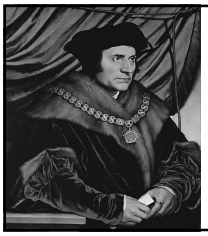
Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg'd. Charity No. 246871



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY Ord. Time Yr C

27th/28th August 2016

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 27th/28th August		Mass Intention
Saturday 27th August Confessions 5.15–5.45pm First Mass 6.00pm	**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**	David & Jo Cassidy (Foundation Mass)
Sunday 28th August Sunday Mass 9.30am		People of the Parish
Tuesday 30th August (No Mass today)	–	–
Wednesday 31st August Ordinariate Mass 10.30am	**St Aidan,** *memorial*	----------
Thursday 1st September Weekday Mass 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Friday 2nd September Weekday Mass 9.30am	Feria	For all the Parish faithful departed
Saturday 3rd September Confessions 5.15–5.45pm First Mass 6.00pm	**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**	People of the Parish
Sunday 4th September Sunday Mass 9.30am Baptism (Cookman) Ordinariate Mass 11.15am Syro-Malabar Mass 4.00pm		People of the Parish ----------

Antonino ('Tony') Fiore, RIP Funeral service at Bournemouth Crematorium this Thursday, 1st Sept.,1.30pm. Our condolences to all the family.

There will be a **MEETING** in the church hall after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday, 28th, for those who can help in any way with the **Harvest Supper/Auction.**



Twenty-second Sunday Ord. Time Year C

Where is Justice?

Psalm 15 praises the person "who takes no interest on a loan/Such a one will stand firm for ever." Back in the Middle Ages, our Church interpreted that verse to mean that taking interest on a loan was morally wrong. However, it is clear from other biblical passages that this applied only to making a profit from the financial misfortunes of other members of the community.

All this is a far cry from today's globalised capitalism, where the law of supply and demand is supreme: the greater the demand for services or goods, the more we can charge for them. To the business mind, payment in the next life for the good deeds of this one has little attraction. And let's face it, this attitude can also infect the spiritual sphere, if we attempt to become masters of our own destiny. The great idolatry of our time is the belief that we can save ourselves. We are tempted to think like this: "I'm saving my soul; I'm winning a place for myself in heaven." We store up credits and merits, towards the day when we can present them before God, and claim our reward on the basis of strict justice, rather like a business transaction.

But if this in any way is a true reflection of our attitude, then we are living an illusion. The problem underlying this is one which is touched upon in the readings of today, namely the problem of pharisaism, the idea of self-sufficiency, the absence of true humility. In other words we do not understand the truth about ourselves, and how

we stand in regard to God. The Pharisees in the gospel parable picked the places of honour, which they regarded as being theirs by right, because they observed the Law. We, too, fail to recognise the common lot of humankind, its complete dependence on God's mercy, freely offered and not merited. The idea of giving a party, not for our friends and relations, but for the poor and the crippled and the blind, does not particularly appeal to us.
Remember that this is a parable, and what Christ is saying is, "Accept others; be open to others. Don't put up barriers between yourselves and others, as did the Pharisees." Another possible interpretation is that we ourselves are the poor, the lame and the blind. And God has invited us to the heavenly banquet, precisely because, for himself, there is no possibility of gain or interest by so doing. He has invited us so that his mercy and his bountiful goodness may be shown before all the world. The only way we can deny this goodness of a merciful God is by declaring it to be unnecessary. And this we do whenever we show a lack of humility, a misunderstanding of the role God wants to play in our lives, whenever we say secretly, at the back of our minds, "Lord, I'm a pretty good Catholic. I go to Mass on Sundays. I contribute to collections. I don't criticise people behind their backs, even though I know a lot of others who do. Actually, Lord, I'm pretty good all round." But Jesus rejects this attitude, because it is a violation of the truth. It fails to see that salvation cannot be deserved, cannot be claimed, that salvation is a pure gift.
The true Christian spirit is to come as a beggar before God, and make this basic request: "Lord, please help me." It is being true to Christian practice to face honestly our emptiness and limitations, to realise the need we have for Christ's redeeming power in our lives, to glory in our infirmities, because the power of God is more evident when the recipient of it is weak. As St Paul himself stated it, "I am quite content with my weaknesses and with insults, hardships, persecutions, for when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor 12:9f) in Christ Jesus, my Lord.

www.biblical.ie/lections/SC3.asp

PLANNED GIVING LETTERS Individual offertory contribution statement letters for each parishioner involved in planned giving are now available. The letters detail your contributions for the last financial year. Thanks everyone for your generosity! ***Please pick up your letter from the table by the church front doors.***



Keep the date free …. We will be holding our **HARVEST SUPPER and AUCTION** on Saturday, 17th September. After our supper (Cheese or Ham Ploughmans and a dessert), there will be an auction of harvest produce, the proceeds of which will be sent to CAFOD.

Tickets will be on sale after the weekend Masses on the next two weekends.

CAFOD PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN SUPPORTERS' MEETING: Next meeting on Saturday 10th September from 10am until 1.30pm at St Bede's RC Primary School (Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX) where we will explore our Harvest resources and hear more about CAFOD's work in Bolivia. To book a place, please ring 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND: 11th - 20th October. Pilgrimage to Bethlehem and Tiberius. For more details please contact Fr Tom Grufferty, email tomgrufferty1@gmail.com

THANK YOU

for the offerings 20th/21st August

Envelopes :	£ 107.95	Cash :	£ 99.97
Standing Orders :	£ 192.23		**Total : £ 400.15**

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 and Blessed Margaret Pole, 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.		