

# Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



## TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY Ordinary Time Year C 28th/29th September 2013

Weekday Masses Tues.– Fri. 9.30am, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Tues.- Fri. 8.30am – 9.25am and Morning prayer at 9.10am.

42 Exton Road Bournemouth BH6 5QG. Tel: 01202 485588

Parish Priest: Father Vitalis Vaakwagh Kondo, MSP e-mail: vitakond@yahoo.com

Parish Office e-mail: stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hall booking: Catherine Boardman. Tel: 01202 511504 e-mail: catherine\_a\_boardman@hotmail.com

Local Catholic Youth Worker: Will Hince 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

Week beginning 28th September :		Mass Intention
Sat. 28th Sept. 6.00 pm	First Mass Twenty - Sixth Sunday Ord. Time	Patrick Pidgeon, RIP
Sunday 29th Sept. 9.30 am	<b>TWENTY – SIXTH SUNDAY</b> Ord. Time	Naomi Philpot (recently deceased), RIP
Monday 30th Sept.	–	–
Tuesday 1st Oct. 9.45 am	St Theresa of the child Jesus, <i>memorial</i>	Margaret Robinson, RIP
Wed. 2nd Oct. 9.45 am 10.15am - 12.00	The Holy Guardian Angels, <i>memorial</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Members of the Rosary Group, alive and dead.
Thurs. 3rd Oct.	<i>No Mass Today</i>	–
Friday 4th Oct.	<i>No Mass today</i>	–
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Masses Sat. 6pm & Sun. 9.30am Twenty-seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time		

Starting next week, and throughout the month of October, there will be Rosary and Benediction at 4.00pm every Sunday.

Also, starting on Tuesday, 1st October, the rosary will be prayed before the weekday masses during October.

***There will be a collection this weekend for the Cathedral***

### CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

**Friday 4th October**

Don't forget to pick up your envelope!

**THANK YOU**

for your weekly offerings;

**21st / 22nd Sept.**

Envelopes :

£ 242.90

Cash :

£ 54.01

Standing Orders :

£ 148.38

**Total : £ 445.29**

Home Missions:

£ 119.01

*Thank you!*

*If anyone has any items for inclusion in the newsletter, please  
leave a note in the black post box by the office door*

**The Penitent: Contrition** (Donal Murray)

The readings manifest the difference between God's ways and ours, Our view of reality is often short-sighted, selfish and false. Professing the truth, therefore, means being ready to change our perspectives and attitudes. Without that change of heart we are unable to be part of the kingdom that will be revealed at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. "

There can be no forgiveness without sorrow. There are, however, different kinds of sorrow, There is the useless self-centred regret at having let oneself down or there is true sorrow which is also a request to be forgiven, a sorrow addressed to somebody. Contrition is sorrow addressed to God and to the Church in the knowledge that God's almighty power is shown in mercy and forgiveness. If that contrition is absent then the whole process of reconciliation is an empty sham, and it becomes the kind of hypocritical ritual which the prophets so often condemned (e.g. Amos 5:21-24.)

The call to repent is partly expressed by showing the impermanence and shallowness of the fulfilment offered by wealth and by self-seeking, but it must also be a statement of the Good News that there is a far greater salvation offered by God's love than the means we seek

to find refuge. One always repents in order to believe more fully in the Gospel.

There is a close link between this repentance and the celebration of the Eucharist. No only does each Eucharistic celebration open with a moment of repentance but the reality which is celebrated is one that reveals our faith. "The Christ who calls to the Eucharistic banquet is always the same Christ who exhorts us to penance and repeats his "Repent." In Christ, priesthood is linked with his Sacrifice, his self-giving to the Father; and, precisely because it is without limits, that self-giving gives rise in us human beings subject to numerous limitations to the need to turn to God in an even more mature way and with a constant, ever more profound conversion" (Redemptor Hominis 20.)

Today's readings, however, also contain a reminder of how easily one may close one's ears to that challenge. In many cases the slavery of sin is, at least in the short term, a comfortable and easy slavery. That is why the Christian life is always a struggle. The good fight must be fought not just in order to see things clearly but also in order that things once clearly seen may not be lost to view. [www.biblical.ie/lections](http://www.biblical.ie/lections)

**AVON STOUR PASTORAL AREA – ‘Open doors and open windows – Vatican II and the Year of Faith’**

Two talks by Dr Bridie Stringer, as follows:

**Tuesday 22 October**, 7.30 pm, at Sacred Heart Church, Ringwood: *‘Church of Christ, what do you say of yourself?’*

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October**, 7.30 pm at St Joseph’s Centre, Christchurch: *‘We are the Church.’*



*The talks will explore some of the key teaching documents from the Second Vatican Council and their implications for us today. The sessions will be interactive. Refreshments will be available. [Dr Stringer is an active catechist in her own parish in our diocese and a visiting lecturer in Pastoral Theology at St Mary’s University College, Twickenham.]*

**If you wish to attend one or both talks, please inform St Joseph’s parish office by telephone/e-mail: 01202 483340 or [icsjoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:icsjoffice@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).**

*Extract from the Pope's weekly audience (Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> Sept.):*

**“THE CHURCH IS ONE FOR ALL”**

Wherever we go, even in the smallest parish, in the furthest corners of this earth, there is the One Church; we are at home, we are with our family, we are brothers and sisters. **The Church is One for all.** “Let each one of us ask: do I feel this unity? Do I live this unity? Or am I not interested, am I one of those who would ‘privatize’ the Church for their own group, their own nation, and their own friends? **It is sad to encounter a privatized Church,** as this form of selfishness indicates a lack of faith. Do we pray for each other? I wonder how many of you pray for persecuted Christians, for those brothers or those sisters who suffer as a consequence of their faith. It is important to look over one’s own fence, to feel part of the Church, of the single family of God”. Quoting St. Paul to the Ephesians, the Pope reiterated that in order to conserve unity it is necessary to have “humility, gentleness, magnanimity and love”, but this is not primarily the result of our consent or efforts, but rather comes from the Holy Spirit, which continually recreates the Church and creates **“unity in diversity, which is harmony”**.



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2014**

Please note that the Sacrament of Confirmation for candidates of the Avon Stour Pastoral Area will be celebrated at

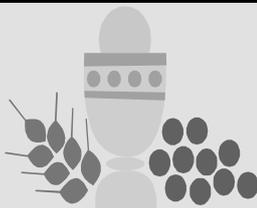
**St John’s Cathedral, Portsmouth on Saturday 3rd May 2014 at 3.00 p.m.**

More information later.

**Would you like your child to make their First Holy Communion in 2014?**

If so, please contact Kathy Ede 01202 434494,

[kathy.ede@ntlworld.com](mailto:kathy.ede@ntlworld.com) and pass on your details.



**Have you seen the new statue in the church?**

This is a statue of St Alphonsa, kindly provided by the Syro-Malabar group. St Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception (19th Aug. 1910 - 28th July 1948) was a Syro-Malabar Franciscan Sister who is the first woman of Indian origin to be a saint hailing from Kerala. She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on 12th Oct. 2008.

## **HARVEST SUPPER : SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER**

This will be in the church hall at 7pm, after the Saturday Vigil Mass.

There is a food list on the 'free table' for you to select your choice of food and ***tickets (£4) are now on sale after the weekend masses.***

**Auction:** As in previous years, there will be an auction of donated Harvest produce during the evening with proceeds going to charity. Could parishioners please bring



their donations of fruit, vegetables, groceries etc and leave in the church on the Saturday (there will be baskets placed on the altar where the produce can be left). Thanks!

### **CONFIRMATION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICE FORMS FOR ST PETER'S SCHOOL**

If you have a form for Father Vitalis to sign, please ensure he gets this as soon as possible as the closing date for the forms to be sent to St Peter's School is Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October. The signed form will be sent directly to the school, not returned to parents.

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN ('SPUC') FORMS.** If anyone has not yet handed in their membership application forms, please hand them in to Father Vitalis. Thanks.

**WHO'S WHO ..... IN THE ...??** Last week the Parish Pastoral Council was mentioned, the week before the Fabric and Finance committee. If anyone would like to write a few lines for the newsletter on any of the various groups in the parish, please e-mail them to Father Vitalis, [vitakond@yahoo.com](mailto:vitakond@yahoo.com) or drop a note in to the black post box outside the office door in the sacristy.

### **'THE LINK' PASTORAL AREA NEWSLETTER**

Please share your news with other Parishioners in our Pastoral Area.

Articles for the Winter 2013 newsletter needed by ***this***

**TUESDAY, 1st OCTOBER**

Please e-mail articles to Maureen Gage at [mike.gage@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mike.gage@tiscali.co.uk)

### **PPC Meeting 9th October, 7.30pm.**

If anyone has any items they wish to be added to the agenda, please contact Neil Dawson, PPC chair (07791227160)

## **SWELL@BOURNEMOUTH**

**1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> November at Saint Peter's School** (St Catherine's Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. BH6 4AH) Come and join us for the first ever Youth 2000 retreat in Bournemouth! Join with other young Catholics (16-30) from around the UK to celebrate our faith! Live worship, powerful services, engaging talks, creative workshops, in-depth discussion groups, friendship.

For more info contact Will Hince 07810827606 & Youth 2000 National Office 02072212124 [www.youth2000.org](http://www.youth2000.org)  
Check out [www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth](http://www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth)

## **OPENING OF ST PETER'S ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2014**

Father Vitalis has received a letter from Mr D J Todd, headteacher at St Peter's school, saying that the local Catholic schools have agreed a statement regarding the opening of St Peter's all-through school from September 2014. There will be flyers which have this statement. There is also a poster on our notice board.

*The purpose of the statement is to inform local Catholics that the schools recognise the need for additional places and those schools in the borough of Bournemouth have been co-operating with the Local Authority to meet demand. Parents and families should be reassured that when these year groups reach secondary school age St Peter's will have to expand its intake to accommodate the increase in Catholic applicants.*

## TIMES OF WEEKEND MASSES in other Parishes in the AVON STOUR PASTORAL AREA



The Immaculate Conception and St Joseph's, Purewell, Christchurch	01202 483340	Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 9.00am, 10.45am
Holy Redeemer Kilmington Way, Highcliffe	01425 274838	Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am
The Sacred Heart and St Therese of Lisieux, Ringwood	01425 653131	Sunday 11.00am
Our Lady of Sorrows and St Philip Benizi, Fordingbridge	01425 653131	Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 9.00am
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Southbourne	01202 424960	Sunday 8.00am, 11.00am 6.00 pm
<p><b>Hospital Visit, Urgent requests</b> (usually for poorly patients who have not been visited in the last 48 hours) please call the chaplain or his substitute <i>directly</i>, using, <i>in order</i>, the following numbers: Fr John: Lee 01202 483340 Emergency Mobile: 07850 365897 If these fail, ring St Thomas More's 01202 485588 or the Annunciation Church 01202 513369</p>		

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK SERVICE:** Corpus Christi Church, Boscombe. Saturday, 12th October, 2 p.m.  
*All welcome.*

**AREA YOUTH MASS:** Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 5-8pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth. BH7 6AN) This Mass is especially for all the young people of our area and will be followed by a movie, tuck shop and free popcorn & coke!

**DON BOSCO YOUTH CLUB:** Children from the age of seven upwards meet every Friday in term time at Our Lady Queen of Peace church hall after school until 5.30pm. Any newcomers would be made most welcome. For further details, please contact Romy Powles on 01202 425365

**CORPUS CHRISTI (FORMERLY HOLY CROSS) PRIMARY SCHOOL'S 125th ANNIVERSARY:**  
The school will be celebrating this anniversary in 2014. Did you attend, teach, work, support or govern at the school? Do you have any memories of our school? Can you help us update the school's History? **If you can help in any way, or just share your memories & experiences**, please contact us either by regular mail addressed to '125<sup>th</sup> Celebration Corpus Christi School' or by email: 125yearscorpuschristischool@mail.com or Via Facebook (Corpus Christi Primary, Bournemouth). Our website: [www.corpuschrisitprimary.co.uk](http://www.corpuschrisitprimary.co.uk)

**MEET THE COPTS:** The Coptic Orthodox Church is an ancient part of the Christian family and is the majority Church in Egypt. It is very much in the news at the moment because of the increased persecution it is suffering from Islamist militants in the present turmoil in Egypt. The local Coptic community bought a former Evangelical chapel in Winton which they have transformed into a beautiful Orthodox church complete with icon screen. Their priest, Father Botros (a monk from the Muharraq monastery, central Egypt), has kindly invited the people from the local Catholic parishes to visit his church at **2.30pm on Saturday 5th October**. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see the church, have the icons and symbols explained (why is there an ostrich egg hanging from the icon screen ?) and also to learn about the history, spirituality and present situation of the Coptic Orthodox people in Egypt. Moreover, it will be a chance to express solidarity with our Coptic brothers & sisters in their present sufferings. St. Peter and St. Paul Coptic Orthodox Church is in Calvin Road, Winton (BH9 1LN) (parking behind Wilkinsons/Iceland.) Everyone welcome.

**CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE NATIONAL TOUR :** There will be a series of meetings arranged by the Christian Institute which will focus on three main areas; Same-sex marriage, Religious liberty, GM babies. The nearest venue is Southampton - this meeting will be held on 6th November at the Novotel Southampton, 1 West Quay Road, S015 1RA. There are leaflets on the 'free table' with further details.

**CAFOD NEEDS YOU:** CAFOD Portsmouth is urgently looking for volunteers to help them visit secondary schools in Bournemouth. They believe it is vital to reach as many young people as possible to talk to them about global issues and to empower them to make a difference in today's world. Full training is given and the degree of time required is up to the volunteer. If you are interested, please contact Lynda Mussell on 01252 329385 or email [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk)