

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

Deacon Rev Ian Tobin Tel: 02380 897354

All correspondence to Parish Administrator, Linda Guilding, Parish
Office, Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe, Hants SO45 5GR
Tel: 02380 843479

E-mail: watersidecp@btinternet.com
Website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

CHRISTMAS DAY 25th December 2014

Year B, Weekdays Year 1

9.00am Mass SB

11.00am Mass SM

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 Andrew Philpott (Totton)

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 and 6.30pm
(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

The Birth of Light in a world born of Light

Do we see Jesus as a bright star falling down to a dark, alienated world? Or do we see Jesus as a bright light in a world born from the same light? The prologue of John's Gospel helps us see that the world owes its existence to the Word (the Mind, Plan, Blueprint) of God. This Word of God gives being and light to all (John 1:3-4).

So Jesus is not one who reveals to us that we are all darkness, but rather one who reveals to us that we are created "very good" (Genesis 1:31) by God who "is love" (1 John). The only place there is darkness is where the light has not yet shone, "but everything exposed by the light becomes visible – and everything that is illuminated becomes light" (Ephesians 5:13).

The experience of Jesus for those who got to know him was that he was an astonishing human being who revealed the deep potential of humanity for goodness, compassion and love transcending every barrier of convention, status, race or circumstance. But more than this, those who got to know Jesus experienced through him a connection with the Divine. They experienced his union with God his "Abba, Father" and the power of God's grace working through him. They experienced his gift of self in love, "no greater lovethan to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). They came to believe that this was nothing less than the expression of God's own love for the whole of humanity. Jesus was wholly given and gave himself wholly to the service of this love. Ultimately he came as a gift from God and he returned to the Source, the Father from whom he came, (John 20:17).

He came to bring the light which reveals that we, too, are all sons and daughters of God. The Divine spark, the Spirit, is with us all drawing us towards the light. The more we live by this truth the more we come into the light, (John 3:21). Our darkness is the separation, the alienation, the fragmentation of our lives that does not know its true origin in the Word, the Mind, the Plan or Blueprint of God.

We can look at ourselves, and indeed anything created thing, and say this is God in the finite form of me, in the form of the least of my brothers or sisters, (Matt 25:40), in the form of this dog, in the form of this tree. God is the whole of me but I am not the whole of God. So we can look at Jesus and say this is God in the form of Jesus. The one crucial difference is that we can also say by faith: this Jesus is in the "form of God", (Philippians 2:6). By God's gift we are already God in form of us, by God's gift & grace we are also called, in Christ, to be human beings in the form of God. "And we all, who contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit", (2 Corinthians 3:18). (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Maureen Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Alice Bramhill, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Petra Daniels, Baby Elijah, Derek Faiers, Derek Francis, Mervyn Francis, David & Joan Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Reg Hills, Chrissy James, Trudy King, Doreen Holman, John & Lena Keane, Michael Kirwan, Betty Marek, Sarah Marshall, Sarah Mc Cann, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Karen O'Donovan, Julie Poole, Sharon Poole, Norma Rudd, Cath Smith, Susan Soutter, Marion Teague, Emmie Walker, George Watson, Brian Weston.

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.

→ **NO MASS FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY** ←



LOOKING OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER Do you know the people who sit next to you each week at Mass? If not, why not introduce yourself?

Have you noticed that someone who usually sits near you at Mass hasn't been there for a while? If so, please alert Deacons Steve and he will follow it up. We had a situation recently of someone who was ill and hadn't been to Mass for several weeks. They were desperate for a visit, but no one knew they were ill. We need to look out for one another.



CHRISTMAS DAY the central white Christ Candle is lit. The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the sinless, spotless Lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death; his death was for our birth! The Christ Candle in the centre reminds us that Jesus Christ should always be in the centre of our lives!



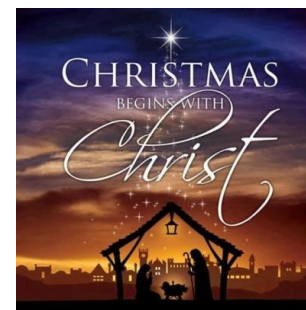
PARISH OFFICE: will be closed on 25th & 30th December & 1st January.

The office will be open again: Tuesday 6th January



JANUARY 1st : Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The first day of the year is the day the Church sets aside for honouring Mary. Mary represents true discipleship. Mary exhibits a life of hearing, seeing, and telling of God's marvellous deeds. Mary inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events in our own lives. Do we journey through life oblivious to the world around us, or do we resolve to make some kind of impact? Maybe instead of making new year resolutions to lose weight or make more money, we should resolve this year to be more like Mary.



Reflecting With Pope Francis

"Let us make ourselves ready to celebrate Christmas by contemplating Mary and Joseph: Mary, the woman full of grace who had the courage to entrust herself totally to the Word of God; Joseph, the faithful and just man who chose to believe the Lord rather than listen to the voices of doubt and human pride. With them, let us walk together toward Bethlehem."

ST STEPHEN'S DAY Boxing Day 26th December

One theory of the origins of Boxing Day comes from the tradition of opening the alms boxes placed in churches over the Christmas season. The contents thereof which were distributed amongst the poor, by the clergy, the day after Christmas. What a great extension of the Christmas holiday spirit. You might consider making this holiday a tradition in your family. No matter where you live the simple principle of giving to others less fortunate than yourself can be put into practice.



WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1st JANUARY

On January 1, 2015, Pope Francis commemorates the World Day of Peace with the theme "Slaves no more, but brothers and sisters." In alignment with this message for the new year, we invite you to answer Pope Francis' call to build a civilization based on the equal dignity of every person and join our efforts to eliminate the scourge of human trafficking by making a personal commitment in 2015 to resolve to fight human trafficking.

Dates for your Diary:-

Peace Sunday:- 18th January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th January-25th January
February 8th International Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

DIARY 2015 FOR THE YEAR OF MARK Fr Denis McBride has written a series of reflections for Redemptorist Publications Diary 2015 for the Year of Mark. The new Diary for 2015 is in full colour and beautifully illustrated with works of art. The value of this diary is found in the introduction and the twelve reflections Fr Denis has written on Mark's Gospel alongside a quote and a prayer for each month. Two double-page spreads per month ensure that there is sufficient space to record all of your engagements; it also lists the major Catholic liturgical feasts. Available online at www.rpbooks.co.uk/products/47_48/1527/seasonal/diaries-and-calendars £3.50 ISBN: 9780852314203

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Closed: Lunchtime Christmas Eve until Monday 5th January.

