

# The Messenger

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

**23<sup>rd</sup> October 2011**

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time - Divine Office: Week 2**

|       |                  |  |
|-------|------------------|--|
| Sun   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 9.00am Mass at St Bernards<br>11.00am Mass at St Michaels  |
| Mon   | 24 <sup>th</sup> | No Service (Liturgy: of the Day - 30th Week; or optnl Memorial - St Anthony Claret, Founder, Bishop, 1807-1870)                        |
| Tues  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass<br>(Liturgy: of the Day - 30th Week)  |
| Wed   | 26 <sup>th</sup> | 7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass<br>(Liturgy: of the Day - 30th Week; or optnl Memorial - Ss Chad & Cedd, Bishops, d. 672 & 664)        |
| Thurs | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am LT Mass (Liturgy: of the Day - 30th Week)  |
| Fri   | 28 <sup>th</sup> | No Service (Liturgy: Feast, Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles)   |
| Sat   | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am SM Mass followed by<br>Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.30am<br>(Liturgy: of the Day - 30th Week, or Our Lady on Saturday) |
| Sun   | 30 <sup>th</sup> | <b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b><br>9.00am Mass at St Bernards<br>11.00am Mass at St Michaels                            |

**Mass Intentions: For this week:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Jessica Ward (Health & Peace), For all those who help to clean the altar linen & the churches & hall, Patrick Capon RIP

**For the week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> October:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Joyce Grimes RIP Anniv, Dot Manghan RIP Anniv

## 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

## 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)

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## THERE IS ONLY ONE LOVE

The Pharisees (literally "separated ones") were a group that began with the hasidim (God's loyal ones) in the 2nd century before Jesus. They concentrated on control of religious rather than political affairs. Their supreme concern and delight was to keep the law, including the traditions of the elders (Torah) in every exact detail. Most scribes belonged to the Pharisee group. They were model Jews by their own standards. They tended to keep themselves apart from others whom they considered either unclean or sinful in some way. While there were exceptions (e.g. Nicodemus) they were generally arrogant, judgemental and disdainful of others. This arrogance, combined with a dry legalism which put exact ritual observance before love and mercy led them into conflict with Jesus.

It is not clear why they thought the question "Which is the greatest commandment of the Law?" could cause potential embarrassment for Jesus. Perhaps there is a clue in Jesus' answer. Jesus did not give them the answer they wanted because he mentions two commandments: Love God and love your neighbour as yourself. So perhaps we can infer that the Pharisees wanted to drive a wedge between these two commandments & to show that Jesus, by loving people as he did, was somehow infringing the first and greatest commandment.

The greatest temptation of religious people of any time or place is to hate others for the love of God. We can so easily delude ourselves into thinking that our own fears, greed, & hatreds can be justified by appealing to religious duty. Very conveniently, and probably for the most part unconsciously, we excuse ourselves and blame God: "Well don't blame me for trying to kill you, I am only obeying God's commandment. It is a holy duty! I have got to do it!" The cross of Jesus directly addressed this sin of the world. God is always with the victim, always on both sides of any divide.

Jesus' teaching was not dramatically new as our extract from Exodus indicates. However the fundamental shift is that for Exodus "neighbour" meant primarily anyone of your own race - foreigners & pagans were not included. Jesus universalises this commandment & brings it, from a relatively obscure position, to be the second greatest commandment. He then says that all the writings of the law (1st five books of the Hebrew bible) and the prophets hang or rest upon these two. This is an antidote to fundamentalism and legalism because everything has to be referred back to love, love is the greatest law.

God accepts and loves us, so we can love ourselves and others in the same way. Of course there is a deeper truth here. There is a deep unity of all things in God. When you love your neighbour you are, in fact, loving your greater Self. This unity is based first of all at the level of being: All things came into being through him (i.e the Word) John 1:3; in him all things hold together Colossians 1:17. It is finally at the level of love - God's embrace of love for everything & everyone (DMA).

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Marion Butler, Bill Duncan, Bishop Crispian, Petra Daniels, Mavis, Mervyn Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens, & Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**PRAYER POTTERY:** This will take place on Tuesday, 25th Oct at 11.00am after the morning Mass. It is a time of quiet prayer with spiritual music & readings led by Christine Olden. Everyone is welcome.

**MIX-UP OVER SECOND COLLECTIONS:** This is due to an error on my part & also because the planned giving envelopes are out of step with Diocesan instructions. **The solution:** This Sunday, Oct 23rd, will be the Bamenda collection; Sunday November 6th will be the APF Mission collection. APF Missio envelopes are available at the back of the churches. These are both obligatory collections.

The next **Finance Committee Meeting** is on Thursday, 27th October at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.

**SPECIAL THANKS:** to one of our parishioners who wishes to remain anonymous for donating £150 to the parish to help reduce our parish debt.

**MASS COUNT:** During October we will take a Mass count at all Sunday Masses for the national Catholic statistics.

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S MASSES:** the next dates for young peoples Masses at St Bernard's are: 6 Nov, 4 Dec.

**PARENTS:** If your children sometimes attend Children's Liturgy and/or the Young People's Masses (including the older children who help), please complete a yellow parent consent form (at the back of St B's) and pass it to Clare Davies or Fr David, or drop it off at the Parish office. This is part of the diocese's requirements for safeguarding your children, and will also let us stay in touch and better support your family. Thanks for your help.

## SHORTAGE OF PRIESTS & CHANGES THAT WILL AFFECT OUR PARISH:

Some of you will know that the parish priest of New Milton, Fr Gerrit Vervenne, has now retired. The Diocese is unable to provide a replacement, and the Bishop has accepted Fr Danny McAvoy's offer to serve Lymington, New Milton, Milford-on-Sea & Brockenhurst. However he will need help to do this. Our Vicar General, Fr Vincent Harvey, has asked Fr David Adams & Fr Richard Sakson (chaplain to the Dominican Sisters at Sway) to assist Fr Danny on a permanent basis. St Anne's, Brockenhurst will lose their Sunday morning Mass and will only be able to have one Sunday Mass at a time when a priest is available. Therefore Fr David Adams has been asked to provide a Sunday evening Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst, one Mass on holydays and one weekday Mass at Brockenhurst. The weekday Mass at St Anne's will take place on Wednesday mornings at 10am. This will take effect from 1st November 2011, unless the Diocese decides at the last minute to make alternative arrangements.

**Therefore from 1st November there will no longer be a Wednesday evening Mass at St Michaels.** This will not have a major effect on the parish as this Mass has not been well attended. Brockenhurst will remain part of Lymington parish and part of the New Forest Pastoral Area. Our Pastoral Area, New Forest East, will remain the same, consisting of Lyndhurst, Ashurst (now Geo House), & Totton & the Waterside.

**THANKYOU ON BEHALF OF CAFOD:** the CAFOD Harvest Fast Collection raised in total **£814.54**. Well done! That was a very generous effort from everyone.

**CAFOD Campaign on Climate Change Related Poverty:** Over eight million people are facing acute food and water shortages caused by drought and more than five million affected by serious floods, all of which are caused or exacerbated by climate change. CAFOD is campaigning to help the worlds poorest people who are bearing the heaviest burden. Please sign a card to George Osborne on 23 October (you will find in the bench) and post. No stamp needed. Cards with details of the campaign are in the porch.

**SPONSORSHIP REQUEST:** One of our youngest parishioners is doing the 'Mini' Great South Run for **CAFOD!** Please find out more and support him: sponsor forms at the back of both churches.

**GEO HOUSE (ASHURST):** is offering an Autumnal weekend of refreshment, relaxation & reflection 18th-20th November. See the poster for full information for this & other events.

**Ecumenical Service for "One World Week"** at Cornerstone, Hythe URC on Sunday, 30th October 2011 at 6.30pm. The theme is the need for water.

**ADVENT COURSE AT ASHURST (NOW GEO HOUSE):** This course will focus around the new CaFE resource "**Saints - Helping us today**". The course will be on Thursdays at 7.30pm: 10th Nov; 17th Nov; 24th Nov; 1st Dec; 8th Dec; 15th Dec. The series of presentations covers Therese of the Child Jesus & Holy Face, Benedict, Francis of Assisi, Patrick, Ignatius of Loyola & Catherine of Sienna. Just turn up on the night.

**OUR PARISH SHOP - FAITH HOPE & CHARITY** (just by the side of Waitrose) needs **second hand Autumn & Winter clothes** urgently. They also have a great selection of **Christmas cards** available.

**QUIZ NIGHT: THANKS TO** - the Martha group & Steve Bowler, everyone who donated prizes & everyone who attended. It was a great evening & raised £284.50p for parish funds.

**AUTUMN JAZZ:** with The New Cavalier Jazzmen (including our own Mike Slipper) on **Saturday, 5th November from 7.30pm.** Venue: **St Bernard's Hall.** Raffle & American Supper (Bring your own refreshments & a plate of food to share. People requiring special diets must bring their own). Tickets are £7.00 each. Tickets are available from Faith Hope & Charity Shop, Hythe & from St Bernard's & St Michaels Churches.



**DIOCESAN EVENTS COMING UP: "Stay Awake":** A day of prayer for Advent. Sat 26th Nov 9.30am- 4.00pm. A variety of workshops on Advent themes will be offered. Come for all or part of the day. No charge. Please bring a packed lunch. Led by DPF. St. Stephen's Church & St. Peter's School, Olivers Battery Road North, Winchester. SO22 4JB. For a booking form visit <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/forms/stayawake>

**Stop! Get Ready! Go!** 'You must come away to a lonely place all by yourselves and rest a while'. Our third annual conference will be structured around the theme of prayer. It is a great opportunity for people in the diocese to gather together for practical sessions, input, prayer, reflection and liturgy. Fri 3rd - Sun 5th Feb 2012 Led by Department for Pastoral Formation DPF Venue: Hallmark Hotel, Durley Chine Road, Bourne-mouth, Dorset BH2 5JS. More details on the Diocesan website.