

The Messenger

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

27th March 2011

3rd Sunday of Lent - Divine Office: Wk 3

Sun 27 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 5.00pm - St Michaels - Talk on the Eucharist (3)
Mon 28 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent)
Tues 29 th	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent)
Wed 30 th	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent)
Thurs 31 st	10.00am LT Mass (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent)
Fri 1 st	3pm SB CAFOD Stations of the Cross (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent)
Sat 2 nd	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.30am (Liturgy: of the 3 rd Week of Lent, or optnl memorial of St Francis of Paola, Founder, 1436-1507)
Sun 3 rd	4th Sunday of Lent 9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 5.00pm - St Michaels - Talk on the Eucharist (4)

Mass Intentions: For this week: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Jim Haines RIP, deceased members of the Chrzanowski family, Charles Ketley RIP Anniv, Kenneth Murphy RIP, all deceased of the parish whose anniversaries occur at this time, People of Japan, Libya & the Middle East.

For the week beginning 3rd April: All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Holy Souls, Jim Haines, RIP, Kenneth Murphy RIP

New Forest East Pastoral Area - Sunday Mass Times

St Theresa, Totton - Sat Vigil Mass 6pm; Sun 10.30am
Ashurst Community - Sun 9am
Our Lady & St Edward, Lyndhurst - Sun 9am

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

Pastoral Team:

Rev David Adams (Parish Priest)
Rev Steve Bowler (Deacon) (023 8020 7449)
Rev Ian Tobin (Deacon) (023 8089 7354)
Kevin Barnett (Chair: Parish Pastoral Council)

All correspondence to: The Parish Office,
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For the Ideal Gift
Faith, Hope & Charity
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA
Tel: 023 8020 7882

A SPRING OF WATER WITHIN OUR HEARTS

The whole of the universe evidences an irrepressible "passion" and energy for connection, interaction and growth. Particles get together, elements interact, life emerges moving towards ever greater complexity and diversity. There is also a great thirst within us, within the human soul and in the whole of humanity. This is a thirst for the totally wonderful unconditional love and acceptance of God. Somehow we must have experienced this or we would not be able to recognise it and long for it. Some would say that as we issued forth from the creative hand of God we were kissed and embraced by a love so marvellous its memory cannot be totally eradicated. Even though we are born with a mysterious forgetfulness of this, the call of this love continues to exert its powerful influence. So every longing and desire and passion even the most distorted and depraved stems from a deep thirst and hunger of the soul for God. This is the "sickness" which needs healing.

It is into this blind, hopeless striving and searching that the Christ meets us in Jesus. As St Paul says: we were still helpless, still sinful, still "enemies" when Jesus died for us. And now we see that same, wonderful, unconditional love written loud and clear from the Cross. "What proves God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners".

We see this same quality of love in the conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. Even before she had revealed anything of her colourful life history Jesus was offering her the living water of his love. "if you only knew who it is that is speaking to you, you would have been the one to ask and he would have given you living water".

We imagine that we have to get ourselves right first. We have to prepare, deal with our sins, put everything in order and then we might be ready for God. Then God might deign to listen to us and be with us. But this is a doomed enterprise. Without Jesus we can do nothing. We are helpless and trapped in our little self-constructed worlds. Not only do we not know the way out. We do not even imagine there is anything else, any different way of seeing, of being, of relating. We don't even know the depths of joy and happiness we are missing. We think this is all there is. We are certainly helpless. So its not our love for God (there isn't much of that anyway), but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

And we mustn't wait for others to "get their lives in order" before we tell them of God's love for them. We must share the good news of God's love precisely so that, eventually, maybe even suddenly, in the power of that love they will discover hope and healing. Then some order may begin to come into their lives. So its not: get the morality right and the mysticism, the love relationship with God will follow. It's the other way round. We must let ourselves be seduced, captured by God, healed by God's mercy then the morality will eventually come right. After all God has been pretty tolerant of humanity - waiting for us to evolve & "grow up", and we have still a long way to go!

We all have different preferences about liturgy and worship - this way or that way, this mountain or that mountain. Never mind what we think or want. Jesus reminds us that what is really important is what God wants. Jesus says his Father is seeking those who worship "in spirit and in truth". This is allowing God to see us as we are. It is being before God in our truth and it is being open, like a child, to the love, spirit, truth and being of God who is with us. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, Petra Daniels, Christina Drury, Amanda Gudge, Fr John Humphreys, Dorothy Minchington, Judith Morrison, Raphaelle Netto, Ellen Pick, Julia Plumtree, Eileen Shanley, Ronald Stevens, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

SORRY - NO PRAYER POTTERY THIS WEEK: The next one will be on April 5th, after that on 12th & 19th), at **11am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michaels.** It is a time for quiet prayer and reflection guided by Christine Olden. All are very welcome.

A BIG THANK YOU: The CAFOD Lent Fast Day Collection: raised £1325. A fantastic effort, well done everyone. Also the **CAFOD Soup Lunch** raised another £400. This is amazing too. Thanks to all those who supported and to all those who made the soup!

RED BOXES: Would all Red Box holders please bring their boxes to Mass on Sunday asap, please. Thank you for your support. **SPECIAL THANKS & RECOGNITION** to Tony Cluett who has been organising the collection in Waterside parish since 1st March 1981 - 30 years service!

LAST YEAR OUR PARISH RAISED A FANTASTIC £1,849 for the APF / Missio. Again, well done everyone and thanks again to Tony Cluett and helpers for gathering all those red boxes in. See the full list of parish contributions from the Portsmouth diocese on the church notice boards.

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH - LENTEN EVENTS

Stations of the Cross; - 3pm on Fridays; 1st Apr at SB - This one is the special CAFOD stations; 8th Apr at SM; 15th Apr at SB.

Lenten Talks: *Become One Body, One Spirit in Christ - Deepening our understanding of the Eucharist in our lives.* We will use an interactive DVD. This is designed to promote the new English translation of the Mass which will be introduced in part in Sept 2011. **There are three remaining sessions at St Michaels, on Sundays, 5pm - 6pm: 27th Mar; 3rd April; 10th April.**

Reconciliation Service: 7.30pm, Tuesday, 19th April in St Michaels.

Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday, 17th April
Chrism Mass
11am, Tues, 19th Apr at Portsmouth Cathedral

Maunder Thursday: 8pm, Thurs, 21st April
Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Michaels.

Good Friday: Ecumenical Walk of Witness (Holbury) 10.00am, starts at New Hope Church, Hardley roundabout to Blackfield Baptist Church for service at 11.00am. Ecumenical Service (Hythe), 10.45am for 11.00am, outside Waitrose.

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:
3pm, Fri, 22nd April at St Michaels.
7.30pm, Stations of the Cross at St Michaels

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil, 9pm, on Sat. 23rd Apr at St Bernards.

Easter Sunday: 9am Mass at SB; 11am Mass at SM



THANKS FOR THE ECUMENICAL PANCAKE EVENING: Special thanks to Sandra & her daughter Marianne for doing the cooking (lovely pancakes!!) & thanks to Monica, Theresa, Jill & Louise for organising, providing fillings, flowers & drinks. The event raised £100.50p for the parish.

THANKS TO HELEN KITSON & FAMILY: they managed to sell some copies of the "Beano" on Ebay and raised £75 for the Parish Shop.

QUIZ NIGHT WITH AMERICAN SUPPER, on 9th April, 7pm at St Bernards. Tickets £4, on sale now. This is being organised by the Martha group, so thanks to them.



PETITION RE: LOCAL CHILDREN'S CARDIAC FACILITIES: Please sign the Daily Echo petition campaigning for the retention of local children's cardiac facilities at Southampton General hospital. Our thanks to Fiona Wiffen for bringing this to our attention.

BRAVE DAVE KING: is taking part in the Ben Nevis Challenge to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Society. Please sponsor him. See him after Mass at St Michaels or go online: <http://www.justgiving.com/David-King/3>. See poster for more details.

ECUMENICAL STUDY GROUPS FOR LENT 2011 - WATERSIDE CHURCHES TOGETHER (SOUTH) The dates and venues are as follows: March 29th & April 5th, 12th. On each date there will be a group at 1.30 for 2.00pm at Blackfield Baptist Church (Hampton Lane, Blackfield) and 7.00 for 7.30pm at Waterside Methodist Church (Chapel Lane, Fawley). The groups are open to all.

LENTEN TALKS ON DVD: 4 of 10 Sessions remaining by internationally famous Christian speaker: J. John "The 10 Commandments" **At St. Joseph's House of Prayer, Ashurst at 7.30pm on Thursdays & Fridays in Lent;** 31st March & 1st April, 7th & 8th April. Contact: Peter & Lynda 023 80292058, Email: peterszymanski@hotmail.co.uk

PLANT SALE: The annual plant sale will be held on the 14th May 2011. Now is the time to start sowing those seeds or deciding which plants could be potted up. Oh yes - and pray for good weather. Any queries or offers of help to Veronica Chadwick tel. 80897458

GARDENER / HANDYMAN NEEDED: by elderly couple on a part-time basis. Please ring 023-80-840288

WARNING RE: ST BERNARDS CHURCH & HALL USERS: Sadly, the other week while someone was helping an elderly person into the hall their car was stolen. The keys were left in the ignition only for a matter of seconds. The thieves were hiding close by at the side of the hall. So please be extra careful regarding your vehicles & property. Please DO NOT leave the church door unlocked; DO NOT let anyone see, or over hear mention of, the security code. At time of printing the persons car had not been recovered & their insurance company will not pay out. Please pray for all concerned.