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

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

Ordinary Time Year C

23rd/24th November 2013

Weekday Masses Tues.– Fri. 9.30am, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Tues.- Fri. 8.30am – 9.25am and Morning prayer at 9.10am.

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www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

Week beginning 23rd November :		Mass Intention
Saturday 23rd Nov. 6.00pm	First Mass Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King	Sylvia Esposti, RIP
Sunday 24th Nov. 9.30am **3.00 pm**	**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING.** ***Year of Faith Celebration***	People of the Parish
Monday 25th Nov.	_	_
Tuesday 26th Nov. 9.30am		Deceased members of the Rye and Broom families
Wed. 27th Nov. 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	Feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Associate members and supporters of the MSP
Thurs. 28th Nov. 9.30am *7.00pm*	Feria *Reception of the Body*	Deceased members of the Rye and Broom families
Friday 29th Nov. ***12.30pm***	***Requiem Mass***	***Brighet Emmel***
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Masses Sat. 6pm & Sun. 9.30am	First Sunday of Advent	

This weekend, after the Creed, we say:

This is our Faith. This is the Faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.

<u>END OF YEAR OF FAITH PRAYERS</u>:

Prayer of Consecration

CONSECRATION TO THE HEART OF CHRIST

Lord Jesus Christ, my Lord and my God,
You are my Saviour and my Master,
and I am, though unworthy, the disciple you have chosen.
I desire to serve you now in whatever way you wish,
knowing that in doing your will, I will find true happiness.
Today, through the most pure Heart of Mary,
along with all the clergy and people of our diocese,
I consecrate myself totally to your Sacred Heart.
I give you my life and my all,
and I place myself under your Word,
accepting whatever suffering and joy you send me this day.
Only show me your Way, and give me your Truth,
that I may do your will in all things
and so come to the eternal Life you promise in heaven,
where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

REDEDICATION TO OUR PATRONS

Immaculate Virgin Mary and St. Edmund of Abingdon,
You are the Patron Saints of our Diocese of Portsmouth,
and with you, and with your help today,
I dedicate myself totally to the service of God's Kingdom.
With all the clergy and the people of the diocese,
I ask your prayers, inspired by your example,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit,
I may always do the Father's will.
Help me to be faithful to the vocation Christ has given me,
and pray for us all,
especially the poor, the sick, those in prison and all in need
that we will remain steadfast in God's love.
Keep me true to the practice of my Catholic Faith,
so that one day I may be worthy of a place in heaven with you. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King: Thoughts and reflections.

Kingdom of Justice, Love and Peace

In the second reading Paul speaks of Christ as one who, at the end of time, will hand over the kingdom to God the Father. The Preface of today's Mass repeats the statement but highlights the nature of the kingdom as a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice. love and peace. Such a kingdom is not to be merely a future reality. but is to be worked for in the present. The kingdom is the goal of our hope, but it is also in our midst, in the process of becoming. Today's gospel tells us how we are to work for the fuller coming of God's kingdom among us. The kingdom of God comes whenever justice is done for the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the oppressed. To behave in this way is to imitate the Shepherd-King himself who is presented in the first reading as one who rescues, who feeds, who gives rest, who heals and who makes strong. We are each called to work for the coming among us of God's kingdom.

St Augustine, in commenting on the Lord's Prayer, says: "So it is the grace of living the right way that you ask for when you pray: "your kingdom come."" To pray "your kingdom come" is to pray to become a person of the Beatitudes, someone who mourns for the injustice in the world, who hungers and thirsts for justice, and is prepared to be persecuted for the sake of justice, a person who is merciful and a peacemaker. To live the Beatitudes is to usher in the kingdom of God.

We are soon to begin the season of Advent, during which the attitude of waiting will be emphasized. To wait on God is to remind ourselves that everything does not depend on our own efforts. Yet, the last Sunday of the liturgical year suggests that our efforts are Important. We cannot simply wait passively for the coming of God's kingdom. We must work for its coming, despite the risk and cost to ourselves. Jesus sent out his disciples to preach the message: "The kingdom of God is at hand." Our way of life, our life-style, our set of values must proclaim that same message. The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us to anoint us "to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18.) Such a mission is not an optional extra, but an integral part of our Christian calling. It is not a task to be left to "professionals" but one entrusted to each individual disciple. Far from being optional, today's gospel reminds us that our ultimate destiny is dependent upon our remaining faithful to this task.

The way to serve Christ our King is to work for the coming of his kingdom. In working for the relief of the deprived, the oppressed and the outcast we are serving Christ in person, because he fully identifies himself with all those in need. The disciple of Christ the King cannot afford the luxury of saying "I keep myself to myself" or "I do nobody any harm." To be deaf to the cries of the oppressed is to be deaf to Christ. To be blind to the agony of those about us is to be blind to Christ. To take Christ as our Shepherd involves becoming a shepherd to Christ present to us in the sufferings and deprivations of others.

!! THIS EVENING !! - SUNDAY 24th NOVEMBER! 5 - 8pm at Corpus Christi Church
(757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 6AN)

To mark the end of the Year of Faith, there will be a Mass followed by a Holy Hour with reflections on Porta Fidei - the Door of Faith led by the young people of our Pastoral Areas.

All are invited to this time of prayer, praise and worship.

Deacon Darryl Jordan's Ordination to the Priesthood:
The Parish are invited to the ordination at Portsmouth Cathedral on **Sunday 8th December at 3.00pm.** If you would like to travel on the coach being hired by the Bournemouth Ordinariate Mission, please contact them. Families welcome : Adults £17 maximum, children free.

Confirmation 2014 The first meeting for Confirmation Candidates will take place on Tuesday 7th January 2014, 7.30 pm at St Joseph's Church, Purewell, Christchurch. The Sacrament of Confirmation for candidates of the Avon Stour Pastoral Area will be celebrated at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth on Saturday 3rd May 2014 at 3pm.

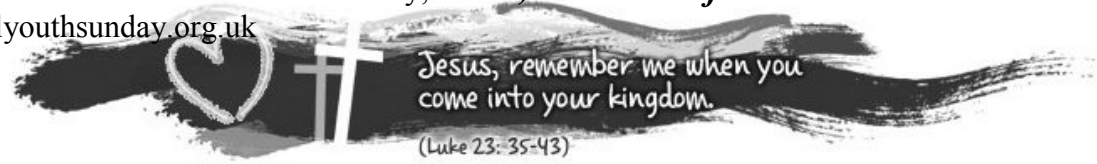
40th Anniversary of link with Bamenda

Almighty, ever-living Father,
You are the Eternal Shepherd
who never leaves his flock untended.
We thank you immensely for the bond
of love and friendship which has existed between the
Archdiocese of Bamenda and the Diocese of Portsmouth
now for forty years.
We are deeply grateful to you for the spiritual
benefits this union has yielded,
through which many have come to experience
inner conversion and the unfathomable warmth
of your love.
Amen.

As we celebrate forty years of this bond through
the proclamation of your Word and the guidance
of your Holy Spirit,
may we receive the grace to grow continuously
in partnership and understanding.
Bless those who have made selfless sacrifices to
sustain us, especially the priests who have served
in our diocese. May their work be rewarded
in the abundance of your grace.

May Mary our Mother, Queen of Apostles and
Star of the New Evangelisation,
and St Edmund our Patron, intercede for us.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

This Sunday, the feast of Christ the King, is **National Youth Sunday**.
The theme is Pope Francis' invitation at World Youth Day; ***'Go, do not be afraid and serve.'***
Please visit www.nationalyouthsunday.org.uk



Farewell to Father Vitalis

As you will hopefully be aware, sadly Father Vitalis will be moving to his new parish of Horndean in December. In order to give him a good send-off we're planning to hold a celebration and thanksgiving for his time here at St Thomas More immediately after the 6pm Mass on Saturday 7th December in the Church Hall.
If possible please bring along some food to share and join us in wishing him well for the future.

Senior Parishioners' Christmas Lunch/Party



The Annual Senior Parishioners' Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 14th December, 12.00 for 12.30pm.

There is a guest sheet on the "free table" at rear of Church for Senior Citizens and anyone who may benefit from the companionship, to add their names.
New parishioners, people from other religions and those with none are most welcome.
There is also a list of food requirements - to be completed by 8th December please.

Copies of 'Walk with Me' for Advent now available. Suggested donation £1.

From the Fabric and Finance Committee :

- The next Finance Committee meeting will be next Tuesday at 7.00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend. Two more members are required for the team – please have a word with Steve Ferris if you feel you could help.
- There are letters at the back of the church for all those involved with planned giving. Please pick up your envelope if you have not already done so. Thanks.

Cake Sale next Sunday!

.. In the church
.. after Sunday Mass ...



There will be a special cake sale next Sunday - home made Christmas cakes will be on sale. If anyone can donate anything else- cakes, bread, preserves, Christmas 'goodies' - please leave them in the church hall before the Sunday morning Mass. Thank you.

Worldwide Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

In preparation for the Synod, we are being invited to fill in a questionnaire
"Pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization"
Please respond to this questionnaire - this is an important opportunity for us to give our views. Visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FamilySynod2014
It's quite complicated .. but worth doing. Make your views known! The closing date is Sat. 30th Nov.

Framework for Collaboration "Forming Teams to Collaborate and Facilitate Practical Action"
Could you
(i) Pray for the mission of the Church in our Diocese of Portsmouth?
(ii) Witness to your faith to help others encounter Jesus Christ
(iii) Put your faith into action to allow Christ to transform the world with his justice and love?
If you have answered 'yes' to any of these questions could you consider volunteering to be part of the Framework for Collaboration?
If you would like to know more please look on the Diocesan website where Bishop Philip speaks about the Framework for Collaboration. There is additional information including details of teams currently recruiting. If you would like to be involved and are not sure how or in what area the Framework will be running interviews to help you discern whether God is calling you to be involved. These will begin in January 2014.
Application forms are on the web site. If you have difficulty accessing these please contact cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

If anyone has any items for inclusion in the newsletter please leave a note in the black post box by the office door or e-mail the parish office at stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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, ***Urgent requests*** (usually for poorly patients who have not been visited in the last 48 hours) please call the chaplain or his substitute ***directly,*** using, ***in order,*** the following numbers: Fr John: Lee 01202 483340 Emergency Mobile: 07850 365897 If these fail, ring St Thomas More's 01202 485588 or the Annunciation Church 01202 513369

YOUTH HOLY HOUR : (Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! 27th November, 4th & 11th December… 6 - 7pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 6AN) All young people are invited to join us for this time of quiet prayer & adoration. **Free rosary!**

MONTHLY AREA YOUTH MASS: Monthly Area Youth Mass! Sunday 1st December 6-9pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace (18 Douglas Road, Southbourne. BH6 3ER) This Mass is for all the young people of our Pastoral Areas and will be followed by a social time with music & refreshments!

MASS OF HEALING: The next Mass of Healing at St. Joseph's Ashurst will be on Monday 2nd December.

ADVENT TAIZE SERVICE AT OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH: A date for your diary! - A candlelit Advent Taizé Service will take place on **Monday 23rd December** at 7.30pm in Our Lady Queen of Peace church, Douglas Road, Southbourne, with refreshments served afterwards in the church hall (mulled wine and mince pies). Everyone is welcome.

'HOMECOMING' RETREAT: 'Homecoming' Retreat for 16-30 year olds! 29th December to 1st January (Maria Fidelis Lower School, North Gower Street, London, NW1 2HR) Following on from our youth retreat, Swell@Bournemouth, you are invited to the next Youth 2000 retreat, Homecoming! For more information, contact Will Hince on 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or check out www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

ST THOMAS GARNET'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Friday 29th November at 3.15pm, St. Thomas Garnet's School, Parkwood Rd, Boscombe. Lots of different stalls including Santa's Grotto and a raffle with great prizes to be won. Everyone is welcome!

ST PETER'S SCHOOL production of MISS SAIGON: 28th, 29th & 30th Nov., 7.30pm. (Sat matinee 2.30pm) Tickets £8 (£6 concs)

SLEEPING BEAUTY PANTOMIME : The Twynham Panto Group present Sleeping Beauty, written and directed by Ken Dale. To be held at St Peter's Lower School, Holdenhurst Avenue, Bournemouth. Tickets - £6 adults, £4 children. Performances: Thurs. 19th Dec. at 7.30pm, Fri. 20th Dec. at 7.30pm, Sat. 21st Dec. at 1.30pm, 4.30pm and 8.00pm.
ALL PROCEEDS TO ST PETER'S SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING FOR NEW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL : The school will be in the grounds of St. Peter's Secondary School, Holdenhurst Road, Iford, Bournemouth. This is due to open in September 2014 for 4-11 year olds. You are invited to an OPEN EVENING on Tuesday 3rd December at 5pm at the St. Peter's, Iford site.

THANK YOU for your weekly offerings; 16th / 17th Nov.

Envelopes :	£ 180.00	Cash :	£ 116.49
Standing Orders :	£ 148.38		**Total : £ 444.87**