

### PASTORAL TEAM

**Priest: Fr David Adams**

**Deacons:** Steve Bowler (8020 7449)  
Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

**Parish Administrator:** Helen Hughson

**To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's**  
call between 9am - 2pm (Mon & Tue only)

**For the Ideal Gift visit**

**Faith, Hope & Charity**

8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE  
SOUTHAMPTON, SO45 6DA

**Tel: 023 8020 7882**



All correspondence to:  
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Hythe SO45 5GR  
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*For St Bernard &  
St Michael's churches*

**27th Dec 2009 -  
10TH JAN 2010  
Year C  
divine office wk 1&2**

**St Michael's Church**  
Langdown Lawn  
Hythe SO45 5GR

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

### PARISH SERVICES

#### THE HOLY FAMILY

Sun	27	9 am	SB	Mass: <b>The Holy Family</b>
		11 am	SM	Mass: <b>The Holy Family</b>
Tue	29	10 am	SM	<b>No Mass today</b>
Wed	30	7.30 pm	SM	<b>No Mass today</b>
Thu	31	10.00 am	LT	<b>No Mass at Lyndhurst</b>
Sat	2			<b>No Mass today</b>

#### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sun	3	9 am	SB	Mass: <b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
		11am	SM	Mass: <b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
Tue	5	10 am	SM	Morning Prayer & Mass: Liturgy of the Day
Wed	6	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: Liturgy of the Day
Thu	7	10 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: Liturgy of the Day
Sat	9	10 am	SM	Mass: followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30 am)

#### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sun	10	9 am	SB	Mass: <b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>
		11 am	SM	Mass: <b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>



*From 22nd Dec to Saturday, Jan 9th inclusive we will be offering Masses for: People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell, John Adams RIP Anniv, Ernest & Michael Ball RIP, Clare Dickinson (Thanksgiving), Charles Duffy RIP, Fred Haacke RIP Gabor Marek RIP, Bill & Mary Mulveney (Intentions), Elizabeth (nee) Mulveney (Intentions), and John Murphy RIP, Tony & Irene O'Connell and Win & John Cocker (50th Wedding Annivs)*

*For the week beginning 10th January we will be offering Masses for: Nita Manghan RIP Anniv, Tony & Irene O'Connell and Win & John Cocker (50th Wedding Annivs)*

Total Roof Fund collected to date  
**£8,247.25**  
(Target - £13,500)  
**Thank you all, for your generosity**

### WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

At this time I would like to thank you all for your friendship, your prayers and your support during the past year and for your kind wishes and generous gifts this Christmastide. Thank you to everyone in the parish for your prayers and commitment, your love of God and your support. A special thank you to those whose faith, good works and service is known only to God. It is good to know that there are many supporting the parish very generously. God works through and with us all and therein lies our strength as a community. We are all encouraged that despite our busy lives and many responsibilities we can still support our faith community. I know God blesses us all. (DMA)

### CHRISTMAS QUESTIONS

Can God really become one of us? And if God was among us would that person be what we were expecting or would they completely surprise us? Are the fullness of Divinity and the fullness of humanity aspects of the same mystery? Is the fullness of our humanity its capacity to image the Divine in both strength and weakness? The prologue of John's gospel tells us that the reality that gives life and expression to all things is the same reality that gives life and expression to Jesus. This reality is the Word, the Mind, the Intelligence of God. God becomes flesh in Jesus. God becomes bread and wine in the Eucharist. God becomes you and me in this moment. Here we are on some little planet, in a little solar system on the edge of a little galaxy, in a vast universe of countless galaxies and stars. There was Jesus, a baby, born in an obscure region of the Roman empire in a far off time. Here are bread and wine, simple everyday things. Here we are with our ordinary lives, our ordinary virtues and our ordinary sins. Just because we are insignificant doesn't mean we aren't loved and valued. We are a little part of a great mystery but because we are a part we also share the greatness and the glory of the whole reality, the whole mystery of God. God in Jesus, God in Eucharist, God in you and me - its all part of the same awe inspiring, mind boggling mystery. It just seems to be the way that we have to see it out there in Jesus, out there in the Eucharist before we can believe it and see it in ourselves and in others too. Do we want to see this? What is it that makes us hesitant, slow to believe that this is true? Why would we not want it to be true? How can we receive this gift if we won't accept it? If not now, when? If not here, where? If not in these circumstances, then in what? If we want God to act we must let God act through us. If we want things to change we must be the change. (DMA)

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Maureen Cain, Anne Candrl, Mary Crisp, Petra Daniels, Anne Donoghoe, Margaret Flynn, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Jane McClatchey, Joan Olden, Leslie Palmer, Bridget Reeves, Bill Topple. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**CAFOD** - Used Stamps, old Mobile Phones, and Foreign Coins can be left in the flip-top bins at both churches. Please include the postmarks for stamps and remove SIM-cards for phones. Thank you for your past contributions, which go to help raise funds and provide practical help for CAFOD.

**THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING** - As is traditional the collection at Christmas is for your parish priest and forms a part of his ordinary income for the year. Fr David will be very grateful for whatever you want to give at this time. A leaflet explaining how priests are financially supported is available at the back of church for your information.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTAS** - These are available now at the back of the churches.

**THE DIOCESAN FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN - "LIVING OUR FAITH":** This campaign is to raise funds so that the Diocese can continue: 1) vocations work for priesthood & diaconate; 2) the training of students for the priesthood; 3) the work of adult formation and training for lay ministry; 4) the provision of financial support for parishes in need. The campaign has already been running very successfully in other parishes. After Christmas our parish will be invited to participate. We will be part of the third and final phase of the campaign. So be prepared for this to take off big time after Christmas!

**FUNDRAISING - Roof Fund** - I just thought it was worth mentioning that we have almost reached 64% of our target in less than a year. This is an amazing achievement and our thanks go to all those who have given the time to organise events and of course to those who have supported them by giving and donating over the last eight months.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011 INFORMATION EVENINGS** - The next International Gathering for World Youth Day (WYD) will be held in Madrid during August 2011. The Diocese is planning to take a group. If you would like to be part of this group or you want to find out more about WYD, then come along to one of the information evenings: **Thu 14th Jan 2010** at St Francis De Sales, Warren Road, Wash Common, RG14 6NH; **Tues 19th Jan 2010** at St Edward the Confessor, 191-193 Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 2DU; **Thu 28th Jan 2010** at the Discovery Centre, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, PO1 3HG. More dates and details can be obtained from the posters at the back of the churches.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO BOUGHT ROSARY BRACELETS:** from Lily Peach (Fareham Parish) on behalf of the sisters and missionaries of Mary, Queen of Heaven, Cebu City, Philipines, thank you so much for your help in fighting human trafficking and rescuing women and children from prostitution. Lily said that she had never such a good response from a parish before.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM REV HILARY PARSONS** - he wishes everyone who remembers him the choicest of blessings at Christmas and throughout 2010. Deacon Hilary asked us to let you all know that he will remember you all at Mass on Christmas Day.

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**A BIG THANKS:** to everyone who helped to make the Senior Citizens Lunch so successful with special mention of Win, Liz, Veronica & Linda from the Martha Group and to Win's daughter in law Sue, Yvonne, Mulveney, Anne Harding, Deacon Steve & wife Tina & Lexley George. Thanks to all who attended and to all who donated raffle prizes. £100 was raised for the Roof Fund from the raffle.

**RESULT OF THE VOTE ON ST BERNARD'S CHURCH LAY-OUT: Those in favour of leaving it as it is (43); those in favour of changing it (33); those who didn't mind either way (6). Therefore the layout of the pews and altar at St Bernard's will remain unchanged. Thank you everyone for the calm and conciliatory way you all responded to this ballot.**