

The Messenger

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

29th January 2012

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Divine Office: Wk 4

Sun 29 th	9.00am Mass at St Bernards 11.00am Mass at St Michaels 6.00pm - St Anne's, Brockenhurst
Mon 30 th	No Service (Liturgy: of the Day - 4 th Week Ord. Time)
Tues 31 st	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass (Liturgy: Memorial, St John Bosco, 1815-1888)
Wed 1 st	10.00am Mass at St Anne's, Brockenhurst (Liturgy: of the Day - 4 th Week Ord. Time)
Thurs 2 nd	10.00am Mass at Our Lady's, Lyndhurst (Liturgy: Feast, The Presentation of the Lord)
Fri 3 rd	No Service (Liturgy: of the Day - or optnl Memorials, St Blaise, Bishop, Martyr, d.316, St Ansgar, Bishop, 801-865)
Sat 4 th	10.00am SM Mass followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11.00am (Liturgy: of the Day, or Our Lady on Saturday)
Sun 5 th	5 th Sunday of Ordinary Time 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, Peace in the World, For the New Forest & New Forest East Pastoral Areas, Rev John Cairns (Health), John Stevens (B'day), Lena Keane (Health), Barbara Coughlan RIP, Debbie Gregory RIP, Josephine Hutchins RIP, John Sawtell RIP

For the week beginning 5th 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, Peace in the World, For the New Forest & New Forest East Pastoral Areas, Catholic Schools, All Those in Education, Philippa Falder (B'day), Kathleen Cummings RIP B'day Anniv, Brendan Kelly RIP Anniv, Bridget Reeves 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

WHAT IS GOING ON?

If this Sunday's Gospel story had been about a person who slipped and fell and broke their leg and who then was miraculously healed by Jesus we would have immediately understood the situation even if we had to take the miracle on faith. The problem for us about stories of exorcisms, deliverances and the driving out of unclean spirits is that there is little or no connection with our own experience. We ask ourselves just what is going on here?

We are more aware these days of how cultural beliefs can, on the one hand, shape the imaginative expressions of human experience and on the other hand, to some extent, create those experiences. We are also more aware of different types of emotional, psychological and mental disabilities, conditions and pathologies. The vast majority of secular psychiatrists would totally reject any notion of independent spirit entities. The Church's official exorcists themselves have to do a very complex work of discernment before concluding that spirit entities are the cause of any psychic disturbance.

So can we get any grasp on this story or is it impossible to unravel the complex cultural cocktail within which it is framed and which alone can reveal its meaning? If we leave aside mental problems caused by chemical deficiencies in the brain or by structural abnormalities in the brain and the more obvious conditions which are recognisable by today's categories, e.g. epilepsy, there remains a lot of mental torment & emotional suffering caused by dissociated experience or repression. This happens when we disconnect from painful experiences and keep them out of conscious memory. This is largely an unconscious process that can begin from the earliest years. There is no question of guilt in these reactions but finding healing does require taking responsibility for one's life in the here and now. Powerful forces within culture such as institutions, family, religion, state, popular prejudices, taboos etc can become oppressive and then they often deform, disfigure and undermine healthy emotional and psychic development. It is curious that Jesus usually encounters these "demons" in the synagogue - a "holy" place; but then the greatest evil arises from the corruption of the greatest good. And how often did Jesus criticise the "chief priests, the scribes and the Pharisees" for denying God's mercy and compassion to ordinary people.

Rejection, hatred and abuse by family, society or religion can cause such pain that the experience is repressed and becomes a dissociated (i.e. disconnected from conscious association) nucleus of negative energy. The destructive power may be turned inwards or outwards. The deeper the repression the more uncontrollable are the symptoms and the more alien these experiences seem to be. It is then just a short step away from being seen as the victim of external forces beyond one's control.

"What do you want with us? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are; the holy one of God". Perhaps today Jesus would have heard: "Why are you bothering with us? I suppose you hate us like everyone else? I know you're a good person, but that just makes me feel worse". It is the pure, unconditional love of God in Jesus that communicates the total acceptance that allows the person to accept and reconnect with the rejected part of themselves and so experience healing which is the return of wholeness. Only divine love has the power and authority to set free. (DMA)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Russell Bowlds, 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.)



BARBARA COUGHLAN RIP: You'll be sad to hear that Barbara Coughlan passed away last weekend. She died peacefully at home after a long illness. Her Funeral Service will be on Tuesday, 31st January at 2pm in St Michael's Church, followed by burial at Blackfield Cemetery.

PRAYER POTTERY: The next prayer meeting will be this Tuesday, 31st January at 11.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Michael's. It will be led by Christine Olden & all are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents, please contact Fr David if your child is in Year 3 at primary school and will be 8 yrs old this year and you wish your child to make their First Holy Communion. If you think your child is ready to begin receiving Holy Communion but does not yet match the age criteria mentioned above, contact Fr David also. At the moment we are only able to offer support for a home & parent centred programme of preparation.

SUPPORT GROUP TO HELP THE BEREAVED

There will be a meeting on **Thursday 16th February at 6.30 pm** in the Meeting Room at Angel house, to discuss setting up a group to help the bereaved in the parish.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

ECUMENICAL PANCAKES: To celebrate Shrove Tuesday and the beginning of Lent. This will take place at St Bernard's on Tuesday, 21st February at 7.30pm. Usual fun and singing & enjoying some lovely pancakes courtesy of Sandra Deering & daughter Marianne. All welcome.

FOR CHURCH READERS: Refresher session to be led by Rev Kevin O'Brien, Parish Priest of Totton on Saturday, 3rd March 2012, 10am-1pm, finishing with soup lunch. Venue; Geo House (Ashurst)

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 (Ashurst).

PLANT SALE/SPRING FAIR; SATURDAY 19 MAY

The annual Plant Sale is being widened this year into a Spring Fair which will include the traditional plants but also offer giftware, jewellery, crafts as well as home made cakes and a grand raffle.

Gardeners, please get planting and **craft experts** please get crafty! Raffle prizes welcome. Info on plants from Veronica (80897458, other items Tina at Faith Hope and Charity (80207882) and publicity Louise (80898213)

THE LIFE OF CHRIST - WINTERSHALL: We are planning a parish/pastoral area outing to experience this amazing dramatization of the life of Christ. This will be on Sat 23rd June, 10am until 4pm. See main feature.

A DAY OF PRAYER organised by the Diocese will take place on Saturday, **4th February 2012 at St. Swithun Wells Primary School, Hillcrest Avenue, Chandlers Ford, Hants. SO53 2JP.** The theme of the day is 'Prayer: tools for the toolbox'. It will include a variety of sessions, led by Department of Pastoral Formation members and others, enabling people to experience different ways of praying, as well as a quiet room for silent prayer. **The day starts at 10.30am (tea/coffee will be available from 10.00am) and will end at 4.00pm. Feel free to come for all or part of the day. Please bring a packed lunch.** Booking is essential since we need a minimum number of people to make the day viable. If you would like to reserve a place please email: estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or telephone her on 01329 835583. There is no charge for the day.

DO YOU LOVE FLOWERS? Have you ever thought that you would like to arrange flowers, but don't know where to start? Well now you can find out. In conjunction with Blackfield Flower Club we are having some very basic workshops at St Bernard's Hall. This will start at St Bernard's Hall on Thursday, 2nd February at 10.00am. Why not come along and have fun with flowers? For details of what you need to bring ring Monica on 80-892930.

THANK YOU TO: a parishioner, who wishes to remain anonymous, who has paid for the repair of the hand rails on the steps leading to the main doors at St Michael's, and has also repaired and strengthened the hand rails & brickwork on the ramp leading to the side door at St Michael's. It is a much needed improvement and is greatly appreciated.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST - WINTERSHALL:

We are planning a parish/pastoral area outing to experience this amazing open air dramatization of the life of Christ. This will be on Saturday 23rd June, 10am until 4pm. We will organise a coach to take us there. This is a wonderful experience and everyone who has been there will tell you of the powerful and moving effect the re-enactment had on them. Many are keen to go again too! Louise Brown (PPC) & Deacon Steve Bowler are helping to organise the tickets and transport. Don't miss out! Get ready to sign up for your tickets at the first opportunity.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE: To mark the Queen's Jubilee the PPC has decided that we should have only one parish Sunday Mass on Sunday, 3rd June. This will be at 10.00am and will take place at St Bernard's. Parishioners will be encouraged to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some of the Jubilee weekend together. Those with cars will also be encouraged to offer lifts to those without transport.

ALL WHO THIRST: SATURDAY 10TH MARCH, 10am - 3.30pm, lunch provided, at GEO HOUSE, ASHURST. Cost £15. Playing and singing in a parish music group/choir can be very rewarding but requires a lot of energy. All Who Thirst is a day specially designed with church musicians in mind for personal and spiritual refreshment. Information and booking form from your parish music leader or Jane Willcox (023 8034 2290) or email: Jane.willcox@yahoo.co.uk

For the Ideal Gift or Gift Voucher visit
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