

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY Ordinary Time Year C
19th/20th October 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

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

www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicityouth

Week beginning 19th October :		Mass Intention
Sat. 19th Oct. 6.00pm	First Mass Twenty - Ninth Sunday Ord. Time	Norman Pankhurst, RIP
Sunday 20th Oct. 9.30am 4.00pm	TWENTY – NINTH SUNDAY Ord Time Rosary and Benediction	People of the Parish (Missa pro populo)
Monday 21st Oct.	–	–
Tuesday 22nd Oct. 9.30am	Feria	Gerry King, RIP
Wed. 23rd Oct. 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Joseph Duniya, RIP
Thurs. 24th Oct. 9.30am	Feria	For MSP Superior General and Council
Friday 25th Oct. 9.30am	Feria	Gerry King, RIP
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Masses Sat. 6pm & Sun. 9.30am Twenty-ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time		

MARIAN DEVOTIONS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
Rosary before the weekday Masses, Rosary and Benediction 4pm Sunday

There will be a Second Collection this week for WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

THANK YOU	for your weekly	offerings;	12th / 13th Oct.
Envelopes :	£ 181.07	Cash :	£ 107.62
Standing Orders :	£ 148.38		<u>Total : £ 437.07</u>



A big **THANK YOU** to all who came along to the Harvest Supper last week and who parted so readily with their money at the auction afterwards! We raised in excess of **£350**, a wonderful achievement! Half will be donated to CAFOD, half to church funds.

Brother Lionel Sponsored Walk.

I will be doing this on the 17th November this year, rather later than usual due to other commitments. I will be asking for sponsorship this weekend and also on the weekends of the 2nd and 9th November. Please be generous in your support, as you always are. I will also be distributing the latest edition of the RTU newsletter this weekend, in which you will find a reference to St Thomas More's parish and a photo of me in the UK news!

Thank you. Jo Cassidy.

Twenty - Ninth Sunday Ordinary Time Year C

Luke 18: 1 - 8

Pray from the heart

A simple lesson in prayer without ceasing. There is a way to pray with the heart, which God cannot but hear, and he cannot but answer. To speak from the heart is to speak to the heart. God can read the human heart, and that is more important than any words I might say.

It is early October, and the family were sitting around eating their dinner. For whatever reason, Christmas came into the conversation. In the course of the conversation, the mother asked young John what he wanted for Christmas, and, after a long pause, he said "A bicycle." The months went by, and the word "bicycle" was never mentioned again. Not even when the mother bought roller blades for John at Christmas, with which he was delighted. She had decided that, if he really wanted a bicycle, she would have heard about nothing else for all the weeks coming up to Christmas...

There was something that the widow wanted, and, despite all his toughness, the judge just had to give in to her eventually, because she had no intention of letting go, or giving up. If I met an alcoholic who wants to get sober, my initial question is "How badly do you want it? Do you want it bad enough that you are prepared to do what it takes to achieve sobriety?" I knew a young lad who wanted to work for a particular firm, and they had no vacancies. So we went back there eleven times in one month, until the personnel officer threw his hands in the air, and gave him a job!

Jesus goes on from speaking about the evil judge to speaking about his Father. If even the judge gave in, how much more certainly will our heavenly Father respond to our prayers? God can read the heart, and he knows whether I really want what I ask. I don't pretend to understand this, because I know parents who, at this moment, are begging for the life of their daughter, and it is not likely that their prayers will be answered. I like to think that God gives us what we ask for, unless he has something better to give us. For these parents, they cannot possibly see how God could have something better to give them than a daughter whom they dearly love.

The prayer that is the subject of today's gospel is the prayer of petition. It is an important form of prayer, of course, but it is not the most important. Prayer of praise is the highest form of prayer; but, of course, that is greatly augmented, when my prayers of petition are granted. There can be some confusion around the whole area of prayer. If my prayers are always prayers of petition, I run the risk of being selfish and self-centred; except, of course, when the prayers of petition are for others. Like one of the ten lepers, I can ask, and, when my prayer is answered, I can return to give thanks.

The persistency of my prayer is always determined by how seriously I seek what it is I pray for. If I want something bad enough, I will pray without ceasing until God answers my prayer, even if that answer be "No." "No" is also an answer to prayer. Be careful what you ask for in prayer, because you might receive it! We often ask for things that are not for our good, and, if God were sadistic and cruel, he would answer such prayers!

A group of botanists were exploring almost inaccessible regions in search of new species of flowers. One day they spied, through binoculars, a flower of great rarity and beauty. It lay in a deep ravine, with perpendicular cliffs on both sides. To reach it someone would have to be lowered over the sheer precipice by means of a rope, and it was certainly a dangerous undertaking.

Approaching a young lad nearby, who was watching them with great curiosity, they said, "We'll give you twenty dollars if you let us lower you down below, to obtain that beautiful flower for us." The young lad took a look down into the ravine, and then he said "Wait here; I'll be back." When he returned, he was accompanied by an older man. Approaching one of the botanists, he said, "I'll go over the cliff, and get that flower for you, if this man holds the rope. He's my father."

Faith is a direct response to love...

www.biblical.ie/lections

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday.

Today the Pope asks Catholics all over the world to join together at Mass to pray, celebrate and care for the whole family of the Church. A big part of our Church (40%) still needs our help to survive and grow to self-sufficiency. Even more challenging is the fact that more than 50% of the world's people has never heard of Jesus and so don't know that they are loved unconditionally by God.

Through Missio, your prayers and donations will support the work of missionaries and the young Churches as they build schools, provide healthcare and share faith, often in difficult and dangerous circumstances so that all may know God's love and live a life of dignity. The money collected today will go in its entirety to support mission projects worldwide. Please give what you can; every gift makes a difference and, if possible, please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided. Thank you for all your help.

'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 29th 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.

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.

SWELL@BOURNEMOUTH : 1st-3rd Nov. at St Peter's School (St Catherine's Road, Southbourne, 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. Contact Will Hince 07810827606 & Youth 2000 National Office 02072212124
www.youth2000.org

YOUTH HOLY HOUR! 23rd 30th October... 6-7pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 6AN) We hope you can come and join us for this time of Eucharistic Adoration with reflections and Taize music for all young people.

CATENIAN BURSARY FUND: Are you volunteering for a community-based project at home or abroad? If you are a Catholic and aged between 16 and 24, you may be eligible for an award from the Catenian Bursary Fund. This fund is maintained by donations from the membership of the Catenian Association. It is used to provide grants to young Catholics to help them with the costs incurred in volunteering to work on community-based projects at home and abroad. Each project must have a clear benefit for others as well as widening the life experience of the volunteer. To find out more visit the Catenian website at <http://www.thecatenians.com> and click on Bursary Fund.

FABRIC & FINANCE COMMITTEE - AN APPEAL The present committee comprises six members plus the Parish Priest. We really need a further **TWO** members. No special skills required - just a desire to help and give your opinions. Meetings are held about every two months. If you feel able to join us, please contact the Fabric & Finance chair, Steve Ferris, or have a word with Father Vitalis.

SUMMARY of AREA PASTORAL COUNCIL [APC] MEETING Saturday 5th October 2013

After concluding preliminary routine business, the Council heard from Will Hince, who gave an enthusiastic report on Youth Work in the PA. One key item was the recent formation of a *Youth Council*, made up of representatives from both PAs (Bournemouth & Avon Stour), due to meet shortly. Another was the Youth Retreat, to take place at St Peter's School from 1-3 November. The Council then welcomed Deacon Barry Jennings [Will's newly-appointed line manager], who explained his own background and how he saw his role. He summarised the objectives agreed with Will for the year ahead. He also raised the question of Will's contract, which runs to next September and the possibilities for funding future youth-work thereafter. Some discussion took place on this matter. The Council, through Fr. John, thanked Dcn Barry for devoting so much of his time to the Meeting.

The Council then received updates on the Priorities for 2012-13 and, following a scripture reading and reflection, discussed the way forward for Lay Involvement as a key priority for 2013-14. The Council agreed that a pastoral area Celebration to mark the end of the Year of Faith will be held on **24th November at St. Thomas More's (Iford) – from 3 to 4pm**, with involvement (hopefully!) from all the parishes in the PA. Information was provided about Bamenda Sunday (3 November) and the date for the PA Confirmation was confirmed as 3rd May, 2014, at 3pm in St. John's Cathedral. Dates were set for the Council Meeting from the start of 2014. The Council will next meet in Highcliffe on 2nd November 2013.

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

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
Hospital Visit, Urgent requests (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		

AFTERNOON TEAS AND MINI FAIR: The Bournemouth Ordinariate is raising money for a Fund to support sick and retired priests and invite you to join them for afternoon tea on Saturday 26th October between 3pm and 5 pm in Our Lady Queen of Peace Hall. There will be several stalls, including jams and cakes, plants, general bring and buy and books, together with a raffle. Please come and bring friends!

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER/MEDITATION : Reflection and shared silence each Monday at 2.30pm in the Presbytery Meeting Room at St Joseph's, Christchurch. Contact the parish office at St Joseph's for details.

ADVENT TAIZE SERVICE AT OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH: A date for your diary! - A candlelit Advent Taizé Service will take place on **Monday 23rd December** at 7.30pm in Our Lady Queen of Peace church, Douglas Road, Southbourne, with refreshments served afterwards in the church hall (mulled wine and mince pies). Everyone is welcome.

CORPUS CHRISTI (FORMERLY HOLY CROSS) PRIMARY SCHOOL'S 125th ANNIVERSARY: 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, or perhaps fill in some of the gaps? **If you can help in any way, or just share your memories & experiences** please contact us either by regular mail addressed to '125th Celebration Corpus Christi School' or by email: 125yearscorpuschristischool@mail.com or Via Facebook (Corpus Christi Primary, Bournemouth). Our website: www.corpuschrstitprimary.co.uk

BOURNEMOUTH & POOLE MARRIAGE CARE: A new person to chair the organisation is being actively sought. This is a really important service to the Catholic community providing marriage preparation, courses and couple counselling. It is the local branch of a national organisation, www.marriagecare.org.uk.

HCPT: The HCPT "Met Deep South Region" has the privilege of leading the Trust liturgies in the Easter Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2014. The Met Deep South region includes groups from the Portsmouth diocese. If you would like to support a HCPT group by giving a donation, volunteering as a helper, or could recommend a child, please contact Fr Paul Turner the Met. Deep South Regional Chair.

CAFOD: Cafod Needs You - CAFOD Portsmouth is urgently looking for volunteers to help us **visit secondary schools in Bournemouth**. We 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 email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

Mass of Remembrance - The **11am Sunday Mass on 17 November** at **Our Lady Immaculate**, Seamoor Road, **Westbourne** BH4 9AE will remember and hold in prayer all deceased CAFOD supporters from our diocese and celebrate their lives, faith and compassion. Everybody is welcome to attend. If you would like to remember a loved one (even if you cannot attend the Mass), please send their names to portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or phone the CAFOD office on 01252 329385 by 5th November and they will be included in our Book of Remembrance.