

WATERSIDE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Rev Vincent Convery

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

Deacon Rev Ian Tobin Tel: 02380 897354

All correspondence to Parish Administrator,
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The Gospel of Luke— The Gospel of Mercy

27th DECEMBER 2015 THE HOLY FAMILY

Year C, Weekdays Year 2; Psalter week 1

9.00am Mass SB

11.00am Mass SM

Monday 28th December No Mass

(The Holy Innocents)

Tuesday 29th December No Mass

(St Thomas of Canterbury)

Wednesday 30th December No Mass

Thursday 31st December No Mass

Friday 1st January 2016 New Year's Day NO MASS

(Mary, mother of God)

Saturday 2nd January NO MASS

MASS INTENTIONS 25th December—2nd January

Anniversaries this week: George Watson (27th), Bet Cresswell (1st)

Remembering those who have died recently: Lena Keane, Eileen Kenny, Tom Sherlock, Canon Richard Hind, Karen O'Donovan Sarah Jane Morrison.

Other Intentions: All those recently bereaved, Julie Poole (Health)

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

BROCKENHURST, LYMINGTON, MILFORD ON SEA

Parish Priest-Rev David Adams Tel: 01590 676696

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

Our Lady of Lourdes-Mount Avenue, New Milton

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday Mass 10 am

6.30pm Mass is in Polish

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 I'd like to thank everyone who has helped to prepare for this year's celebration and all those assisting at the Liturgy.

Thirdly, 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 are all inconvenienced in some way by events in our lives. 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 is 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)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: David Bazley, Janice Bird, Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, Alice Bramhill, Philomena Breen, Kitty Burroughs, Marion Butler, Denise Calder, Nick Candrl, Kathryn Cox, Baby Finn Drozd Baby Elijah, Derek Faiers, Derek Francis, Mervyn Francis, Ruth & Dennis Freemantle, David Grennell, Amanda Gudge, Sally Herbert, Catherine Heron, Doreen Holman, Chrissy James, Trudy King, Peggy & Michael Kirwan, Sandra Lawrence, Theresa Leydon, Betty Marek, Susan Marlow, Sarah Marshall, Maureen Mullen, Tony O'Connell, Ann O Connor, Julie Poole, Michelle Ripley, Joan Smith, John Stevens, Emmie Walker, Brian Weston, Maureen Weyman., Mary & Lawrie Witchell, Bridget Wyatt

If you wish someone to be included for prayers here, or if the person being prayed for is now well & you would like their name removed, speak to Deacons Ian or Steve, or Linda via the Parish office.



PARISH OFFICE: Advance notice: The office will be closed on 31st December. Thank you for all the cards and seasonal good wishes. I wish all my readers a happy New Year.



A BIG THANK YOU: from Father David & Fr Vincent to all of you for a very generous Christmas Offering. The collection at Christmas time is a voluntary contribution towards your parish priest's annual income, this year it was divided between both of us. Your generosity in difficult financial circumstances is greatly appreciated.



IF YOU NEED A PRIEST IN AN EMERGENCY: If you or your loved one is in hospital and needs to see a priest, please ask to see the Catholic priest from the hospital Chaplaincy team. Please note there isn't a resident priest at St Michael's or St Bernard's.



FOODBANK: On behalf of Waterside Foodbank please convey our very grateful thanks to all at St. Michael's & St Bernard's for the wonderful donation of food collected during Advent.

NO MASS Friday 1st & Saturday 2nd January



NEXT SUNDAY 3rd JANUARY THE

EPIPHANY The Epiphany of Our Lord is the Christian feast observed on Jan. 3, 2016. The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphaino*, a verb that means

"to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (*Matthew 2:1-12*), the baptism of Jesus (*Mark 1:9-11*), and the miracle at Cana (*John 2:1-11*). The visit of the Magi is emphasized on Epiphany Day, and Christ's baptism is celebrated the first Sunday that follows.



We are delighted that our **REFUTEA**- raising funds for the Refugee council- on 4th December, raised a total of £775. Thank you to all the parishioners who donated or managed to come to support us on the day. We really appreciate it. (Katie Charge) Brilliant effort! (Fr David)



IF YOU ARE AWAY OVER THE NEW YEAR: Best wishes to you & your loved ones. May you have safe journeys and enjoyable times with nearest & dearest. May you trust in God's goodness & blessing and may God's angels watch over you. (Fr David)



POPE FRANCIS'S YEAR OF MERCY Tweets @Pontifex
It is so important to listen! Husbands and wives need to communicate to bring happiness and serenity to family life.



Pope Francis has initiated a 'Year of Mercy' It's a time to focus on God's mercy and forgiveness.

Jesus is the face of mercy:

'Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living & visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him.'
 (Pope Francis -extract from *Misericordiae Vultus.*)



JANUARY 1st : Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The first day of the year is the day the Church sets aside for honouring Mary. Mary represents true discipleship. Mary exhibits a life of hearing, seeing, and telling of God's marvellous deeds. Mary inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events in our own lives. Do we journey through life oblivious to the world around us, or do we resolve to make some kind of impact? Maybe instead of making new year resolutions to lose weight or make more money, we should resolve this year to be more like Mary.

COLLECTIONS FOR JANUARY

- + **White Flower Appeal** 10th January.
- + **Mission Appeal** 17th January
- + **Catholic Education Service** collection 24th January

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- + The family and friends of Sarah Jane Morrison
- + All those who are sick or housebound in our parish
- + All those who serve at Mass
- + Tony & Irene O Connell (Wedding Anniversary)



HAPPY 'PEACE MAKING' NEW YEAR

No-one can solve all the world's problems. To try would be to dissipate one's energies and achieve nothing. The best thing we can do is to focus all our efforts and attention on just

one problem and hope our endeavours will make a difference to it. There's no shortage of big issues; global warming, natural disasters, international terrorism, poverty, pollution, child exploitation, and famine to name just a few. The one thing that all these problems have in common is that the more money, resources and manpower you allocate to them the greater improvement you are likely to effect as a result. Fund raising, campaigning, and awareness raising are all good starting points. Happy New 'Peace Making' Year.

Why not make it a New Year resolution to join the parish CAFOD group? See Louise Croll for details.

WHAT'S ON?



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE Sunday 3rd January 4pm

St Bernard's Church Everyone is invited together with their families and friends to sing carols together. Tea, coffee or squash and cakes will be served after the service to make it a celebration of the Christmas season.

A NEW YEAR PRAYER *God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.*

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time. Amen