

## WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Registered Charity No 246871

*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*

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

**Deacon Rev Ian Tobin** Tel: 02380 897354

**Safeguarding Representatives:** Helen Kitson & Polly Read

**All correspondence to Parish Administrator,**

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

E-mail: waterside@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: watersidecatholics.org.uk

**24th - 31st December 2016**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: MASS TIMES**

**Christmas Eve**

**SB's 3pm** : Carol service with our children

**SM's 8pm** Carols and Readings followed by **Mass 8.30pm** -

**Christmas Day**

**9.00am**

**Mass SB**

**11.00am**

**Mass SM**

**Anniversaries this week** John Adams (24th), Marion  
Teague (24th), John Green (25th), Pat Davies (25th), George  
Watson (27th)

**Remembering those who have died recently** Jenny Pusey,  
Margaret Scott

**Mass intentions:** (SB's 9am Christmas Day) Maureen  
Mullen RIP from Hopkins and Thompson families.  
(SM's 11am Christmas day) Michael & Ernie Ball from Marie Ball.

**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 Stephen Short** (Lyndhurst)

**Saturday Vigil Mass** 6pm Totton

**Sunday Mass** 9am Lyndhurst

10.30am Totton

**LYMINGTON, BROCKENHURST, MILFORD ON SEA**

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

Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph-High Street, Lymington,  
St Anne-Rhinefield Road, Brockenhurst  
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 George Ngwa:** Tel: 01425 614968

Our Lady of Lourdes-Mount Avenue, New Milton

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 6pm

**Sunday Mass** 10am

**THE DEANERY** is made up from the pastoral areas of New Forest,  
Avon Stour, & Bournemouth **Dean: Fr Tom Grufferty**

## CHRISTMAS: A STORY OF DIVINE LOVE

First of all, I'd like to wish a very happy and holy Christmas time to all our parishioners, their family members and relatives and all visitors to our parish during this holiday season.

Secondly, thank you all for your kind wishes, prayers, blessings, cards and generous gifts. They are all very much appreciated. And thank you all for your support during the past year.

**The Gospel Stories:** It is inevitable that as the majority of people become more & more disconnected from the Christian faith the Gospel stories of the human and Divine origins of Jesus will be increasingly misunderstood and trivialised. These narratives are not biographical recollections as we would write them today. They are not sweet, little fairy tales. They are rich, carefully crafted, and challenging theological statements that draw on deep connections within the Jewish religious tradition, especially of course the Bible. They were also written within and with reference to particular communities & their needs at the time.

**Valuing Kindness:** Jesus is God's act of undeserved kindness towards humanity. Christmas is therefore a time when we give special attention to kindness and consideration. Though, of course, it must be our first priority every day of the year. In some quarters, strange as it may seem, there is a suspicion of and resentment about kindness. These attitudes probably have their roots in a fear of vulnerability and dependence on others. If we have made up our minds to "take care of number one and to blaze with everyone else" any gratuitous act of kindness is a direct challenge. It reminds us that there is an alternative way of living. Season your day with random acts of gracious kindness and many "thank yous". You'll be introducing something of the "kingdom of heaven". Just don't expect 100% appreciation all the time.

**A Lesson in Acceptance:** We have all been inconvenienced in some way by the winter weather. It's a salutary reminder that we are not in control. Our relationship with God will never develop properly unless we can be honest with ourselves and fully accepting of reality. This not about giving up hope. It is about replacing naïve optimism with responsibility and accepting one's potential as much as one's limitations. God becomes a baby and so every baby becomes divine. God can put us at the centre and delight in every potential we have. We can rejoice in this and return the gift with thanksgiving. But it doesn't work when we try to make ourselves the centre in competition with every one else and excluding God. On our own we are disconnected from the Source. In Jesus & by following his way we are reunited. (DMA



**CHRISTMAS EVE/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!

**For Sacrament of the sick or Holy Communion to the sick or housebound: contact parish office**

**Please keep in your prayers:** Violetta Baddour, David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Bruno Chrzanowski, Fr Vincent Convery, Kathryn Cox, Denny Croll, Avril Daniels, Elizabeth Dawtry, Baby Finlay Drozd, Baby Elijah, Keith Ellison, Derek Faiers, Mervyn Francis, Dennis Freemantle, David Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Mike Hedges, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Doreen Holman, Joan Hopper, Chrissy James, Kath Ketley, Peggy Kirwan, Betty Marek, Susan Marlow, Sarah Marshall, Pauline Moore, Niamh Mulherne, Tony O'Connell, Anne O Connor, Michelle Ripley, Joan Smith, Emmie Walker, Brian Weston, Maureen Weyman. Mary & Lawrie Witchell, Bridget Wyatt



"Deacon Hilary has not forgotten his former parish and sends everyone, those who remember him and those who have never known him, the festive wish that on Christmas night the angels will bring each and every one of you a crib full of blessings to last your throughout 2017." (Deacon Hilary Parsons)



**PARISH OFFICE:** will be closed on **Thursday 29th December**. The office will be open again: **Tuesday 3rd January**  
I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas. (Linda)



**BOXING DAY 26TH DECEMBER** There seems to be two theories on the origin of Boxing Day and why it is celebrated. The first is that centuries ago, on the day after Christmas, members of the merchant class would give boxes containing food and fruit, clothing, or money to trades people and servants. The second thought is that 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.



**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY 30TH DECEMBER**

**Family Values** The birth of Christ took place in circumstances of poverty, without many of the comforts we would consider basic, and yet we know that this was a family that shared every value that counts for anything. It doesn't matter whether we are single parents, aunts, uncles, foster parents or grandparents, we look to the Holy Family and follow their example in making our own homes places of peace and happiness, places where true values flourish.



**NEW UPDATE ON FR VINCENT** He has been moved to:

Sisters of Our Lady of Pity,  
St John's Convent,  
Linden Hill Lane,  
Kiln Green,  
Reading, Berkshire RG10 9XP

Glenside hospital assures me that all Christmas cards which have been sent to Fr V at the hospital will be forwarded on.



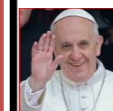
**MARGARET AND KEITH ROBERTS** would like to thank parishioners for their good wishes and basket of flowers on the occasion of their Diamond wedding Anniversary last week.



**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA** -to those who volunteered. I have emailed Deacon Roger for an update and he assures me that the project is still going ahead, and that he'll be in touch in the new year. Caroline Virgo is no longer involved, she has a new job, working for the Church of England on a modern slavery project. We wish her well with her new appointment.



There are Christmas cards in the porch. Please check before you leave as there may be one for you!



**The pope tweets @Pontifex**

*Our joy comes from the confidence we have that the Lord is close to us with his tenderness, mercy, forgiveness and love.*



Land-



**THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING:** As usual the collection at Christmas time is a voluntary contribution towards your parish priest's annual income. Your generosity in difficult financial circumstances is greatly appreciated.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

- + St Stephen (26th) and all those named after him.
- + All those who serve at Mass.
- + Fr Abraham - may he have a restful holiday and retreat.
- + Fr Vincent- that his condition may continue to improve
- + For the people of Berlin and all those suffering at the hands of terrorists.



to Father Paul, our Deacons Steve & Ian, to Tony, Peter and Wayne who prepare for and serve at Mass, to Readers, Ministers of Communion both at Mass and who take communion to the sick and housebound, to our Parish Pastoral Council, to Irene & the Choir at St Michael's, to Gosia & Angela & those who prepare and play the music at

St Bernard's, our Children's Liturgy Catechists, the Welcomers, flower arrangers, the collectors and those who count & bank the collections, APF Mission collectors, CAFOD representatives, all those who work at Faith, Hope & Charity, those who serve coffee every week after Mass at St Bernard's, Terry & Theresa who take food donations to the Foodbank, to those who clean the churches, those who clean the Altar linen, those who maintain the garden at SM's & SB's, those who have helped with our Christmas Fayre, those who have put out our cribs and decorated our trees for Christmas, the Pause for Prayer group and all those who pray for others & Linda in the office. And last, and by no means least, all of you for keeping our Parish community together. God blesses you for all you do .. (Fr David)



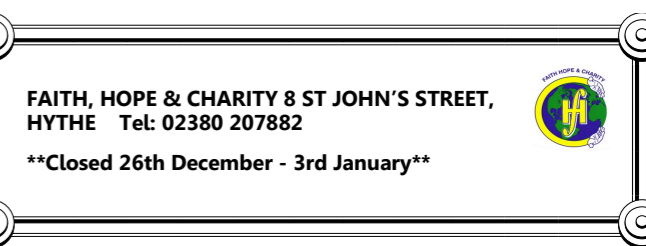
**THE CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES** will be my last Masses at Waterside as your Parish Priest. It has been a privilege to know all of you. Thank you for your friendship and support over the last 8 years. May I express my deepest thanks to Fr Vincent, Fr Paul, Fr Edwin and Fr Peter (our retired priests from Lymington), Deacons Steve and Ian and Linda in the

office for all you have done to keep the parish together. I have really appreciated your help.

The last three and a bit years have been a difficult time for all of us, but the Lord has answered your prayers and you are blessed to have a resident priest once again. I'm sure you will give Fr Abraham a friendly welcome when he arrives in February.

In the meantime have a wonderful, peaceful and Holy Christmas and Happy New Year and may the Lord continue to bless you. ( Fr David.)

**HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**



**FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY 8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE Tel: 02380 207882**

**\*\*Closed 26th December - 3rd January\*\***