

The Messenger

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

26th February 2012

1st Sunday of Lent - Divine Office: Wk 1

Sun 26 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm - St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon 27 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the 1st Week of Lent)
Tues 28 th	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the 1st Week of Lent)
Wed 29 th	10.00am - St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: of the 1st Week of Lent)
Thurs 1 st	10.00am - Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Feast, St David, Religious, Bishop, c500-589)
Fri 2 nd	No Service (Liturgy: of the 1st Week of Lent)
Sat 3 rd	10.00am SM Mass followed by Reconciliation until 11.00am (Liturgy: of the 1st Week of Lent)
Sun 4 th	2nd Sunday of Lent 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm - 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 (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, All involved in Women's World Day of Prayer, John Gawthorne RIP Anniv, Dorothy Horner RIP Anniv F/M, William & Sadie Munro RIP Anniv, Norbert Power RIP Anniv, William Roberts RIP Anniv, Neil Tanner RIP

For the week beginning 26th February: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Deceased Clergy of the Province, Bishop Crispian (Health), Guidance for choice of new Bishop, Alice Manghan 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,
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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 8:30am, New Milton at 10am,
Lymington at 11:30am, Brockenhurst at 6pm

Wild Beasts and Angels

Immediately after Jesus hears the words from heaven: "You are my son, the beloved, with you I am well pleased", he is driven by the Spirit into the wilderness. This will be a time of testing, of focusing and new strength.

This experience of Jesus symbolically connects with the calling of the Israelite people and their journey into the desert towards the Promised Land. It also links with the spiritual advice of Scripture: My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for testing (Sirach 2:1).

The Spirit drives Jesus out because it is imperative that he recognises, confronts and disarms the diabolical (i.e. tearing apart) forces. Jesus, if he is to be the servant and son of the Father cannot be a slave to any other need or power.

This is true also for us. If we are to do God's work we have to be free spiritually. We have to grow in harmony with God's will and be ready to commit ourselves wholeheartedly.

How do we find out what is really driving us, what our dependencies are and whose agenda we're following? We have to be shoved out into the desert. There has to be some experience, voluntary or involuntary, that unmasks the wild beasts. We've all seen the adverts for products that help us give up smoking. The craving is often depicted as an angry, demanding fantasy creature which has to be defeated. Without restraint a desire can become a demon, an uncontrollable desire is a wild beast. Getting away from business as usual, giving up our little indulgences and comforts, not giving in to our bad habits - this is what unmasks the beast. It reveals the strength of the enemy. Identifying and getting the measure of the strength of the enemy is a necessary strategy for ultimate victory. Victory is not the elimination of desire but the refocusing of desire on what is life-giving.

We need to think and experience for ourselves what are our own wild beasts. They could be: a need for praise, recognition, status, control, power, moral superiority, comfort; they could be bitterness and resentments that we haven't let go, hurts that haven't been healed, or fears that are paralysing our lives and relationships

Unmasking the wild beasts reveals the truth, it lets the light in. It enables us to experience the help of the angels. The powers of our soul - the desires for life, love and happiness, agitated by our fears and insecurities and led by ignorance into futile searching, are re-focussed on the love of God which enfolds all.

The Spirit helps us on the way to wholeness and freedom. We begin to recover that harmony with God, with ourselves and with all of creation that we sense we have lost. The desert experience is not something that we do just once. Usually we are brought back again and again as the different layers of the ego are purified and re-aligned. But when we confront the wild beasts and accept the ministry of the angels, when we have been through our time of testing, then we have some good news to share. Then we can begin to speak with some authority and have something positive to offer. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Molly Booth, Russell Bowlds, Philomena Breen, Marion Butler, Bishop Crispian, Petra Daniels, Derek Faiers, Magdalen Forshaw, Mervyn Francis, Terry Francis, Amanda Gudge, Sarah Hedges, Sally Herbert, Doreen Holman, Ken Hemmings, George Hutcheson, Lena Keane, Patrick Martin. Gillian Plummer, Norma Rudd, Lilly Ricketts, Jason Singleton, Ronald Stevens, Ann Wilton, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

PRAYER POTTERY: The next prayer meeting will be on this Tuesday, 28th February at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. It will be led by Christine Olden & all are welcome.

ST MICHAEL'S CHOIR: The choir are about to start learning new Mass settings for Lent and Easter as a result of the introduction of the new translation of the Roman Missal. New members are urgently required. You do not need to be able to read music, just to enjoy a good sing with friends in a relaxed atmosphere. Rehearsals and attendance at services is very flexible. Please contact Father David or Irene O'Connell

FOR CHURCH READERS: Refresher session to be led by Rev Kevin O'Brien, Parish Priest of Totton on **Saturday, 3rd March 2012, 10am-12.30pm**, finishing with soup lunch. **Venue: Geo House (St Joseph's Ashurst)**. Just come along on the day.

FOR MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: Refresher session led by Rev David Adams, on Saturday, 17th March 2012, 10am-1pm, finishing with soup lunch. Venue: Geo House (St Joseph's, Ashurst).

LENTEN DEVOTIONS & SERVICES

Friday, 2nd March, 2pm - Womens World Day of Prayer at St John's, Hythe, all welcome; **Stations of the Cross** on Friday, 9th March at 3pm in St Michael's; on Friday, 16th March at 7.30pm at St Bernard's, on Friday, 23rd March at 3pm at St Michael's, on Friday, 30th March at 7.30pm at St Bernard's.

Reconciliation Services:

Monday, 2nd April at 7.00pm in St Theresa's, Totton;
Tuesday, 3rd April at 7.00pm in St Michael's, Hythe
Details of Holy Week to follow.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S EVENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER:

- Throughout Lent at the 9am Mass, our Children's Liturgy will have a special theme to prepare us week-by-week for Easter. We hope to see the children coming as much as possible, to make the most of this special season.
- After the 9am Mass on Sunday 11th March, our young people will raise money for CAFOD (see CAFOD section): please stay behind and support their initiative.
- The next two Young People's Masses at the 9am will be on 4th March and then on Easter Sunday, 8th April (note: NOT on Palm Sunday). We hope that the children will once again act out the Gospel reading of the empty tomb, having rehearsed after Mass on 1st April.
- On Good Friday afternoon we will run a special children's service, in the meeting room at St Michael's, at the same time as the adult service in St M's church. This should help all of our families to join us on this most holy day.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2 MARCH: GIVE IT UP DURING LENT FOR CLEAN WATER

This Lent CAFOD invites us to help people living without one of God's most precious resources - clean water. A child dies every 20 seconds because of diarrhoea caused by dirty water. **For this Lent only, the UK Government will match pound for pound every donation given to CAFOD**, giving us the chance to help thousands more people to gain access to clean water and other vital services.

4 March: Collection at Mass. Pyramids and boxes available for "Give it Up" collection all through Lent

8 March: Soup Lunch at St Bernard's Hall: 12.30 pm (Tickets from 19 February)

11 March: Sale of Fair Trade goods outside both Churches after Masses. (Fairtrade Fortnight)

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH: Along with the Fair Trade stall on **March 11th**, our younger parishioners at St Bernard's will be raising extra money for CAFOD after Mass. Get your shoes and car cleaned, buy a tempting cake, and win a prize by guessing the baby photos!

18 March: Clean Water Campaign: Thirst for Change. Please sign cards for delivery to Prime Minister to encourage him to keep water and sanitation high on the international agenda.

22 March: Coffee Morning and raffle at 46 Kings Ride, Langley SO45 1ZN at 10.30am.



WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

'Let Justice Prevail' Prepared by the Christian women of Malaysia **2 pm Friday 2nd March, St John's Church, Hythe**. The speaker will be Rev Eileen Wetherell. All are welcome- men, women and young people. **Please note:** As usual, there will be a collection at the Service. If you are a gift aider then please use the brown envelopes in your Service booklet. If you are not a gift aider then just put your donation in the basket. Cheques payable to: "Women's World Day of Prayer". Thank you.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST - WINTERSHALL:

This will be on Sat 23rd June, 10am until 4pm. We now have a full coach! Additional tickets can still be purchased online but private transport will need to be arranged. Contact Louise Brown or Rev Steve Bowler if you have any queries.

BINGO WITH FISH & CHIP SUPPER: on Saturday, 17th March at St Bernard's Hall. Tickets will be on sale between 12th February & 11th March at both churches. It is being organised by the St Martha Group.



THE MEAT RAFFLE IS BACK:

Tickets will be on sale from Sunday 4th March £1 a ticket. Prize- Meat voucher for Sargent's the butchers at Dibden Purlieu. The draw will be after 11am Mass at St Michael's on Sunday 1st April- just in time to buy your meat for Easter Sunday! The profit from the meat raffle will go towards the cost of the Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner in December.



For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
Faith, Hope & Charity
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