Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg'd. Charity No. 246871



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

ELEVENTH SUNDAY Ord. Time YrB

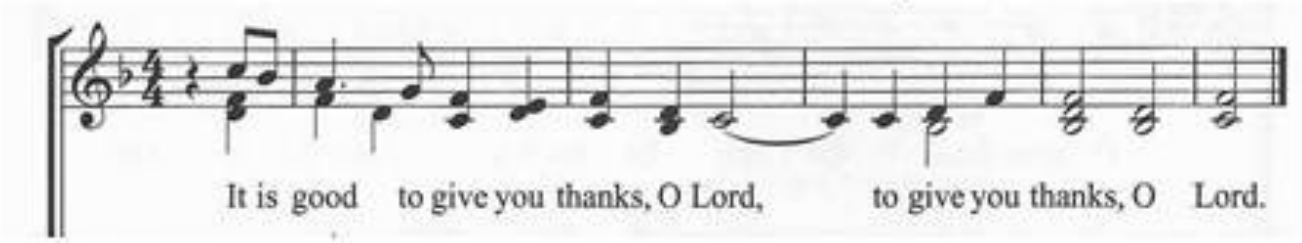
13th/14th June 2015

42 Exton Road Bournemouth BH6 5QG.
Parish Office e-mail: stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Tel: 01202 485588
Parish Priest: Rev. Father Darryl M. Jordan, OLW

Week beginning 13th June:		Mass Intention
Saturday 13th June 6.00pm	First Mass of 11th Sun. of Ordinary Time	For the repose of the soul of Stephen Gallagher
Sunday 14th June 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**	People of the Parish
Monday 15th June	–	–
Tuesday 16th June 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	For all the faithful departed
Wed. 17th June 10.30am *Ordinariate Mass*	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 18th June	No Mass	–
Friday 19th June **10.00am**	**Requiem Mass**	**Josephine Domeney**
Sat. 20th June 5.15–5.45pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation First Mass of 12th Sun. of Ordinary Time	Repose of the soul of Margaret McMahon
Sunday 21st June 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**	People of the Parish

<u>Parish Pastoral Council meeting</u> - this week, Wednesday 17th June. There is a 'Suggestions Box' on the 'free table' (at the back of church) if there is anything you would like to bring to the attention of the PPC.

Psalm Refrain Ordinary 11



ELEVENTH SUNDAY Ord. Time Yr B

What God's Kingdom is like

Jesus said to the crowd: "This is what the kingdom of God is like." Nowhere, however, does he tell us in so many words what the kingdom of God actually is. He only tells us what it is like, or that it is near. Moreover, it is with great difficulty that we can arrive at any understanding of the kingdom's original meaning. The Pharisees equated it with total and absolute observance of the Mosaic Law; the Zealots saw it as a political state established by force of arms with God as supreme ruler; the Essenes despairing of the society of their day imagined it as heralding the end of the world, and so they withdrew to Qumran and elsewhere, in the Dead Sea wilderness, to await its coming. Even through the centuries, among Christians, it has been interpreted in various ways.

Nevertheless there is no doubt but that the heart of Jesus' message about the kingdom is summed up in his first recorded words in Mark's gospel (1:15), "Repent and believe in the good news." The word "repent" has a deeper meaning than just being sorry. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand" (Mt 3:2), John the Baptist told those who went out into the desert to listen to him. And Peter preaching to the crowd after the first Pentecost said "You must repent, and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 2:38). Repent is a translation of a Greek word (metanoia), which means "a change of mind." So the Baptist and Peter were urging their listeners to reform their lives, to undergo a conversion that touched their inner being. Conversion here does not mean a change of religion, nor making a special effort to keep the commandments, although these can be part of it. Conversion is a total and utter change of mind and heart.

This is what St Paul was trying to get the Ephesians to do when he told them, "Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution" (4:23). The kingdom of God becomes for people a search for peace, freedom, and justice, a meaning to life itself. Left to one's own resources a person is incapable of gaining these. But they can be attained by faith, by trusting absolutely in God, and seeing him as a loving Father. In the gospels God is called Father no less than 170 times. In the Old Testament, God was described as Father also, but Jesus introduced something unique. Not only did he speak of God as Father; he addressed him as Father. God is near, Jesus proclaimed, and he accepted people no matter what they had done. God's kindness and loving care knows no limits: it extends even to such insignificant creatures as sparrows. "Can you not buy five sparrows for two pennies. And yet not one is forgotten in God's sight" (Lk 12:6).

The coming of the kingdom is the revelation that God is in love - in love with all his creatures. But this does not mean that human beings are merely called to bask in this love. Rather is the call to us, repent, change your mind, change it utterly, trust in God, believe in Christ's message. This is the challenge the Christian is confronted with. Our response in faith becomes our reply to God's love, and is at the same time love for God and love for our neighbour. Christ in his preaching of the kingdom promises the fulfilment of all human hopes, expectations and longings for a transformation of the world. The blind are to see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the dead to be raised up and the poor to have the good news preached to them. Those whom Christ calls blessed are not the propertied, but rather the poor, the hungry, the mourners, the despised and persecuted.

This does not imply that Christ had in mind a programme for social reform. He was a realist. "The poor you always have with you," he said (Mk 14:7). He shows no hatred towards the rich, but receives and accepts their invitations. His poor are those who have nothing to expect from the world, but expect everything from God. They have been driven to the limits of endurance, and are beggars before God. Only from God can they expect help. And God, in the person of Christ, did not distance himself from such, people like the despised tax-collectors, the lepers, the harlots, the public sinners who were held up to public contempt as being godless.

But God is love, and the coming of God's kingdom means that salvation is at hand for everyone. For, as evidenced in the person of Christ, love is stronger than hatred, than persecution, than injustice, stronger even than death. Love is the only thing which lasts for ever, and what is done out of love endures for ever.

http://www.biblical.ie/lections/SC3.asp

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please e-mail the parish office at stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or leave a note in the post box by the office door

SYRO-MALABAR MASSES

These are held at St Thomas More at 4pm on the first Sunday of every month.
The children have their own special meeting before Mass in the church hall at 3pm.



The *Mar Thoma Sliva* or **Saint Thomas Cross** (also known as the *Nasrani Menorah*), the symbol of the Syro-Malabar Church

St Alphonsa



There will be a **SPECIAL CELEBRATION on 5th JULY**, with Mass at 4pm, a procession after Mass in honour of St Thomas and St Alphonsa; the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church traces its origins to the evangelistic activity of Thomas the Apostle in the first century and St Alphonsa is the first canonised saint from the church. Afterwards there will be refreshments in the church hall.

All are welcome!

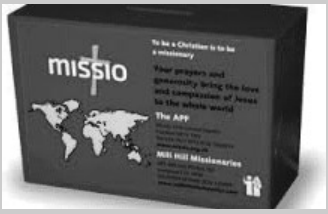
BOSCOMBE CONVENT SCHOOL REUNION

It is thirty-five years since Boscombe Convent School closed.
All past pupils are warmly invited to a special reunion on
Sunday 28th June at St. Thomas Garnet's School, Parkwood Road from 2pm.

Sea Sunday is on July 12, just weeks away. Most of your parishes will be taking up a collection on the day and **we thank you** in advance for your support and cooperation in this respect.

This year we have produced a **Sea Sunday video clip** which is less than 3 minutes long. Here's the link – bit.ly/seasundayfilm or http://bit.ly/seasundayfilm
Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AoS.GB
Follow us on Twitter @Apostleshipsea

APOSTOLATUS MARIS
Apostleship of the Sea
Supporting Seafarers Worldwide



MISSIO

The National Director for Missio has written to inform us that, as a Diocese, we raised **£152,508** for the APF-Mill Hill in 2014.

Mgr Canon James Cronin would like to thank us for such great generosity.

ST PETER'S OPEN EVENINGS There will be two sessions. Parents/carers and children are welcome to attend on either **Thursday 17th September 2015** Time: 6.00pm to 8.30pm Head Teacher's talk: 7.00pm Venue: De La Salle Theatre, St Peter's School, Southbourne, St Catherine's Rd., or **Tuesday 22nd September 2015** Time: 6.00pm to 8.30pm Head Teacher's talk: 7.00pm Venue: De La Salle Theatre, St Peter's School, Southbourne, St Catherine's Rd.
ST PETER'S SCHOOL OPEN EVENING (PRIMARY SCHOOL) Date: 8th October 2015 Time: 6.00pm. Refreshments 6.30pm. Headteacher's talk Venue: St Peter's School (Iford Site), Holdenhurst Avenue, Bournemouth. Please see notice board for more details.

ST PETER'S SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Southbourne Site, St Catherine's Road

There will be a special presentation on **Tuesday, 30th June,** commencing at **7.00pm**. The evening will provide an opportunity to learn more about St Peter's School, their strong Catholic faith and excellent academic record. This is an opportunity to meet personally with the Head Teacher, Mr Todd, and with other senior staff members.

Pastoral Area No. 20: AVON STOUR. Co-ordinating Pastor – Fr. Tom Grufferty.

TIMES OF WEEKEND MASSES in other Parishes/Bournemouth Ordinariate Mission in the AVON STOUR PASTORAL AREA

Ordinariate Mass St Thomas More, Exton Rd., Iford	01590 610133	Sunday 11.15am
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 Visits: Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospitals: For non-urgent requests please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 01202 704221. They also have an answerphone. For more urgent requests/ out of hours, the duty RC chaplain may be contacted via the switchboard on 01202 303626 **For Poole Hospital**, please contact Deacon McConville on 01202 442167.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST AT WINTERSHALL, SURREY: Wednesday 24th June 10.00am to 4.00pm. . Price is a £18.00 adult £9.00 children plus the cost of the coach estimated at £13/£14 per head depending on numbers. If interested, please contact Jan or Ann-Marie c/o St Joseph's church. Coach pick ups at St Joseph's Christchurch and Ringwood.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH SUMMER FETE: Saturday 27th June, 2.00pm - 4.00pm. In the church garden, weather permitting.

FANNING THE FLAME: Catholic Youth Camp 2015 St.Dominic's Priory, Shirley Holms Road, Sway, Lymington, SO41 8NH 17th – 21st August. Age range: 10-25. £90 per person. Details and booking forms from the sisters at Dominican.sisters@talk21.com or on 01590 681874.

SOUTHAMPTON CELEBRATE WEEKEND: 26th - 27th September. St. Mary's College, Bitterne Park, Southampton. Full details can be found on www.celebrateconference.org or by contacting Lynda & Peter on 02380 292058. The Celebrate team looks forward to another faith-filled weekend with daily Mass, good teaching, brilliant music, and stream activities for all age groups.For information about this, and many more upcoming events, see the diocesan website, www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENTS: There are a number of youth events planned over the summer, including Stand Firm (post-Confirmation summer camp) 19th – 21st July, True Survivor course (spiritual survival course hiking and camping in the New Forest for young men) 27th – 29th July, Cherished course (for young women aged 16 -25) 10th – 12thAugust. See www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

ANNUAL MASS: The Catholic Disability fellowship is holding the Annual Mass at St Bede's, Popley Way, Basingstoke on 20th June at 2:30 pm. The Mass will be signed by Dom. Cuthbert Brogan, the Abbot of Farnborough Abbey.We are trying to encourage greater pastoral support for Catholics who are deaf. It would be good to recruit a team of volunteers to help promote this in the Diocese. If you would like to know more or would consider volunteering please contact Fr Peter Hollins (PCS Chaplain). Tel: 01730 262290 Email: pcs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Facebook Page: "Pastoral Care Services, Portsmouth Diocese"

Keep in touch with the latest news! The Diocese of Portsmouth now issues a weekly e-news with photos, news, and information from around the Diocese. Go to www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk and add your email address to receive these updates. Are you on Facebook? Like 'Diocese of Portsmouth' to get all the latest info as it happens. You can also follow @BishopEgan and @PortsmouthRC on Twitter.

THANK YOU for the offerings 6th/7thJune

Envelopes :	£ 127.70	Cash :	£ 122.91
Standing Orders :	£ 206.23		**Total : £ 456.84**
CAFOD :	£ 25.00	Thank you	