

## BECAUSE YOU'RE WORTH IT!

You are humble and lowly, you are not wise, not influential, not of noble birth, you are foolish, weak and "nothing at all", you are common and contemptible! There is nothing like a little boost to your self-confidence and ego to set you up for the day. Just read through the Scripture passages for this Sunday to see what I mean.

I heard a comment recently. It was from a tourist guide in India. He said people from the West are lovely people but generally they have "lost their heart". We are too concerned about what is outside (for doing) and have little experience or desire for what is inside (for being). Even more seriously we have lost the language to articulate or describe our loss. Not only have we lost our soul we don't even recognize our loss or know why we're suffering stress, dissatisfaction, anxiety, restlessness and emptiness. The (post-modern) culture we live in has abandoned all spiritual maps of meaning, all great stories. Most films, books and TV dramas give us brief episodic stories and experiences but they come from nowhere and lead nowhere. Someone may show great love or courage but it has no connection with anything beyond itself like the overall purpose and meaning of life, what we Christians would call God. Now everyone is alone to scramble together whatever scraps of meaning they can. Or even at the furthest extreme you can choose whatever meaning you like – that's the ultimate fracturing and breakdown into gross individualism.

So we have to ask ourselves do we want to be poor in spirit, gentle, mourning, hungry and thirsty for what is right, merciful, pure in heart, seeking peace, persecuted in the cause of right, persecuted and lied about because we follow Jesus? Can we locate all this on a spiritual map? Can we see some purpose and meaning to all this?

If we find this difficult it is partly because our culture is giving us very different messages. And religion is never totally immune to culture. Even popular Christian religion reflects the culture as much as it reflects the teaching of Jesus. Religion with its worship, devotions, rules, laws and guidelines should help us to encounter God. The Gospel, the beatitudes are what is given to us when we meet God. Its all about relationship, community, interiority, being present to God and each other. When we start looking at ourselves and others in relation to God then the Beatitudes become very important. They are what make love, forgiveness, joy, giving and receiving, trusting and believing – "Be-attitudes" make it all possible. When our life is all about doing we become empty. We need to discover the world of our being – our heart and soul.

In shallow tribal and materialistic culture there have to be winners and losers, the good and the bad, the right and the wrong, the rich and the poor, the influential and the powerless, the "in" crowd and the nobodies, the "worth-its" and the worthless. In God's gaze none of this means anything, by God's free giving every one is "worth it" and there are no "nobodies".  
(DMA).

# The Messenger

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

**30<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time - Divine Office: Wk 4**

Sun	30 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am Mass at St Bernard's 11.00am Mass at St Michaels with Baptism of baby Willow Ramsey
Mon	31 <sup>st</sup>	No Service ( <i>Liturgy: Memorial, St John Bosco, Founder, 1815 - 1888</i> )
Tues	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am SM Morning Prayer & Mass ( <i>Liturgy of the Day</i> )
Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm SM Evening Prayer & Mass ( <i>Liturgy: Feast: Presentation of the Lord</i> )
Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am LT Mass ( <i>Liturgy: of the Day or optl Mems. St Blaise, Bishop &amp; Martyr, d.316; or St Ansgar, Bishop, 801-865</i> ) 4.30pm SB Roy Nicholas RIP (Reception)
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon SB Requiem Mass - Roy Nicholas RIP
Sat	5 <sup>th</sup>	No Service ( <i>Liturgy: St Agatha, Virgin &amp; Martyr, d.251</i> )
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> 9.00am Mass at St Bernard's 11.00am Mass at St Michaels

**Mass Intentions: For this week:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Family of Josephine Hogan RIP (Intentions), Benefactors of the Clergy Retirement Fund, Benefactors of "Living our Faith", deceased Clergy of the Province, Anne Candri RIP, Bridget Reeves RIP, Fr. Peter Sprague RIP.

**For the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> Feb:** All members of the Parish, All those who are unwell, Family of Josephine Hogan RIP (Intentions), Anne Candri RIP, Jim Coleman RIP, Margaret Hall-Patch, Pat McGuinness RIP, Morgan Netto RIP Anniv, Roy Nicholas RIP, Joy Prestage (Intentions), Bridget Reeves RIP, Fr. Peter Sprague 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,  
Angel House, 6 Langdown Lawn, Hythe SO45 5GR

Tel: **023 8084 3479**  
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website: [watersidecatholics.org.uk](http://watersidecatholics.org.uk)



For the Ideal Gi visit  
Faith, Hope & Charity  
8 ST JOHN'S STREET, HYTHE SO45 6DA  
Tel: 023 8020 7882

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please keep in your prayers: Nigel Bolton, Marion Butler, *Nicola Clayson*, Petra Daniels, Pat Gallanagh, Amanda Gudge, Margaret Hall-Patch, Jim & Doris Lamb, Joy Prestage, Norma Rudd, Eileen Shanley, May Sycamore, Betty Williams, Anne Wyatt. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

**Roy Nicholas RIP:** Roy's body will be received on Thursday, 3rd Feb at 4.30pm at St Bernard's Church. The Requiem Mass will take place on Friday, 4th Feb at 12 noon. Roy's body will be buried at Blackfield Cemetery.

**Bridget Reeves RIP:** Bridget's Funeral Service will take place at St Michael's Church on Monday, 7th Feb at 12 noon. The Committal will take place at Southampton Crematorium. Our Condolences to all our recently bereaved parishioners & their families. We keep them in our prayers.

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** On Saturday, 5th February Fr David will be attending the Diocesan Pastoral Council in Alton. There will therefore be no Mass or Reconciliation next Saturday.

**9.00am Kids' Masses: Parents & young folk, please try to commit to these dates, so that these Masses can grow into something special for us all. The next few are: Sun 27th**



**Feb (half term), Sun 27th March (clocks go forward!), 24th April (Easter Sunday), Sun 29th May (half term), Sun 26th June. We need you!**

**THANKS TO THOSE WHO TOOK WINTER CLOTHING INTO "FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY"** : They still need more!! If you have any that you can donate to the shop, please do so. Also please donate quality items, (but NOT electrical goods or videos). The shop also sells lots of **NEW** gift items, Bibles, Rosaries, devotional books, cards & craft items, also Fair-trade goods, jewellery and scented & decorative candles and more besides.

The parish depends on the shop & the volunteers who help for significant financial support.

**"WHISPERS ON THE WIND"** The late Anne Candrl, together with her daughter Pam produced another lovely collection of poems and this time there are beautiful colour illustrations too. Anne donated copies to our church and to Oakhaven Hospice. If anyone buys a copy at church all the proceeds will go to church funds. The price is £7.50p. Please put the money in the repository wall box.

**CAFOD**  
just one world

**THANK YOU FOR SPONSORSHIP:** Clare Davies final sponsorship total for the Great South Run (excluding Gift Aid) was £650. Thanks to everyone for your great support.

**CAFOD RWANDA LINK:** On Sunday, 6th February there will be a special presentation at both Masses on the situation in Rwanda and a new initiative promoted by CAFOD . This will be prepared and presented by members of our parish CAFOD group.



**Fed up with the cold, drab, Winter? The St Martha group event: FISH & CHIP & BINGO NIGHT at St Bernard's on Saturday,**

**26th February at 7pm should cheer you up!** Tickets will be on sale from next week 6th Feb £7.50 each. You can choose your meal by ticking the relevant box on the form at the back of the church from next week. **Please note the new start time of 7p.m. for all Saturday evening events in 2011**

**KEEP RE IN THE CURRICULUM:** Government proposals on a new style English Baccalaureate have left out R.E. from the Humanities subjects. On behalf of Catholic schools we need to raise concerns over this, first of all to our MP. Letters & emails can also be sent to: Dept for Education - The School Performance Data Unit, 2nd Floor, Dept. for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT; email: [mailbox.performancedatateam@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mailbox.performancedatateam@education.gsi.gov.uk).

**ECUMENICAL STUDY GROUPS FOR LENT 2011 - WATERSIDE CHURCHES TOGETHER (SOUTH)** Waterside Churches Together (South) have decided to repeat the successful ecumenical study groups for Lent. The dates and venues are as follows: March 15th, 22nd, 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 (Chaple Lane, Fawley). The groups are open to all.