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



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY

Ordinary Time Yr B

14th / 15th November

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

Week beginning 14th November:		Mass Intention
Saturday 14th November 6.00pm	**First Mass of 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time**	For the repose of the soul of Norman Pankhurst
Sunday 15th November 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**THIRTY - THIRD SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME**	People of the Parish
Monday 16th November	–	–
Tuesday 17th November 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Wed. 18th November 10.30am *Ordinariate Mass*	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 19th November 9.30am	Feria	For the repose of the soul of Anthony Raisin
Friday 20th November 9.30am	Feria	For the repose of the soul of Sylvia Esposti
Saturday 21st Nov. 5.15 – 5.45pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) **First Mass of Christ the King**	For the repose of the soul of Martin MacDonald
Sunday 22nd November 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am	**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING**	People of the Parish

Next Sunday, 22nd November, is the **Feast of Christ the King**.

Each year this is dedicated to welcoming, involving and empowering young Catholics.

At a time in their lives when so many things demand to be 'king' of their hearts, we make the most of this feast day in our efforts to introduce them to Jesus Christ, our King.

WELCOME TO OUR CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Ted Michael Ron Vrettos

Jesse Ron Reynolds

who will be baptised on Sunday at the 9.30pm Mass

Thirty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time Yr B

What the future holds

In the Bible we find many passages which deal with what the future holds in store, in so far as the eternal destiny of each and every human being is concerned, references to death, judgement, heaven, hell, the second coming of Christ, and, as in today's gospel, the signs by which the return of Christ will be known. Many Christians, regrettably, are tempted to read and interpret such statements as if they were eyewitness accounts, detailed advance descriptions, of what lies ahead of us when we depart this life. This gives rise to all kinds of fears and difficulties about how literally we should take these scripture passages, difficulties which, objectively speaking, we should be able to avoid. For statements about what we describe as the last things, from the nature of human thinking and its limitations, are conclusions drawn from the experience of the present. They are in no way an advance report of what is to take place later. For any attempt to reach ahead, to grasp the future and bring it into the here and now, is beyond the powers of the human mind.

But, strangely enough, the here and now also becomes meaningful only is so far as it is seen, against the future, as gradually bringing nearer a real union - in grace and in Jesus Christ - with God our Father, a union which we believe, in a dark and mysterious way, underlies all the events of our present every-day existence, and which will only be fully grasped when we have departed this life. We might then ask, what is the significance, for the present moment, of today's gospel reading, with its fantastic prophecy, which year after year intones its note of doom for humankind, and frightens us with its predictions. We might answer by saying, first of all, that the hereafter will not simply be a continuation of all the good things of this life, with the unpleasant things cut out. The gospel mention of the sun being darkened, the moon failing to give its light, the stars falling from the heavens, is a purely dramatic way of impressing upon us that at death everything will be changed.

The human race often cherishes lofty dreams of how its knowledge is going to reconstruct the world, as it were to complete creation and master the universe. But, as the liturgical year draws to a close, the Church reminds us that this world also will pass away, as well as each and every individual person, who is but a fragile, insignificant part of it. And when Jesus Christ says that we, who are faithful, shall sit at table with him in the kingdom of heaven, he is making use of imagery, as is St Paul, when he says that Christ will come again amidst the sound of the trumpets of the archangels, as are the synoptic gospels, when they tell us that everyone will be gathered together by the angels, and split into two groups, the sheep and the goats, the good and the wicked. To be saved is to be in the closest union with God; to be lost is to be in a state where one is closed in on oneself utterly, without contact with others or with God, a condition which Sacred Scripture again uses terrifying words to describe, lie darkness, gnashing of teeth, fire.

If we find all this impossible to reconcile with the love of God, then we should remember the advice of our Lord Jesus, who, when asked about the number of the damned, did not answer directly, but urged his followers, in the most solemn manner, to follow the narrow way which leads to life. If we do, then we may be sure of St Paul's promise that we shall be with the Lord, that we shall be filled with the joy of the marriage feast, that we shall partake for all eternity of the great Supper, which the Lord spoke of. But as to life after death, let us always bear in mind that here and now we do not have, nor indeed can we have, definite knowledge about what God has prepared for those who love him. The reason, as St John tells us, is that the faithful departed shall become like God, because they shall see him as he really is. And until then everything associated with God remains beyond our comprehension.

Of one thing, however, we can be sure, and we have it from the mouth of Jesus himself. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father" (Mk 13:31f), and the Father, moreover, reassures us in these words, "Look I am going to create new heavens and a new earth, and the past will not be remembered, and will come no more to people's minds" (Isaiah 65: 17).



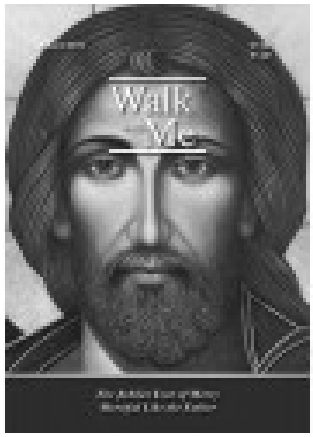
Our diaries for 2016 have arrived: they are in the narthex near the front door.

Please help yourself to your - <u>free</u>! - diary.

The first Sunday of Advent is Sunday 29th November. Be prepared!

Copies of 'Walk with Me' for Advent are now available. Price £1

Please leave the money in the 'Books Papers and Magazines' box in the porch.



<u>NEW TO THE PARISH</u>? Please pick up a 'Welcome leaflet' from the table near the church front door!
Please note: The leaflet contains a form which can be filled in with your name and address etc - if you have had any **change in circumstances** eg. changed address, changed telephone number) in the past year or so, then please fill this in and return to the parish office so we can update your details.
We would like to encourage all new parishioners to adopt planned giving, details of which are available in the Finance Pack - please take one.



<u>USED STAMPS</u>
We are again in a position to collect used postage stamps for Brother Lionel ('Reaching the Unreached'.
Please leave your used stamps in the box on the 'free table' and ensure that there is <u>at least a quarter of an inch</u> of paper around each stamp. Many thanks.

<u>REPOSITORY</u> The repository is open after each weekend Mass. There is a good range of cards, religious gifts etc. Christmas cards are now in stock!

<u>HALL HIRE</u> Our church hall is available for hire for birthday parties, etc.
To check availability and for further details, please contact Marysa , hall bookings secretary.
Preferential rates for parishioners!

<u>CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION</u>
In preparation of next February when Bishop Philip is inviting all Grandparents to Portsmouth Cathedral there will be an information meeting after the 0915 Mass on Tuesday 17th November at the Church of the Immaculate Conception & St Joseph, 67 Purewell, Christchurch, BH 23 1EH.
Information available at http://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org/

From the Diocese -
Launch of Catholic Grandparents Association in the Diocese of Portsmouth
Bishop Philip warmly invites all grandparents to join him in the Cathedral for a special Mass to inaugurate the Catholic Grandparents Association in our Diocese. The Mass will take place at 12.15 pm on Friday 12th February 2016 and will be followed by an address from Catherine Wiley, Founder of the CGA. Refreshments will be provided afterwards in the Cathedral Discovery Centre. All will be very welcome. For more details, contact 01328 560333 or email info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.org. For information about the CGA, see their website: <u>http://www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org</u>.

Share Your Story
Do you have a family member or friend, over 18, who is baptised Catholic but no longer practises their faith? Perhaps they no longer attend Mass regularly? As part of a campaign to listen to those who no longer practise, Bishop Philip would like to hear from them. Perhaps they feel let down by the Church or have something they would like to say to the Church. Or perhaps they have just drifted away. Whatever their story, they are invited to share it anonymously. The survey is available at <u>www.mystoryshared.co.uk</u> and will be open until Christmas. Encourage them to share their story today!

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.

Pastoral Area No. 20: AVON STOUR.

Co-ordinating Pastor:
Fr Tom Grufferty.



HOSPITAL VISITS: Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospitals For non-urgent requests contact the Chaplaincy Office on 01202 704221. They have an answerphone. For more urgent requests/ out of hours, the duty RC chaplain may be contacted via the switchboard on 01202 303626

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

LEGENDS OF SWING! ANTONY ADAMS (*Finalist from BBC TV'S 'THE ONE AND ONLY'*) sings the classic songs of FRANK SINATRA & MATT MONRO on FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER in Corpus Christi Church Parish Centre St James's Square. 7.00PM — LATE Tickets: £12.00 (includes Ploughman's Supper) BYO drinks. Money raised for Jesuit Refugee Services & Church Funds.

DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION: 'Amazed by and thrilled by God's Mercy' Saturday 21st November. In the parish centre at St.Joseph's beginning at 10.30 for 11.00am until 4.15pm. Please bring a packed lunch if you are staying all day, but feel free to come for just the morning or afternoon.

ADORE (Alton Day Of REnewal): Saturday 28th November 11.00 - 4.00. Please join us for a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal at St Lucy's Convent, Medstead Manor, Medstead GU34 5LL. 11am Rosary; 11.30am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion; 12.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; 1.00pm Shared lunch; 2.00pm Praise and Worship; 2.30pm Talk by David Torkington on "A time of resurrection"; 3.30pm Prayer for healing; Tea; Finishing about 4.00pm. For more information visit www.altonrenewal.com

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE: In the forthcoming year of Mercy, why not consider a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, also known as the confessional of the world. Judy Pellatt is leading a group from May 18th -25th. Canon Dominic Golding will be our Spiritual Director. More information: pellattj@hotmail.co.uk

CAFOD: People's Climate March – 29 November Responding to Pope Francis' call to care for our Earth and those suffering because of climate change, we're marching with thousands of passionate people at a crucial moment in history. Show the world you care and join CAFOD in London on 29 November 12-3pm. Sign up via cafod.org.uk/events or contact CAFOD Portsmouth on 01252 329385 portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

WESSEX YOUTH ORCHESTRA: A sparkling evening of musical festive treats. 7.30pm, Saturday December 5th. The Concert Hall, Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts. Tickets £14, £12, £9 (Senior Citizens £2 off and under 18s half price) Available from the Lighthouse Box Office Tel: 0844 406 8666

THANK YOU for the offerings 7th / 8th Nov.

Envelopes :	£ 173.10	Cash :	£ 72.79
Standing Orders :	£ 201.85		**Total : £ 447.74**
Bamenda:	£ 142.91	*Thank you!*	