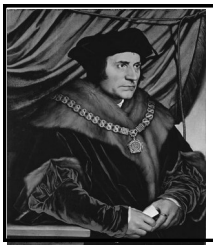
Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg'd. Charity No. 246871



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
**St Thomas More**

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY Ord. Time Yr B

## 25th/26th July 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 25th July: | | Mass Intention |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday 25th July 6.00pm | First Mass of 17th Sun. of Ordinary Time | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 26th July 9.30am<br>*Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am | **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME** | Repose of the soul of Marian Brennenstuhl |
| Monday 27th July | _ | _ |
| Tuesday 28th July 9.30am | Feria | For all the faithful departed |
| Wed. 29th July 10.30am<br>*Ordinariate Mass* | **St Martha,** *memorial* | For all the faithful departed |
| Thurs. 30th July 9.30am | Feria | For all the faithful departed |
| Friday 31st July 9.30am | **St Ignatius of Loyola,** *memorial* | Frank Eric & Magdalen Mary Andrews (Foundation Mass) |
| Saturday 1st Aug. 5.15–5.45pm<br>6.00pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation(Confessions)<br>First Mass of 18th Sun. of Ordinary Time | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 2nd August 9.30am<br>*Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am | **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME** | Repose of the soul of Lance Kerr |

**YOUTH MASS THIS SUNDAY**
(26th July) Corpus Christi, at the 5.00pm Mass.

Celebrated by Fr Jos Moons, one of the visiting Jesuits, as part of the Hearts On Fire Mission week.
Come and enjoy - followed by a BBQ on the field of St Thomas Garnet's School field.
If you wish to know more or join the Youth Council, email: bournemouthcatholicyouth@hotmail.com

## 'Day for Life'

is the day in the Church's year dedicated to celebrating and upholding the dignity of human life.
The Church teaches that life should be protected and nurtured from conception to natural death.
This year's 'Day for Life' is celebrated in England on **26th July**.
There will be a Special Collection after the Weekend Masses.

## Seventeenth Sunday Ordinary Time Yr B

### Eucharist in Daily Life

On hearing of the death of John the Baptist Jesus was deeply upset and in need of finding a quiet place where he could share his grief with his apostles. However, when he stepped ashore there were thousands waiting for him. Immediately he made them welcome, talked to them about the kingdom of God and cured those who were in need of healing. This healing was not just a magic wave of the hand. It would have involved listening to the people and their stories, spending time with them, showing care and concern and empathising with them.

Here we have a picture of the Church in every age. Jesus did not feed the hungry crowds on his own. He did it with the help of the apostles who were reluctant to accept responsibility for the hungry crowds. Their first reaction was to send the people away. Get somebody else to deal with the problem. Don't we often do the same when faced with a difficult situation: send them off to some so called expert or other. However, Jesus challenged them to look to their own resources. They remembered that they had five loaves and two fish which they brought to Jesus. The little they had when placed in his hands turned out to be more than enough for all.

The five loaves and two fish are symbols of the power for goodness which we all possess. In our eyes our gifts may appear to be insignificant, but they are what the Lord has given us and expect us to use in his service. This, in fact is their living out in daily life what the Eucharist is all about. Every single person is called upon to a life of service in their own way.

It does not have to be spectacular or extraordinary - parents caring for their children, children helping in the home, doing one's job of work whatever it may be to the best of one's ability. Even the sick, the old and the housebound. The blind poet John Milton put it well: 'they also serve who only watch and wait. A smile, a kind word, a listening ear, a warm heart - these cost nothing but can mean so much.

Sometimes people may say 'I have nothing to contribute to any one any more. I am too old and to infirm to have anything to offer.' This is false. In spite of their infirmities these people can be an inspiration to us all: their strong faith, their trust in God, their cheerfulness, their gratitude for small mercies.

And so the Lord invites us to be nourished at his table - and always remember that the Eucharist is food for the sinner, not the prize for the perfect. As well as that the Lord sends us forth to give as we have received, to forgive as we have been forgiven and to love as we have been loved.

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

### The Church's Guide to End of Life Decisions

*"How great a lie ...to make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living!"* (Pope Francis)

Kathleen, a much-loved grandmother, collapsed at home one Saturday morning and was rushed to hospital. Early signs pointed towards a stroke. The doctors talked about the next twenty-four hours being critical; it seemed like Kathleen might not even survive. The priest was called and Kathleen received the anointing of the sick. Doctors were talking about brain damage and whether interventions might be possible. Suddenly the family was faced with big questions. What would Kathleen want and how could the Church help guide any decisions? How do we accept death when it comes and cherish life while we can?

There have been remarkable medical and technological advances so that the chronically ill can receive life-saving treatments. We can be truly thankful for such advances. And yet at some time or other we will all die. These same advances have led to more complex decision making about appropriate treatment.

At the end of life, there are **two thoughts** which can help guide us all: **The first is that we love life.** Every person is loved by God and every life is a precious gift never to be destroyed or neglected. It is wrong to hasten or bring about death. God will call us in his good time.

**The second is that we accept death.** This means there is no obligation to pursue medical treatment when it no longer has any effect or, indeed, harms the patient, or where the risks or burdens of the treatment outweigh the likely benefits.

We need to prepare to face life-threatening crises. Ideally these difficult and important decisions need to be faced with others – our spouse, our siblings, our extended family members. The family, after all, should be the privileged place where mutual support and understanding occurs.

Some times difficult decisions need to be made and the views of family and experts are needed. But in such situations these two questions can guide us: "is this decision loving life?" and "is this decision accepting the inevitability of death?"

Depending on the situation we should seek ways to answer yes to both, as life itself is a gift from God, and death but the gateway to new life with Him.

http://www.dayforlife.org/Home/2015-Materials/2015-Message

**CONFIRMATIONS 2016** for the Avon Stour Pastoral Area - Saturday 16th April 2016

Applications are invited from anyone who will be twelve years old or over on 1st September 2015.
Please complete an application form (on the 'free table' in the church porch) and return it to either Father Darryl or the Parish Office.

**Interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith?** In our Pastoral Area, St. Joseph's Christchurch and Christchurch Priory (Cof E) are once again hosting an **Alpha Course** (non-denominational basic course in Christianity aimed at non-Christians, but open to Christians seeking a refresher of faith roots) September – New Year. This will be followed by **Catholic Alpha**, which will add topics on the Sacraments and other Catholic topics – New Year to Easter. Any non-Catholics hoping to become Catholic, must attend both courses. All happening in Christchurch but open to the whole Pastoral Area. Contact Father Darryl for more details.

**BISHOP PHILIP REQUESTS …** On Friday 11th September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. Please contact your MP, urging them to attend the debate and vote against the Bill. You can send an e-mail to your MP via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website (www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide) or send a letter by post, a draft of which can be found at the back of church.

**DIRECTOR OF LAY FORMATION FOR THE AVON STOUR PASTORAL AREA.**

Richard Martin will take up his appointment as Director of lay Formation for the Avon Stour Pastoral Area in October 2015. He is employed part time for 25 a week and funding comes from "Living Our Faith". Please see notice board for a resume.

## Would anyone like to join our team of Welcomers?

Welcomers are needed, particularly on a Sunday.
This Ministry is especially suited to families.

If you are interested in helping our parish in this way, please drop a note in to the parish office or have a chat with Father Darryl. Many thanks.



Also, a plea from the **Cleaning Team** - They would be grateful if anyone could help with the church cleaning on Friday mornings (after the 9.30am Mass)
Just turn up - you will be most welcome!

## Update from the Music Ministry..

For the past few months we have been inserting the weekend Psalm Refrain in the parish newsletter. A straw poll has indicated that parishioners would prefer to use the Mass Book rather than look at the Newsletter.
We have decided that for the time being, we will no longer insert the psalm refrain into the Newsletter.

Many of you will know Thomas Phillips, the young guy who provides the music during the Saturday Vigil Mass has proved to be a very talented guy. We will be embarking on new mass settings in September, and these have been composed by Thomas himself. We will have a new ***Kyrie, Gloria, Bidding Prayer Response, Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, and Agnus Dei,*** and all the music has been composed by Thomas himself. We will start introducing the new mass to you very shortly. It is a beautifully composed mass, and I know you will enjoy it.

We are always on the lookout for ***singers and musicians*** for Sunday morning mass, and we could also do with a ***Psalm Cantor for the Saturday Vigil Mass,***

***We also welcome young parishioners who are learning to play a musical instrument. We could do with Guitars, especially a Bass, plus String, Wind, or any budding keyboard players.***

***For more information please contact either Paul Tabor or Barry Sherwin.***

## Hall Hire

A reminder that our church hall is available for hire for birthday parties etc.

To check availability and for more details, contact Marysa Coulter on 01202 417017 or e-mail *Marysa@btinternet.com*

Details of the charges are on the noticeboard in the church foyer. Special rate for St Thomas More parishioners!

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

**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<br>St Thomas More, Exton Rd., Iford | 01590 610133 | Sunday 11.15am |
| The Immaculate Conception and<br>St Joseph's, Purewell, Christchurch | 01202 483340 | Saturday 6.30pm<br>Sunday 9.00am, 10.45am |
| Holy Redeemer<br>Kilmington Way, Highcliffe | 01425 274838 | Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am |
| The Sacred Heart and<br>St Therese of Lisieux, Ringwood | 01425 653131 | Sunday 11.00am |
| Our Lady of Sorrows and<br>St Philip Benizi, Fordingbridge | 01425 653131 | Saturday 6.00pm<br>Sunday 9.00am |
| Our Lady Queen of Peace,<br>Southbourne | 01202 424960 | Sunday 8.00am, 11.00am<br>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. | | |

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

**THE GIFT COURSE:** A follow up will commence 2nd Monday of each month as from September 14th. Format will be Bread & Soup Lunch, Prayer & praise, DVD, short discussion Closing prayer & hymn. 12 noon - 2 pm Contact parish office for more details. *EVERYONE WELCOME*

**MIGRANT SLAVERY CONFERENCE:** 26th September. St. Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX, 9.30am – 3.30pm. There is an excellent line-up of speakers including Kevin Hyland, Independent Anti Slavery Commissioner, Fiona Cunningham, Centre for Social Justice, Jess Gealer, Medaille Trust and Laura Franklin, Assistant Commissioner, Police and Crime Commissioner, Isle of Wight. Booking is essential: the day will cost £10. Bookings at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/bookings or cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**SAFEGUARDING REFRESHER TRAINING COURSE:** Saturday 3rd October, 10.00am - 12.30pm. St Joseph's Church, Purewell, Christchurch, BH23 1EH This refresher course is suitable for those whose initial training was more than three years ago. The course combines both Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult safeguarding. http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/safeguarding/events-and-training.php

**CALLED & GIFTED:** 'Taster Session'- Either Tuesday 13th October, 7.30-9.00pm, at Christchurch or Thursday 15th October, 11.00am-12.30pm at Ringwood. Called & Gifted Main Event - Friday, 6th Nov. in the evening and Saturday,7th Nov. in the daytime.

**CAFOD MEETING:** Portsmouth Supporters' Meeting on 12 September. Join us at our next meeting, Sat 12 Sept.,10am – 1.30pm at St Bede's RC Primary School (Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX) where we will explore our new *Laudato Si'* study guide for parishes and hear more about CAFOD's work in Niger. To book a place please ring 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk by 4 September.

**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 Ave. Bournemouth. Please see notice board for more details.

## THANK YOU **for the offerings 18th/19thJuly**

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|---|---|---|---|
| Envelopes : | £ 106.45 | Cash : | £ 96.42 |
| Standing Orders : | £ 213.38 | | **Total : £ 416.25** |
| APOSTLESHIP of the SEA : | £ 122.23 | *Thank you!* | |