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



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

19th/20th December 2015 Yr C

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 19th December			Mass Intention
Saturday 19th Dec Confessions First Mass	 5.15–5.45pm 6.00pm	**FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT**	People of the Parish
Sunday 20th Dec Principal Mass Ordinariate Mass	 9.30am 11.15am		Maria Britton, RIP ————————
Tuesday 22nd Dec Weekday Mass	 9.30am	**Liturgy of the Day** ['O King of the nations']	For all the faithful departed
Wednesday, 23rd Dec Ordinariate Mass	 9.30am	**Liturgy of the Day** ['O Emmanuel']	————————
Thursday, 24th Dec	6.00pm 6.30pm 10.00pm	*Carols in the church* **The Nativity of the Lord.** *Christmas Eve Mass (Family Service with gifts for the children)* 'Midnight' Mass *Ordinariate Candlelit Service*	People of the Parish ————————
Friday, 25th Dec	9.30am	**CHRISTMAS DAY**	People of the Parish
Saturday, 26th Dec	10.30am	**ST STEPHEN,** *feast*	Altar Servers of the Guild of St Stephen's



DECORATING THE CHRISTMAS TREE
.. will take place this Sunday, 20th December, after the 9.30am Mass.

Children, Mums and Dads, Grandparents... ……. Come along to help!
(We will have to just keep an eye on the time though - the Ordinariate Mass is at 11.15am! Many thanks)



PASTORAL AREA ADVENT TAIZÉ MEDITATION

An hour of candlelit peace, music and prayer at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Douglas Road, Southbourne, BH6 3ER on **Monday 21st December** at 7.30pm. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome.

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

Micah 5: 2-5.
When Jerusalem was under siege the prophet said that salvation would come from a comparatively insignificant place - Bethlehem - to unite the nation under God.
Hebrews 10: 5-10.
The sacrifices of the old, Mosaic Law were unable to purify people from sin. Only Christ, our supreme High Priest, can effect reconciliation between us and God.
Luke 1: 39-45.
This tells of Mary's kindly visit to Elizabeth. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth praises Mary's faith and recognises the unique child that she carries within her.

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

REACHING THE UNREACHED. We would like to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and New Year. Thank you so much for your great help and generous support during 2015.
In Kallapartte, India, they will celebrate Christmas Mass with some 1000 children, mothers, staff and villagers. Catholics, Hindus and Muslims all celebrating each others festivals together.
I witnessed this enjoyment and toleration of each others feasts and festivals at an Easter Sunday Mass in Kerala. Wouldn't it be marvellous if it happened everywhere in our troubled and divided world?
God bless, John for RTU.

ROTAS FOR WEEKEND MINISTRIES

The new rotas are now available. **A huge thank you to Jaira for doing these!**
Copies are available on the 'free table' at the back of church - in the grey shelving unit.

CHRISTMAS READERS' ROTA

Could you please sign the separate Christmas Rota if you are available to read at these Masses.
The list is pinned up on the notice board near the repository. Thank you very much!

Please check the box at the back of church to make sure you haven't missed a **Christmas card** addressed to you!

CRIB OFFERINGS

This year will be donated to Friends of the Holy Land for the poorest Christian families in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel.





The Offertory collections from the Christmas Eve Mass and the Christmas Day Mass will, as is customary, be given to our Parish Priest. Thank you!

Christmas Greetings



THE HOLY FAMILY

26th/27th December 2015 Yr C

Week beginning 26th December		Mass Intention
Saturday, 26th Dec Confessions 5.15–5.45pm First Mass 6.00pm	**THE HOLY FAMILY**	For the repose of the soul of Anne Graven
Sunday, 27th Dec Joint Principal Mass 9.30am (*No Ordinariate Mass 11.15am)*		People of the Parish
No Masses *from Monday 28th Dec. to Thursday 31st Dec. incl.*		
Friday 1st January 10.30am	**Mary, Mother of God,** *solemnity*	People of the Parish
Saturday 2nd Jan. Wedding of Liz Lahoud and Carl Turton 1.00pm Confessions 5.15 – 5.45pm First Mass 6.00pm	**THE EPIPHANY**	People of the Parish
Sunday 3rd Jan. 9.30am *Ordinariate Mass* 11.15am		People of the Parish

January 1st, **The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God** - Pray for Peace.
God of perfect peace,
violence and cruelty can have no part with you.
May those who are at peace with one another
hold fast to the good will that unites them;



'Mary treasured all these words, and pondered them in her heart.'
Lord God, you chose Mary to be the mother of your Son.
As she pondered your Word in the events of her life, may we contemplate your Word in our own and see you at work in the daily events of our lives. As she bore your Word in her body, may we too be willing to carry your Word into the world.

The Holy Family Year C

1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28. Hannah's joy, when she finally gives birth to her long awaited son, Samuel. Out of sheer gratitude, she offers the boy to serve God in the temple at Shiloh.

1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24. God's loving care for us is such that we are truly his children. The sign that we are living as God's family is when we fulfil Jesus' great commandment of love.

Luke 2: 41-52. While attending a Passover festival, Jesus is lost in Jerusalem and is found only on the third day. Mary and Joseph discover that he must be in his Father's House.

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

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 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
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.		

CAFOD PORTSMOUTH SUPPORTERS' MEETING: Join us at our next meeting on **Sat 23rd January 2016** from 10am until 1.30pm at St Bede's RC Primary School (Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX) where we will explore our Lenten resources and hear more about CAFOD's water programmes in Uganda. To book a place please ring 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk by 15th January 2016.

POETS, PIKELETS AND PETTICOATS: An afternoon of words & music with a Scottish themed afternoon tea at 2pm Saturday 23rd January at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Purewell in aid Of Kabanana Care (Zambia), charity which provides food, shelter & education for over 80 orphaned children/vulnerable adults. James Manlow, Bournemouth's 2014-15 Poet Laureate will be reading his poems & answering questions. Music by The Happy Heart Singers, plus young local performer. Tickets £5 (inc afternoon tea)

From the Diocese - CARITAS: The new website of Caritas has recently gone live – please see www.caritasdioceseofportsmouth.org.uk. There is information here about recent initiatives, including a trip to 'the Jungle' migrants' camp in Calais and a monthly newsletter from the Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility Team. There are also ways to get involved detailed on the website.

THANK YOU

for the offerings 12th/13th Dec.

Envelopes :	£ 154.50	Cash :	£ 89.60
Standing Orders :	£ 201.85		**Total : £ 445.95**

As you will have noticed, this is a newsletter for two weeks.

Please send any articles or inserts for the next newsletter (2nd/3rd January, the Epiphany) to the parish office at stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk, or leave a note in the post box by the office door. Thank you very much.