

The Messenger

All correspondence to:
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For St Bernard &
St Michael's Churches

26th APR 2009
Year B
divine office wk3

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

St Bernard's Church
Southbourne Avenue,
Holbury, SO45 2NT

Waterside Catholic Parish

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams
Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)
Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's
call between 9am - 2pm daily (Mon, Tue, Wed)

PARISH SERVICES

Third Sunday of Easter

Sun	26	9 am	SB	Mass: Third Sunday of Easter
		11 am	SM	Mass: Third Sunday of Easter
Tue	28	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer and Mass: St Louis de Montfort
Wed	29	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: St Catherine of Siena
Thur	30		LT	No 10 am Mass at Lyndhurst
Sat	2	10 am	SM	Liturgy of the Word

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sun	3	9 am	SB	Mass: Fourth Sunday of Easter
		11 am	SM	Mass: Fourth Sunday of Easter



For the Ideal Gift visit Faith, Hope & Charity

8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882

*The Catholic Charity Shop
Faith, Hope and Charity was
set up over ten years ago
and has been carefully
managed by Tina Bowler and her
enthusiastic band of helpers over
the years. FH&C is one of the few
small businesses which has
managed to survive whilst many
others have sadly fallen by the
wayside. Of course it's success not
only depends upon generous
donations, but mainly on customers
shopping there. Come and see for
yourself the Fairtrade goods,*

Mass Intentions for w/c Sun 26th April:

As announced in January, If anyone wishes to have someone included in a Mass Intention please ring or email the Parish Office, stating during which week you would like the person prayed for and whether the person is still alive, has died and or any special circumstances e.g. special intention, health, birthday, anniversary etc. Each week all those people whose names are written down for that week will be prayed for and the priest's intention will be offered for them at all the Masses celebrated that week with the exception of Foundation Masses. No money or stipend is required for the Mass Intention. If you wish, you may, of course give a donation to CAFOD, or a donation for the maintenance of the Churches or give a personal gratuity to the parish priest. This should be placed in an envelope and clearly marked and can be handed in via the Sunday collection plate or via the Parish Office. Mass cards will still be available from the parish shop and Fr David will be happy to sign them if requested.

This week we will be offering Masses for:

Gabor Marek & John Murphy RIP (Sun 9) Peter Kenny RIP
Anniv (Sun 11)

Tony Warrilow RIP

People of the Parish

Information & Notices:

ST MICHAEL'S - CHURCH ROOF APPEAL: We are beginning a fund raising appeal to cover the cost of roof, fascia, soffit and gutter repairs. Essential repair work to the ridge tiles and areas where leaks were occurring has been done at a cost of £3900. We are waiting for the estimates for white PVC cladding for the fascias & soffits and for the repair of the guttering. This work needs to be done before the winter sets in. As a start to this appeal Marcus Smith has offered to do a Sponsored Swim. Forms are available at the back of the Church for people to sign up. Our thanks to Marcus. Cheques should be made payable to "PRCDTR - Waterside Catholic Parish"

Lottery

Winnings to date: £210

School League Tables

Congratulations to the pupils and staff of Our Lady and St Joseph's on their recent success in the school league tables. All pupils in year 6 gained level 4 in KS2 SATS, and as a result the school was placed 11th in the county by the national press and 5th by the local "Echo".

William Ralph RIP Anniv (Wed 7.30pm)

Deceased Clergy of the Diocese

A TOUGH ADMISSION – AN UNDESERVED BLESSING

We have to have some sympathy with the religious authorities who had Jesus executed. They had been on the receiving end of the harshest words that Jesus ever spoke. They had been determined to do away with him. They had him arrested, tortured and cruelly put to death. Peter reminds them of all the grizzly details and of their responsibility, proverbially rubbing their noses in it! Yet amazingly Peter also describes some mitigating circumstances *neither you, nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing*. Even more astonishing Peter calls them to accept forgiveness and promises that God will send them this Christ, whom they had just killed, as their Lord and Saviour! Peter is calling for the most radical, heart tearing, gut wrenching conversion that could possibly be imagined.

We can, perhaps, understand a little of how the people and leaders must have felt. Often in Lenten pious literature and prayers we are reminded that our sins made Jesus suffer. There is a sense in which that is true, but we must not take it in such a way as to negate the saving work that Jesus did on our behalf. The Father wants, and Jesus wants to save us from our sins, from fear, anxiety, guilt and discouragement. Our focus must be on the Lord and we should allow ourselves to feel gratitude, love and joy for the love Jesus revealed on the cross.

For these reasons I have come to the conclusion that one of the traditional expressions of contrition is not as helpful as it should be. *O my God, I am sorry and beg pardon for all my sins because they deserve Thy dreadful punishments, because they have crucified my loving Saviour, Jesus Christ, and most of all because they offend Thine infinite goodness etc etc*. This portrays a very severe portrait of God and one that Jesus himself did not present. It concentrates on all the negative effects of sin and actually increases feelings of guilt and anxiety at a time when a person needs to be encouraged to have trust and confidence in God. It has all the hallmarks of the heresy of Jansenism, which had such a chilling impact on the Church of Northern Europe in the 18th-19th centuries. We are still living with the ghosts of Jansenism today and people's experience of God is still blighted by its chill.

The Gospel presents us with an altogether different picture of the Risen Jesus. Jesus is bursting full of joy and loving energy. He is the same Lord and Saviour who died on the cross but he has a new body which is in complete harmony with the Spirit. It transcends space and time and can be personally present to everyone. It is not limited in the way our present bodies are. Jesus' risen body is a sign that God's love triumphs over our sin and death. It shows that the Father can be trusted to the utmost as Jesus did when he accepted the Father's will in the Garden. In this Easter let us receive the blessing of Jesus, trust in his wonderful love and allow the Spirit more deeply into our lives. (DMA)