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

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



Eighth Sunday of Ord. Time Year A

1st/2nd March 2014

Weekday Masses Tuesday - Friday, 9.30am

42 Exton Road Bournemouth BH6 5QG. Tel: 01202 485588

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Father Darryl M. Jordan, OLW

Parish Office e-mail: stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Local Catholic Youth Worker: Will Hince 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

Week beginning 1st March :		Mass Intention
Saturday 1st March 6.00pm	First Mass of the Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Pat Hayward, RIP
Sunday 2nd March 9.30am	**EIGHTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME**	Mrs Merville Pidgeon - for speedy recovery
Monday 3rd March	—	—
Tuesday 4th March 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Wed. 5th March **9.30am** 10.00am - 12.00 noon **6.30pm**	**Ash Wednesday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Pat Stephens People of the Parish
Thurs. 6th March	No Mass today	—
Friday 7th March 9.30am	After Ash Wednesday	For all the faithful departed
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Saturday 8th March, 6pm & Sunday 9th March. 9.30am	First Sunday of Lent	

Copies of 'WALK WITH ME' for Lent are now available - £1

There are copies of Pope Francis' Lenten Message on the 'free table'.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross in the church every Friday evening.



Monthly Area Youth Mass! ***THIS SUNDAY*****, 2nd March, 6.00 -9.00pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church** (18 Douglas Road, Southbourne. BH6 3ER)

The Mass is for all the young people of our Pastoral Areas and will be followed by a movie, tuck shop and free popcorn & coke. For more information on these events contact Will Hince on 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or check out www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

The Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time Yr A

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:24-34

EXPLANATION: This is part of the "Sermon on the Mount:' a collection of the sayings of Jesus, given in different places and at different times but collected here by St. Matthew in chapters 5-7. They concern the kingdom of God and how it may be attained. The section we read today deals with the things of this world and how we should be detached from them if we wish to be members of God's kingdom on earth and in heaven.

no . . . masters: A slave could be owned by two masters but the situation would be impossible as each would demand his fulltime service.

God and mammon: The two masters that Christ refers to are God and worldly wealth. Each demands fulltime service. If a man loves God, he has no time for mammon. If his heart is set on getting worldly wealth (mammon) he has no time for God.

do . . . on: He tells his disciples and his hearers not to be over-solicitous about their food or their clothing. This does not mean they must not earn their livelihood and wear some clothes, but they must not make themselves slaves to this world's goods.

Look . . . air: The example he gives proves the above point. God feeds the birds because the birds search and search hard for their food. Man must do likewise.

lilies of the field: Their beautiful colours would not keep them warm if they had sensitive bodies to warm. Man needs clothing in most climates and must provide that clothing.

do not be anxious: This is the point Christ is driving home. While we must do our daily chores and do our best to provide for our needs, we must always remember to give God first place in our hearts. If we do this the very daily chores become a prayer and an act of reverence and trust in God who has a divine interest in us.

sufficient . . .day: This was probably a popular proverb and a wise one it is. The parable of the man whose barns were too small to hold all he possessed, and who was on the point of building larger ones, when he was called to the judgment seat, brings this truth out. Yet, we must plan ahead in many ways but we must not be so occupied planning for a wealthy, worldly future that we forget the real future.

APPLICATION: The lesson is evident : God must have first place in our lives, if we really believe in a future, eternal life, as all Christians, and most other sane men do. But we still must earn our living and work our passage through life. What Christ is warning us against is that we must not get so attached to, and so enslaved by, the things of this world, that we neglect God and our own eternal happiness.

Most of us will say: "there is little danger that we shall get enslaved by the wealth of this world---we have so little of it." But a man can get so attached to the little he has and so anxious to increase it, that he can cut God out of his life and forget the one thing necessary. Remember that a man can be drowned as easily in a tub of water as he could be in the deepest point in the Atlantic ocean. It is not the possession of the things of this world that Christ forbids, but letting the things of this world possess us. While we make the wealth and the goods of this earth serve our eternal purpose we can be true followers of Christ, but if we let them enslave us to the exclusion of that purpose then we are indeed on the wrong road.

In the parable of Dives and Lazarus, it was not the possession of much wealth that brought Dives to hell. but the wrong use of it. He lacked charity. He ignored his needy neighbors. He selfishly tried to spend all his wealth on himself. Neither was it the poverty of Lazarus that brought him to Abraham's bosom, but the willing acceptance of his lot. He was unable, through illness, to earn his bread. He got little charity from those who could and should have helped him. Yet he bore with his misfortune patiently and so earned heaven. The fact is, of course, that not all rich men will go to hell. Neither will all beggars go to heaven.

While we work honestly for our living, we have every right to our just wage and have every freedom to spend what we earn on the necessities of life for ourselves and our families. We can also make the normal provisions for the years that may lie ahead. What our Lord is condemning is the inordinate love of riches and the things of this world---a love so inordinate that it leaves us no time, and no desire, to look for, and provide for, our real future---the life that begins when we leave this earth and all that it has.

There will be a short CAFOD talk at the weekend masses next week.

The CAFOD Fast Day this year is on Friday 14th March.

CAFOD
Just one world

Lenten talk for Avon Stour Pastoral Area

An exploration of the importance & relevance of one of the key documents of the second Vatican Council – the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church – 'Lumen Gentium' ('Light of the Nations'), first published in 1964 .

Dr Bridie Stringer (Catechist & Visiting Lecturer, St Mary's University, London) Tuesday 11 March, 7.30 pm at St Joseph's Centre

If anyone is able to provide transport or needs transport, please contact Neil, LPC Chair.

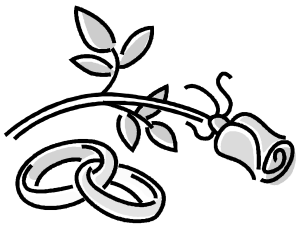
CONFIRMATION



Enrolment for the candidates of St.Thomas More Parish preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place at the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 16th March 2014.
All candidates should attend with their family (and sponsor if possible).
Session 5 'The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass' will take place in the sacristy after Mass and will finish at 11.30am.

Please pray for: Andrea, Jack, Michael, Theo, Jonathan and Mia as they continue their journey to Confirmation on the 3rd May.

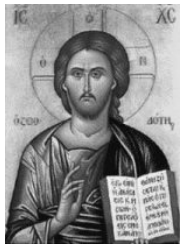
(Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! 6-7pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH7 6AN)
All young people are invited to join us for this beautiful time of quiet prayer & adoration. "From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others." - Pope John Paul II
For more information on these events and more, contact Will Hince on 07810827606
whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or check out www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth



Significant Wedding Anniversaries

The Diocese's sixth Significant Anniversaries Mass and Reception will be celebrated at 11.00 am on Saturday 28th June 2014 at St Bede's, Basingstoke for those celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2014. Bishop Philip will preside at the Mass. Attendance is by invitation; if you are celebrating one of these anniversaries, please fill out the online form available on www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by clicking 'Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass 2014' or alternatively, email anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

LECTIO DIVINA



will be held each Thursday in Lent *(apart from Thursday 6th March).*
This will be held in the sacristy after the 9.30am Mass.

Lectio Divina literally means 'divine reading'. It involves reading and hearing a text and then meditating on it, and pondering it in our hearts and minds.
It is a praying of the Scriptures.

Could you host a HOUSE MASS in your home during Lent?
Fr Ron has offered to say House Masses for any family or group hoping they will include others "on the fringe" in a missionary spirit of welcome.
If you would like to consider this please contact Claire.

Mass Intentions.

I have been handed the duty of collating the dates for the Mass Intentions Fr Darryl is given. I'm 'new on the job' so please forgive me for any inadequacies...
A difficulty I am encountering is that most of the Mass Intentions do specify that the Mass should be said on a Saturday or Sunday. We have had a tradition of offering the Mass on a Saturday or Sunday for the 'People of the Parish' but this won't then be possible.
The Mass will be 'valid' if offered any day of the week - even if the person requesting the Mass in not physically present. Parishioners will be able to see the Mass Intentions in the newsletter. Hope that all makes sense! Fr Darryl will be able to clarify if it doesn't.
Many thanks,
Linda.

Dot

Jean, the daughter of Dot Trageser, has given us an update on how Dot is: Dot had had a fall a few weeks ago, had an operation, and is now having respite care at the Alderney hospital.
Please remember her in your prayers.

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

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER NOVENA: Fr Tony Horan SJ has kindly offered to lead the SFX Novena at Corpus Christi Church, Boscombe, from Tuesday 4th March to Wednesday 12th March. He will preach the homily at a week-day mass at **7.30pm.** On Saturday he will lead & preach at the 10am & 6pm vigil masses. On Sunday he will lead & preach at the 5pm mass

WESSEX YOUTH ORCHESTRA: Gala Concert at the Concert Hall, Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts. Saturday March 15th. Tickets available from the Lighthouse Box Office, tel. 0844 406 8666.

IRISH EVENING: The Ringwood and Fordingbridge CAFOD Group warmly invite you to join them for an evening of good company, music, raffle, bar, dancing, quiz, tasty food and fun at 7pm on Saturday 15th March at Trinity Hall, Ringwood. Only £6 per person (£15 for a family ticket) (Veggi option available - please let us know) Proceeds will go to CAFOD's 'Hungry for Change' campaign.

INTERNATIONAL PRO-LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE: Fri 7th – Sun 9th March 2014 for students and young adults, which takes place at the University of Wolverhampton, Telford Campus Conference Centre. This conference is a unique opportunity for young Catholics to spend a weekend together, hearing from many pro-life champions, including Dr William Newton (Franciscan University, Steubenville) and Dr Helen Watt (Research Fellow, Anscombe Bioethics Centre). For more information, go to www.whyiamprolife.org.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM : Please join the Bournemouth Ordinariate on this year's pilgrimage to Walsingham from 27th to 30th June, led by Fr Darryl and Mgr. Edwin Barnes. The pilgrimage includes half-board accommodation, transport by coach and use of the coach during our stay and a visit to historic Clare Priory on the return journey : cost £215 (child under 16 £155). Booking forms are available in church. For more information,

MEDJUGORJE 2014 – An Avon Stour/Bournemouth area PILGRIMAGE. 15-22 September 2014. From Gatwick. £529 (twin room), £649 (single room) + insurance. See poster in porch. Contact: Barry and Jo Henwood c/o Corpus Christi Church.

THANK YOU for your weekly offerings; 22nd / 23rd Feb.

Envelopes :	£ 175.95	Cash :	£ 118.50
Standing Orders :	£ 144.93		**Total : £ 439.38**
Catholic Education :	£ 73.94	*Thank You!*	

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