

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY Ordinary Time Year C 2nd/3rd November 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

Local Catholic Youth Worker: Will Hince 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

Week beginning 2nd November :		Mass Intention
Saturday 2nd Nov. 6.00pm	First Mass Thirty-first Sunday Ord. Time	John Collier, RIP
Sunday 3rd Nov. 9.30am 5.00pm	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY Ord Time Syro-Malabar Mass	People of the Parish (Missa pro populo)
Monday 4th Nov.	—	—
Tuesday 5th Nov. 9.30am	Feria	Andrew Phillips - Thanksgiving for recovery
Wed. 6th Nov. 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Private Intention of Fr Vitalis Kondo - Thanksgiving
Thurs. 7th Nov. 9.30am	Feria	Marcelina Lobo, RIP
Friday 8th Nov. 9.30am	Feria	Marciano and Ruby Colaco, RIP
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Masses Sat. 6pm & Sun. 9.30am Thirty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time (Remembrance Sunday)		

BAMENDA SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND. Please remember our brothers and sisters in your prayers this weekend and be as generous as you can in your donation for the many parishes, schools, health establishments and social projects we support in our twinned diocese in Cameroon. For details of our joint ventures please see your copy of the enclosed **Bamenda Newsletter** or visit our website: www.bamendaandportsmouth.com

PARISH DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Saturday 9th November

For all parishioners - especially those involved in the various ministries and activities in the parish. All welcome. 9.30am for 10.00. 'Bring and share' lunch. Programme will end 3.30pm.

NEXT SUNDAY , 10th NOVEMBER, IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

ALTAR SERVERS - you are invited to a presentation of St Stephen Guild medals on Sunday 10th November at the 9.30am Mass. This presentation has been brought forward, so we may celebrate this occasion with Fr Vitalis. Would all Altar Servers please try to attend to make this a special celebration for our Ministry and the parish.

THANK YOU	for your weekly	offerings;	26th / 27th Oct.
Envelopes :	£ 187.59	Cash :	£ 117.65
Standing Orders :	£ 148.38	Total :	£ 453.62

Thirty - first Sunday Ordinary Time Year C

Luke

THOUGHTS FOR 31ST SUNDAY

Beyond Redemption?

www.biblical.ie/lections

Forgiveness is the obvious theme which unites first and third readings. Some of the following approaches would bring out the themes of the readings.

(1) There can be no opposition between a God of wrath in the Old Testament and a God of love in the New; God is a God of love always. This is the first truth about God which the people of Israel are taught when they begin to learn of God. As soon as they are shown the meaning of his name and nature, when he becomes more to them than a mere tribal protector, it is as a God of love and forgiveness that he reveals himself (Exod 34.) The idea of the wrath of God pouring itself out upon his crucified Son is repugnant; the crucifixion is the highest act of union of wills and of love between Jesus and his Father; it is then that they are most one, not forced apart by a chasm of hate and hunger, however simulated or vicarious.

(2) Particularly in Luke's gospel forgiveness is seen as one of the most prominent aspects of God. Again and again this comes out in the parables, such as those of the Prodigal Son (better named the Forgiving Father), or in God's joy at the conversion of a sinner, imaged in the parables of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin.

(3) Even stronger in Luke is the theme that no one is beyond redemption. He deliberately takes the most despised outcasts and shows them coming to Jesus, or rather Jesus making a bee-line for them. Samaritans were despised as unclean, so it is the Samaritan leper

who returns to thank Jesus for his cure while the other nine make no response, and it is the Samaritan traveller who helps the injured wayfarer after supposedly dutiful Jews have passed him by. It is the tax-gatherer's prayer in the temple which is acceptable, whereas the pharisee's is not. At Simon's house Jesus disregards the censures of the respected in order to welcome with the utmost delicacy the repentance of the woman of evil repute. The greater the sinner the more welcome he is.4) This is but one aspect of the theme which is generally so crucial in the gospel, that one cannot earn acceptance. No merits of ours can win God's favour or rewards, but God gives to whom he wills: he invites the poor and outcast to his feast, rejecting the original guests; he pays the last labourers as much as the first; we cannot limit our generosity and say that we have done enough. Rather the initiative in giving and welcoming us comes from God, and we can only respond. In this response nothing that we can do could ever be enough.

(5) The generosity and forgiveness which God shows to us must be the model for our own generosity and forgiveness to others. In Matthew the climax of 18 on relationships within the community is the warning expressed in the fate of the servant who is forgiven and refuses to forgive his fellow-servant. The petition of the Lord's Prayer which is especially emphasised teaches forgiveness of each other as a condition of our own forgiveness. In Luke the lesson is stressed by its position: as Jesus is nailed to the cross he forgives his executioners, and even as he hangs on the cross promises forgiveness to the penitent bandit.

Are you involved in Parish Catechesis?

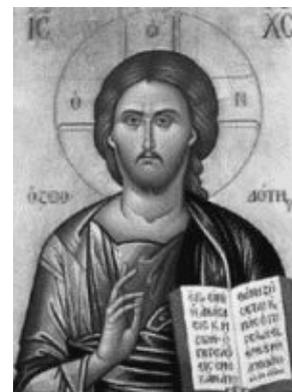
Information Meeting.

The Department for New Evangelisation Formation for Mission invites you to an information evening to meet the Formation for Mission team and to discuss resources and upcoming events. There are several dates and venues (see poster on notice board) but the nearest is at St Dominic's Priory, Lymington on Tuesday 12th November, 7.30pm – 9.00pm.

CATHOLIC BIBLE TOUR: 'A Prodigal Returns to the Catholic Church'

7pm, Thursday 14th November at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

You're invited to be part of a life-changing Catholic Bible tour that will rekindle your love for the faith. Catholic speaker, author, and theologian Jeff Cavins will be visiting from the United States and embarking on a six city Bible and Evangelisation Tour delivering four of his most powerful and popular talks for the first time in England. On Thursday 14 November, he will be speaking in Portsmouth Cathedral. This event is open to anyone and is free. To find out more and register online, go to: www.catholicbibletour.com. Jeff's talk will touch on key aspects of our beautiful and rich Catholic faith leaving you with a greater understanding of the Scriptures and a deeper relationship with Christ.



THANK YOU LETTER FROM THE MSP

Father Vitalis has received a letter from the Promotions Director of the MSP :

“On behalf of the Missionaries of St Paul, I wish to sincerely thank you and your parishioners for your generous contributions towards the training of our seminarians through your inspiring 50x50x50 initiative. We received your generous donation of £1,596.31 with immense gratitude and joy. Please be assured of our prayers.

Presently there are 120 seminarians undergoing formation for the priesthood in our formation house and seminary in Nigeria. Your generous donation would go a long way towards the training of our future priests and help very much in our work of bringing the Good News of God's Kingdom of love and peace throughout where we serve. I will endeavor to keep you informed of the goings on in the Missionary Society of St Paul.

Many thanks once again to all the Parishioners of St Thomas More, Iford, Bournemouth, for your continued support. Our priests and seminarians will include you in their daily prayers and in the Masses offered every Friday for our supporters. I commend you to the maternal protection of Mary, our Blessed mother and St Paul our patron.

Enclosed is a receipt and a thank-you poster. [See notice board]

Your kindness will not be forgotten. Remain blessed. Fr Francis Ezennia, MSP”

The Parish are invited to
Deacon Darryl Jordan's Ordination to the Priesthood
at Portsmouth Cathedral on Sunday 8th December at 3.00pm.

If you would like to travel on the coach being hired by the Bournemouth Ordinariate Mission, please contact them as soon as possible.

Families welcome : Adults £17 maximum, children free.



Repository - *New Stock in Now!*

Advent calendars & candles, Christmas cards,
a really lovely selection of cribs and more.



HEAVEN'S ROAD FM CATHOLIC RADIO

Heaven's Road fm Catholic Radio [by the team that brought you Heart Gives Unto Heart radio] has just announced exciting plans for expansion – why not tune in and enjoy the station which is devoted to broadcasting masses, features, prayers, interviews and music to appeal to a Catholic audience – a winning combination.

Tune into www.heavensroadfm.com. To learn more call 0795 021 8322 or email gerry@heavensroadfm.com.

The radio is run on a shoestring by unpaid volunteers, so any donation, however small, would be very welcome. Cheques should be made payable to Heavens Road fm and sent to the above St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0QX

VACANCY: CLERK TO THE GOVERNING BODY REQUIRED FROM DECEMBER 2013.

School: St George's Catholic VA College, Southampton. Grade 5 (Range £14,700 - £19,000) pro-rata. Part-time, including some evenings, term time only. Closing date: 15th November. Interview date: late November 2013. Contact: St George Catholic VA College, Leaside Way, Southampton, SO16 3DQ, Tel 02380322603, Fax 02380670111 email: head@stgcc.co.uk

Confirmation 2014

The first meeting for Confirmation Candidates will take place on

Tuesday 7th January 2014, 7.30 pm

at St Joseph's Church, Purewell, Christchurch.

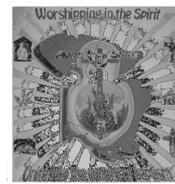
The Sacrament of Confirmation for candidates of the Avon Stour Pastoral Area will be celebrated at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on Saturday 3rd May 2014 at 3pm.

COULD YOU BECOME A WELCOMER?

We need you! New people are needed to join the current welcoming team. *This ministry is particularly suited to families.* If you can help, please have a word with Fr Vitalis or any of the welcomers.

If anyone has any items for inclusion in the newsletter please leave a note in the black post box by the office door or e-mail the parish office.

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 **directly**, using, **in order**, 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

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

A MASS OF HEALING will take place on **Monday 4th November** at 7.15 pm in St Joseph's Chapel, Geo House, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, SO40 7DD. Everyone is welcome to attend.

(Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! 6th, 13th, 20th November... 6-7pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN) "The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life... For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself" CCC1324 All young people are invited to join us for this time of quiet prayer & adoration. **Free rosary!**

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.

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.

ST PETER'S SCHOOL production of MISS SAIGON: 28th, 29th & 30th Nov., 7.30pm. (Sat matinee 2.30pm) Tickets £8 (£6 concs) Call 01202 421141.

CHURCHES SEEK ORGANISTS : The Catholic churches in Fordingbridge and Ringwood are both in need of help with the music. If anyone can play organ, piano, keyboard or even guitar, and has some experience with church music and hymn accompaniment, the parish priest, Father Anthony Pennicott, would love to hear from you on 01425 653131. Thanks.

CAFOD: 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 contact Lynda Mussell on 01252 329385 or 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. Everybody is welcome to attend. If you would like to remember a loved one, 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.