE FINANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 26th September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Angel House.

WATERSIDE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 27th September at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Angel House.

MGR PHILIP EGAN - BISHOP ELECT OF PORTSMOUTH. Mgr Philip's ordination to the Episcopate will take place on Monday, 24th September at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

WATERSIDE FOODBANK - Harvest Festival Time: There has been a 25% increase demand for Emergency Foodboxes since April 2012. A foodbox for a family of four weighs in at approximately 22kg and demand is an average of 100 people per month. Waterside Foodbank is a community based project, totally reliant on the community for donations of food and Harvest Festival is the time we rely on to boost the food stocks for the coming year.

Food List: Milk (UHT 500ml or 1 litre), Powdered Milk, Coffee (50g or 100g) Tomatoes (nned), Sugar (500g or 1kg), Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Rice pudding (nned), Biscuits, Instant mashed potato, Cereals, Carrots/Peas/Sweetcorn (nned), Fruit (nned), Soup (nned), Beans (nned)

AUTUMN RETREAT AT GEO HOUSE The Steps of Humility—how trust in God and twelve step spirituality can begin to transform your life. Fr Peter Burrows and Fr Rob Morland join us with much experience in retreats and group therapy. **5th-7th October 2012** Book now on reception@geohouse.org.uk or 023 8029 2337.

ADVENT RETREAT (at Geo House, St Joseph's, Ashurst). We are very fortunate to have Fr James McCafferey OCD to lead our Advent Retreat. 7th– 9th December 2012 Theme: 'Prayer in the Gospels and prayer in our everyday lives' Book now on reception@geohouse.org.uk or 023 8029 2337

CAFOD - GREAT SOUTH RUN: - entrants need to register now for this event. See poster in church porch for details.

THE YEAR OF FAITH: (Oct 2012 - Nov 2013). This was announced by Pope Benedict last year. It is an invitation to every Catholic to re-discover the riches of their faith. "The Year of Faith will have to see a concerted effort to rediscover and study the fundamental content of the faith"; "if we interpret it (the 2nd Vatican Council) guided by a right hermeneutic, it can be and can become increasingly powerful for the ever necessary renewal of the Church"; "In order to arrive at a systematic knowledge of the content of the faith, all can find in the Catechism of the Catholic Church a precious and indispensable tool" (Extracts from Porta Fidei). Materials and national events are being prepared by the Bishops of England and Wales. Our own Diocese is preparing a booklet to guide us through the year and offer suggestions as to how we might respond. **See also the Geo House / St Joseph's, Ashurst programme which has a number of "faith days" planned. Details are on the noticeboard.**

EXPLORE YOUR FAITH:

At Geo House (St Joseph's, Ashurst) **on the first Saturday of each month from September 2012 onwards**—inspired by the naming of 2013 as the 'Year of Faith' by the Holy Father Pope Benedict, we will be launching our 'Explore your faith days. **Starting at 10am with Mass the day includes prayer, music, talks and sharing. Bring a packed lunch. Refreshments available.**

October 6th David Matthews— former free church pastor
November 3rd Alice Hall—Sion Community
December 1st Geoff & Gina Poulter—Catholic Bible School

EVENING OF JAZZ, the NINTH Waterside

Catholic Parish, will take place on Saturday evening 27th October next, from 7.30 p.m.

Tickets are as last years price of **£6.00 ea.**

(Michael's wife, Valerie, has made a very good job of printing them!)

Bring a plate of food to share. NO bar be-

cause from experience this complicate things . Bring your own liquid refreshments on the night. **PLEASE PLEASE.** Something for Raffle prizes. This seems at times as hard as selling tickets. This could be Mike's last Jazz evening, (we hope not!)



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

