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



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

TWENTY-NINTH Sunday Ord. Time Yr A

18th /19th October 2014

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

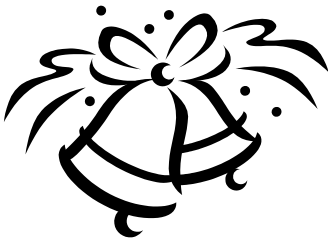
Week beginning 18th October :		Mass Intention
Saturday 18th Oct. 6.00pm	First Mass of the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Sunday 19th Oct. 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME**	Phyllis Lane , RIP (6th Anniversary)
Monday 20th Oct.	—	—
Tuesday 21st Oct. 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	For all the faithful departed
Wed. 22nd Oct. 10.30am *Ordinariate Mass*	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 23rd Oct. 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Friday 24th Oct. 9.30am ***October Devotions 7.00pm***	Feria	For all the parish faithful departed
Sat. 5.15 – 5 .45pm 25th Oct 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation First Mass of the Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Evelina Hitchcott, RIP
Sunday 9.30am 26th Oct *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	THIRTIETH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS will be held during the month of October on Fridays at 7.00pm.
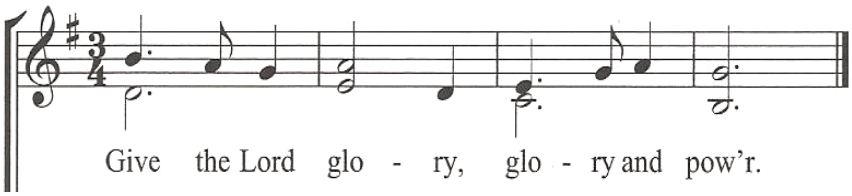
MASS COUNTS: The diocese require that the number of people who attend the weekend Masses be counted during the month of October.

There will be a second collection this weekend for **FOREIGN MISSIONS**

Congratulations to Katie Dudley and James Bickerstaff who were married here on Saturday 18th October!
May they have a long and happy life together.



Week 29 Ordinary Time.
Psalm 95 Refrain



Twenty-Ninth Sunday Ord. Time Yr A

Isaiah 4: 1, 4-6 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5 Matthew 22: 15-21

Mission Alive

In A Matter of Life and Death, John Taylor writes that God is not primarily concerned as to whether we are religious or not. What is fundamentally important to God is whether or not we are alive. If our religion makes us more fully alive, more courageous, more caring - more involved in life - then God is in it, But if religion inhibits our capacity for life or makes us run away from life then surely God is against it just as Jesus was. The question of Deuteronomy and of the missionary is simple: Are you alive or dead? Is our community alive or dead? What is the evidence? Much of life is not written in our genes or our environment. Do we choose life? Why are so many people only half alive? Why are little children more vividly alive than their parents? Taylor insists that the most violent epidemic gripping our society in a vice is accede, a sleeping sickness, a kind of pervasive apathy the "I can't be bothered" "It is nothing to do with me" "Here l am, send someone else" syndrome.

In today's world the pervasive mood is often one of anxiety - wages have dropped in real terms and jobs and businesses are insecure. There are devastating diseases. The times are troubled.
To give credit to the writer of Deuteronomy, despite all the disaster and holocausts which Israel had suffered, he did not give up hope. He believed in the loving God of the Exodus. No situation ever after was without hope. But he was blunt. Our choices are vital. Are we willing to pay the cost to choose life? Like Psalm 95 he believed in the importance of "today" which is all the time we've got.

One thinks of that famous day in August 386 in Milan when Augustine was tormented and going mad, choosing pleasure instead of chastity. In tears he flung himself down beneath a fig tree, "How long will I go on saying tomorrow? Suddenly he heard a child singing a song "Take and read" and he opened a nearby Bible at Romans 13:13-14. So his life was changed from that moment and as we say the rest is history.

For two thousand years Christianity has been the spiritual force continually reshaping the history of Europe. We are fortunate to have seen it outlive with renewed vigour the most systematic and brutal rivals it ever had in Nazism and Communism. Now it is in crisis through the indifference of many of its members. So much depends on our choices; will we choose what can give us true life, or will we fritter away our precious opportunities?

To describe the high path to life and truth, the Gospel uses many figures of speech - bread, light, the door, the way, the shepherd, the vine. It means that Jesus is what men and women must have and long to have in order to be able truly to live. When Jesus says "It is I" or "I am" he is presenting him self as the one for whom the world is waiting, the one who satisfies all longing.

Mission is about life. But the key to life, the one who really lived life to the full is Jesus. In Jesus we have the confidence that the world of evil is overcome. We can have the spirit of the famous Marshal Foch, the allied commander in one of the decisive battles of the World War I. When matters were at their worst he issued his famous command which is now in all military strategy textbooks: "My centre is giving way, my right is pushed back, my left is wavering. The situation is excellent. I shall attack."

www.biblical.ie/lections

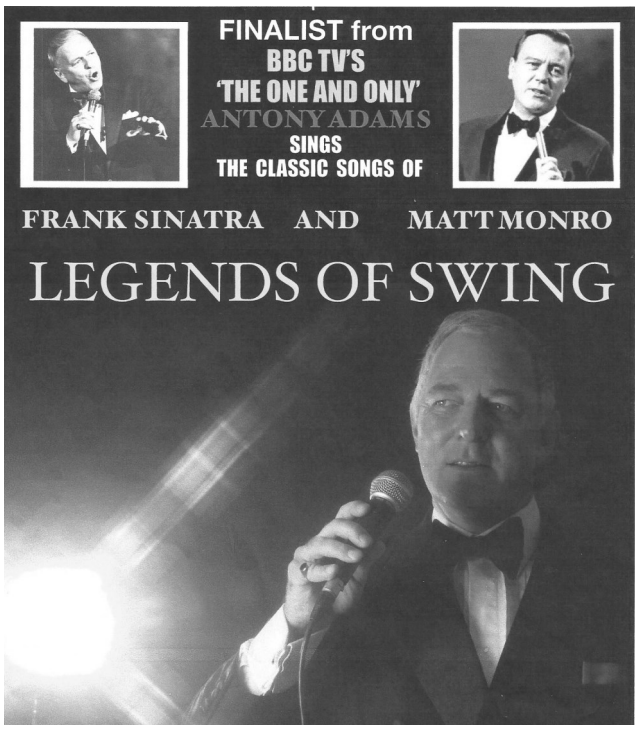
Would you like your child to make their First Holy Communion in 2015?

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.

Saturday 25th October, 7.15pm
St Thomas More Church Hall



Tickets £5

(Tickets will be on sale after the weekend Mass-

Proceeds in aid of church funds.

Soft drinks provided but feel free to bring a bottle!

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

YOUTH 2000

Diocesan Youth Retreat

5pm, 31st October - 2pm, 2nd November 2014
St Peter's School, Bournemouth.

Evangelistic retreat for young adults aged 16 - 30

Further information is available from Youth 2000 at info@youth2000.org or tel. 020 7221 2124.
Alternatively, contact the retreat coordinator, Will Hince, on 07780221686

YOUTH MASS at OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE, SOUTHBOURNE on SUNDAY, 26th OCTOBER at 6pm, **arranged by the Youth Council.** ***All welcome.***

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.

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

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 Visits: 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

CAFOD MASS of REMEMBRANCE: The 10.30am Sunday Mass on 16 November 2014 at Our Lady Help of Christians, 1A Sherborne Road, North Camp, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6JS will remember and hold in prayer all deceased CAFOD supporters from our diocese and celebrate their lives, faith and compassion. Everybody is welcome to attend. If you would like to remember a loved one (even if you cannot attend the Mass), please send their names to portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or phone the CAFOD office on 01252 329385 by 7th November and they will be included in the Book of Remembrance.

CAFOD Needs You - CAFOD Portsmouth is currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help us visit Catholic **primary** schools in Bournemouth. If you are a good communicator and interested in global issues, please get in touch. The role aims to empower young people to make a difference in today's world. Full training provided. Please email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk for further information.

MONTHLY DEVOTION IN HONOUR OF MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS: Friday 24th October at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Douglas Road, Southbourne. This will start with 7pm Mass following the normal hour of Adoration from 6pm to 7pm. The Mass will be followed by the usual devotional prayers and then refreshments at Romy's house.

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 for further information.

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, BH7.
Please contact the parish office for further information.

MASS IN EXTRAORDINARY FORM: Fr Anthony Glaysher, parish priest of Ryde, offers Mass in the Extraordinary Form (the 'Tridentine Mass') 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. The next EF Mass is on this Sunday 19th October. 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. John Chandler: jchandler@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

THANK YOU for the offerings 11th/12th Oct.

Envelopes :	£ 143.90	Cash :	£ 122.82
Standing Orders :	£ 152.99		**Total : £ 419.71**
CAFOD HARVEST FAST:	£ 214.94	*Thank you!*	