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



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

TWENTY-EIGHTH Sunday Ord. Time
Year A
11th /12th October 2014

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

Week beginning 11th October :		Mass Intention
Saturday 11th Oct. 6.00pm	First Mass of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Patricia Lowe, RIP
Sunday 12th Oct. 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME**	Mary and Dick Mullins, RIP
Monday 13th Oct.	—	—
Tuesday 14th Oct. 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	John Horgan, RIP
Wed. 15th Oct. 10.30am *Ordinariate Mass*	**St Teresa of Avila**, *memorial*	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 16th Oct. 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Friday 17th Oct. 9.30am ***October Devotions 7.00pm***	**St Ignatius of Antioch**, *memorial*	For all the parish faithful departed
Sat. 5.15 – 5 .45pm 18th Oct 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation First Mass of the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Sunday 9.30am 19th Oct *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

October Devotions will be held during the month of October on
Fridays at 7.00pm.
The evening will end with Benediction.

There will be a second collection next weekend for FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Brother Lionel Sponsored Walk. Jo completed this on Sunday and will have raised a total sum of £365. Jo says "My grateful thanks to all who sponsored me. I will be collecting any outstanding sponsor money over the weekend of the 1st/2nd November."

MASS COUNTS
The diocese require that the number of people who attend the weekend Masses be counted during the month of October.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday Ord. Time Yr A

Isaiah 25: 6-10 Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20 Matthew 22: 1-14

Strange Invitations

With every parable of Jesus, the hearer should at some point be jolted or shocked. The parable is meant to provoke and to incite - to arouse conversation as well as introspection. Ultimately it should lead to action. What is woven together here is a story which should be relatively believable and familiar in terms of details and customs; yet it also contains within it the unbelievable - the startling. The last five words of the text above is that which is intended to startle - But they refused to come.

Jesus chooses to move his listeners by surrounding his story around an event which is renowned for its festiveness and joy - a wedding - particularly the scrumptious wedding feast which was a key part of the event. Further, this is no typical wedding. It is hosted by the king himself and it is thrown for his son. One would imagine that this particular wedding feast would be a spectacular event and that its invitations would be coveted by those who were lucky enough to receive them.

Unlike the wedding invitations with which we are familiar, wedding invitations in the day of Jesus would not state a particular day or time. Instead, they would simply announce that the event is to occur at some time in the future - meanwhile the various preparations would be made - the procuring of food, wine, musicians, decorations, fine apparel, etc. When everything had been arranged and had passed the inspection of the host, a throng of servants would be dispatched to tell the invited guests to come and celebrate. When the guests arrived, the veiled bride would process from the home of her family to the home of the bridegroom. Guests at a wedding feast would be expected to wear their finest clothes. The event was a rich celebration which could continue for a number of days.

One would think that the guest list for the wedding would be primarily made up of family and friends - those individuals who not only would be expected to attend - but who would, indeed, want to attend. Would you need your arm twisted to attend a week long, all-expense-paid, wedding bash at the palace of the king? It would be like getting a Buckingham Palace invitation to a week of special State dinners. Nevertheless, the invitation is refused - which again, would have been startling. As the story continues, things only gets worse - and more startling.

It does not require a degree in biblical studies to figure out that the King is God, his Son is Jesus, the invited guests are the chief priests and elders, and the messenger-servants are the prophets. The chief priests and elders should have recognized God's invitation to celebrate and respond to a call to holiness which was delivered by His Son; rather they hated Him as a result of their jealousy, their stubbornness, their fear, and their hypocrisy

The invitation from God to holiness is an invitation of joy - likened to a magnificent banquet! Responding to the invitation from God to embrace a life of holiness does not yield a life of gloom and hard sacrifices; but happiness and contentment. It does not yield misery; but celebration. It does not yield sadness; but laughter. It lasts not for a week; but for eternity. No wedding gift is required - simply a heart filled response to the invitation. Further, we must remember that the king is not obliged to invite anyone to the wedding feast; rather it is a free act of kindness - it is all gift. Similarly, God is not obliged to invite us either; rather it is all done out of divine love for his creation.

www.biblical.ie/lections

Would you like your child to make their First Holy Communion in 2015?

If so, please contact Kathy and pass on your details. **Closing date** for the programme is **26th October 2014**.

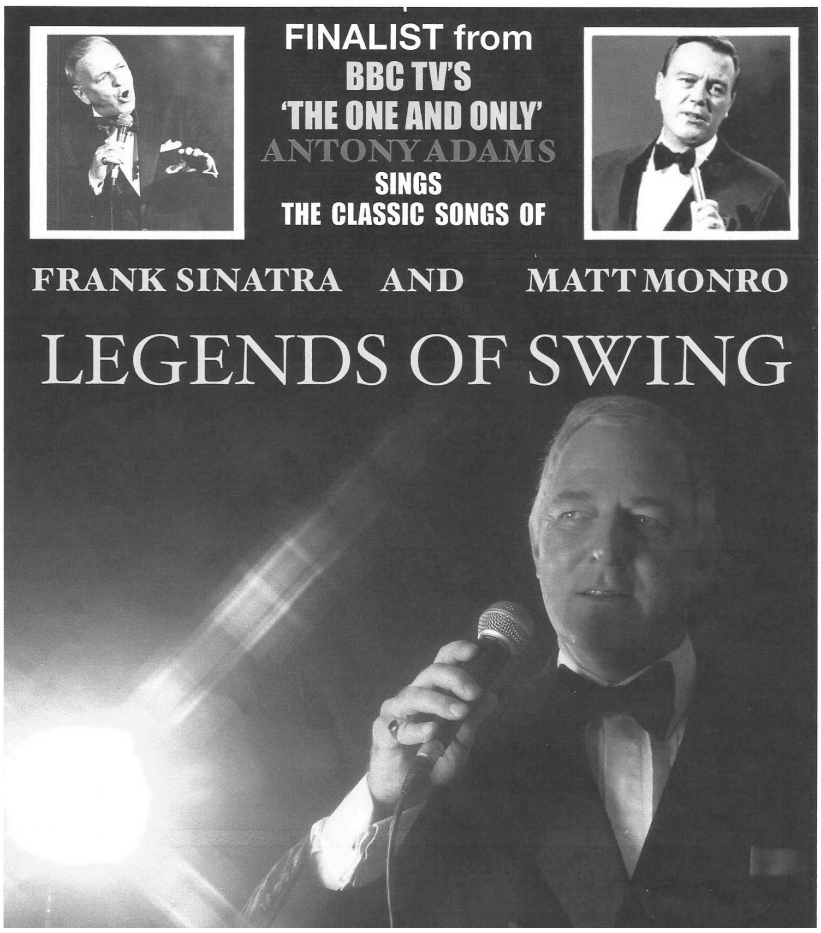
Would you like to join the First Holy Communion Catechist team?

Why not come along to one of the sessions to see what's involved – dates are in the back of the church. Or contact Kathy for further information.

THANK YOU …
very much to all those who came to the Harvest Supper last weekend!
The profits on the ticket sales and the auction totalled **£282.79**. Half of this will be sent to CAFOD and half given to general church funds.

St Thomas More Sunday Singers

We would like to launch a new singing group for Sunday morning Mass. There will not be any complicated singing, just sing as you would normally sing in church. The singing group would sing the settings, Kyrie, Gloria etc along with Psalms, Responses and Hymns.
We need four or five people of any age who can commit to a maximum of one to two hours per week if rehearsals are required. Just sing as you do when you are in your normal seat but sing in a group.
Come and give it a try, just give your name and contact details to either Fr Darryl, Paul (Music Director), Barry (Organist) or contact Linda in the office, 01202 485588



Saturday 25th October
7.15pm
St Thomas More Church Hall

'Legends of Swing'

Proceeds in aid of church funds.

Tickets £5.

Tickets will be on sale after the weekend Masses

Soft drinks provided but feel free to bring a bottle!

Parish Pastoral Council. The next PPC meeting will be on Wednesday 22 October at 7.00pm. Minutes from the last meeting held on 24th September will be pinned up on our noticeboard shortly.

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.



DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling?" "You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning."

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, For urgent requests for poorly patients, please call Fr Darryl Jordan on 01202 470722 Mobile: 07845 983712		

THE DON BOSCO YOUTH CLUB: Parish Centre, Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Douglas Rd., Southbourne. Every Friday in term time 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Children age 7 and above are all welcome. For further details, please contact Romy c/o Our Lady Queen of Peace church

IRISH SET DANCING: In the church hall every 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Thursday, 8pm to 10.30pm. Beginners welcome. For further details, please contact the parish office.

HOME GROUP: Open to everyone. Discussion of Pope Francis's Encyclical "Joy of the Gospel" Thursday evenings 7.30 p.m from 30th October. Venue Petersfield Rd Please contact the parish office for further information.

IGNATIAN DAYS: 'Pilgrims in the Lord Together' will begin again on Saturday 18th October. The topic on 18th October will be 'What do we mean by Prayer?' Contact Chris c/o St Joseph's Christchurch.

MASS IN EXTRAORDINARY FORM: The 'Tridentine Mass' is celebrated at Our Lady Immaculate, Westbourne, on the third Sunday of each month at 6.00 (please note new time), preceded by confessions from 5 pm. All are welcome.

DISCOVERING PRIESTHOOD DAY: For those discerning the priesthood at St John's Seminary, Wonersh, on 1st November, 2014, 10am - 5pm. Lunch will be provided. Contact: Fr Chandler: jchandler@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

THANK YOU **for the offerings** **4th/5th Oct.**

Envelopes :	£ 146.16	Cash :	£ 115.76
Standing Orders :	£ 152.99		**Total : £ 414.91**
Collection for Cathedral:	£ 58.50	*Thank you!*	