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

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion Lent Year A

12th/13th April 2014

Usual weekday Masses Tuesday - Friday, 9.30am

42 Exton Road Bournemouth BH6 5QG.
Parish Office e-mail: stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Tel: 01202 485588
Priest-in-charge: Rev. Father Darryl M. Jordan, OLW
e-mail: djordan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Hall booking: *Marysa e-mail: HughandMarysa@btinternet.com*

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

Week beginning 12th April :		Mass Intention
Saturday 12th April 6.00pm	First Mass of PALM SUNDAY	Pat Faulkner, RIP
Sunday 13th April 9.30am	**PALM SUNDAY of the Lord's Passion**	Gerald King, RIP
Monday 14th April	—	—
Tuesday 15th April 11.00am	**CHRISM MASS at Portsmouth Cathedral**	—
Wed. 16th April 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00 noon	of Holy Week Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 17th April 6.30pm *followed by Watching before the Altar of Repose*	**MAUNDY THURSDAY** **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**	All Parish Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Friday 18th April 2.30pm **3.00pm**	Stations of the Cross **Commemoration of the Lord's Passion.**	—
Saturday 19th April **8.00pm**	**EASTER VIGIL Mass**	**People of the Parish**
Sunday 20th April 9.30am	**EASTER SUNDAY Mass**	**People of the Parish**

There will be a Collection for the Holy Places on Good Friday.

As in previous years, the Easter collection will be given to Father.

There will be Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 2.30pm and there will be a special **Stations of the Cross for children** in the church hall at the same time (- could a parent or guardian accompany their children for this please.)

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER - Please sign your name on the list on the notice board if you would like to be a reader for these services.
There is also a 'sign-up' list for the washing of the feet on **Maundy Thursday**.

EASTER GARDEN The Liturgy of the Word with Children team plan to decorate the Easter Garden again this year. If anyone could bring along a little pot of flowers to help with this please leave it in the flower room - that would be very much appreciated. Thank you!

From Father Vitalis who has recently celebrated his birthday - he appreciated his cards and goodwill messages and wishes everyone a very Happy Easter in advance!

Palm Sunday Yr A

Complete Let-Down

Jesus Christ was not the first man to die for a cause, nor the last. He was not the first or the last innocent man to be put to death. He was not the only one ever crucified. There were on that same day two others. Even as regards physical pain it is at least possible that others have suffered as much. What then makes the passion so different? And it is undeniably different.

The gospel account is roughly about two newspaper columns long, and even though I've read it, or heard it read hundreds of times, it still affects me. I wonder why? I think the answer lies in the details - the completely human and utterly shabby circumstances in which Christ died.

Take for example the behaviour of his friends. Was there ever such a complete let-down? Judas, one of the twelve, especially chosen. One can feel the hurt, almost the unbelief in Christ's gentle words, "Friend, why are you here? Judas would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?'

Peter. Think of all those miracles Christ worked, specially for him. He raised the dead child to life, set him walking on water, was transfigured before him. Only a few short hours be fore, Peter had boasted, "Even though all abandon you, I will follow you to prison and to death." - but at a distance, a safe distance. And when he was cornered a jibe or two from a servant girl looking for notice, Peter the Rock disintegrated. "He began to curse and to swear that he knew not the man." That must really have hurt Jesus. "And Jesus turning looked at Peter and Peter went out and wept bitterly." And these were his friends, his only friends. The people he lived with and loved. The people he showered his miracles on and shared his secrets with. And not one of them lifted a finger for him.

One could almost stomach the betrayal of Judas had the other eleven remained faithful. No way. One short line sums it up - "And they all forsook him and fled."

What has this story to do with us? It is the story of our salvation. But it is more, much more. It is the story of our lives. There isn't a part in the whole sordid script that we, you and I, wouldn't play to perfection. Peter in his pride and Peter in his fall and, hopefully, Peter in his repentance too. We'd fit in perfectly with the disciples who fled at the first sign of danger, or with Caiaphas and the high priests, with their self-righteousness and eagerness to reform others while ignoring themselves, or with Pilate in his abuse of authority, or with the mob with its thirst for excitement and blood. And Judas? Let's face it - there's a Judas in all of us. There are times and situations in all our lives when Jesus could easily say to us as he said to Judas, "Friend, why are you here?" The truth is, it was only his friends who could really have crucified him so.

A Week of Accompanied prayer: Sunday 11th – Saturday 17th May

Please make a note of the dates **Sunday 11th – Saturday 17th May** when there will be the opportunity to take part in a week of individually accompanied prayer based around St. Joseph's Christchurch (or St Thomas More's if sufficient numbers interested) This week will be an opportunity to experience a guided retreat in the midst of your daily life, without the need to stay away from home.

Our next Ignatian day - Easter Saturday April 19th

Our next Ignatian day will be on Easter Saturday when we will use this very special period of transition to prepare for the resurrection with Mary, our mother. All are welcome to join us as we pray with Mary to move from sorrow to joy, as we travel from death to life with Mary as our guide. We begin at 10.30 for 11am and finish at 4.15pm in St.Joseph's parish centre. Remember to bring a packed lunch.

Monthly Area Youth Mass! Saturday 10th May 6-8pm at Saint Thomas More's (42 Exton Road, Iford BH6 5QG) Come and join us for our Monthly Area Youth Mass & social! "From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others" -Blessed John Paul II

(Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! 14th, 21st & 28th May 6-7pm at Corpus Christi (757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN) Need some peace in the middle of your busy week of school, college, uni or work? Come along and make some new friends at this beautiful time of prayer.

Big Church Day Out! 24th & 25th May at Wiston House, West Sussex
Get in touch if you're interested in joining 20,000 people at this Christian music festival! They're looking to get more Catholics involved and are offering half price tickets to our group! www.bigchurchdayout.com
From Will Hince 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

HOLY WEEK

On Palm Sunday, or Passion Sunday, we commemorate the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem and there is the reading of the Passion. The week following is known as Holy Week. We retrace the footsteps of Christ on his way to the cross. Our own accompaniment is an act of faith and love. We solemnly recall these events because we believe that these are the most important events in human history. We celebrate them with love because Christ took these steps out of love and obedience to his Father and out of love for each one of us.
On Tuesday, Father Darryl will take part in the Chrism Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral. The priests who concelebrate with the bishop come from all parts of the diocese. The holy oils are taken back to the various parishes to be used for anointing at baptisms, at confirmation and for the anointing of the sick.

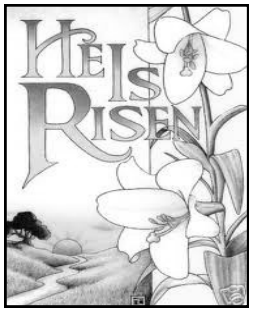
The Triduum

Maundy Thursday till Easter Sunday is known as the Triduum, a word which comes from the Latin for 'three days'. The Sacred Triduum is the highlight of Holy Week, when true Christians world-wide enter into the Saving Passion and Death of our Redeemer, so as to rise with Him in the Spirit on Easter Day.

On Thursday of Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, we celebrate the Mass of the Last Supper, 6.30pm.
The Gospel according to St John makes no mention of the Eucharist. We read nothing of Jesus taking bread and wine and saying, 'This is my body and blood, broken and poured out for you.' St John has Jesus washing the disciple's feet. The washing of the feet reveals the deeper mystery of Jesus' sacrifice of his body and blood. It is a service of love, offered to cleanse us from our sin, to bring us into intimate union with Jesus and to give an example that we might love and serve others; the command, or 'mandatum' of humble service.
Our Eucharistic Ministers will recommit to their ministry at this Mass.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. This is the day we follow Christ to Calvary. The liturgy of Good Friday, more than on any other day, highlights the beauty of the cross. We are invited to venerate the cross.
'We adore you O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.'
Holy Saturday **is** the Sabbath on which Jesus rested in the grave.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Solemn Vigil and First Mass of Easter. Saturday 8.00pm.
Service of Easter Fire and Light; Scriptural Vigil tracing the story of our Salvation; Blessing of Easter Water; Renewal of our Baptismal Vows; Easter Eucharist.
Sunday – Easter Day.
Family Service. 9.30am. Easter eggs for the children! Eggs are a sign of new life – we have a New Life in Jesus.



The following week is known as Easter Week.

The next Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter, and so on, until we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and then Pentecost
- Easter lasts for 50 days!

HAPPY EASTER!

N.B. There will be no services 21st - 25th April, no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wed 23rd.

Saturday 26th April, 6.00pm : First Mass of Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday 27th April, 9.30am : SECOND SUNDAY of Easter

The next newsletter will be for the week beginning 26th/27th April.

Marriage Care, a registered charity, provides relationship counselling at no fixed fee.
So that the relationship counsellor has someone else present in the building when seeing clients we need someone sitting in the office, but of course not in the same room. The location of the service is near Bournemouth Town Hall, we would need your help on Tuesday evenings and are under pressure from May until September so hope to create a rota. If interested to know more please telephone John c/o Corpus Christi Parish Office

STM QUIZ NIGHT **Quiz Night: May 10th, 7pm.** In the church hall. Shared supper. Tickets will be on sale again weekends: 26th/27th April and 2nd/3rd May

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

NEWSLETTER INSERTS FROM THE DIOCESE:

The Blessed John Paul II Pilgrimage: This is a 50 mile walk from Bury St Edmunds to Walsingham happening every summer since 2006, led by the Dominican Sisters from Sway. The intention of the pilgrimage is the New Evangelisation of England and Wales. This year, the walk is happening from 7th-10th August (Thursday to Sunday) 2014. The pilgrims meet on the Thursday for an opening Mass in the ground of Bury St Edmunds Abbey ruins. The walk to Walsingham takes 3 days: 20 miles on Friday and Saturday and 10 miles on Sunday. It is open to everyone who is willing and able to walk. Accommodation is on the floor in halls. We have a group of pilgrims of various ages, including families - from 30 and 60 people join us every year. The cost is £55 each - £45 a head for families. It includes everything (food and lodging) from Bury St Edmunds to Walsingham. All welcome! For more info, contact Sr Hyacinthe, OP: sister.hyacinthe@googlemail.com mailto:sister.hyacinthe@googlemail.com

Called and Gifted Workshop: Places for the Called and Gifted Workshop in June are filling up fast. Please book your place if you wish to come. Go to www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted and fill in the form. Places are free for those in the diocese. If someone outside the Diocese wishes to come, please contact cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk mailto:cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Framework for Collaboration: Framework Teams wish to make contact with the following people:

1. Those who are involved in any way in Natural Fertility Planning, especially practitioners
2. Those who are involved in spiritual direction
3. Those who are involved in any type of chaplaincy.

Please could you send your details to Caroline Virgo cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk mailto:cvirgo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk . All teams are still recruiting volunteers. Volunteer interview days continue to be on the 4th Saturday of each month. The interviews take the form of a mutual discernment conversation. If you would like to help at diocesan level please contact us after discussing it with your parish priest.

Summer Accommodation in London: Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea offer comfortable rooms in central London in July and August. Beautiful gardens and chapel. Rooms from £50 per night (including breakfast). Website : www.allenhall.org.uk www.allenhall.org.uk/ Email : allenhall@rcdow.org.uk mailto:allenhall@rcdow.org.uk Telephone : 02073495600 (option 0)

THANK YOU for your weekly offerings; 29th / 30th March

Envelopes :	£ 318.30	Cash :	£ 113.33
Standing Orders :	£ 144.93		**Total : £ 576.56**
Clergy Assistance Fund:	**£ 104.04**		***Thank you!***

KSC Sponsored Walk

Rosemary and Jo would like to thank everyone who sponsored them to do the walk in aid of the Amelia Grace Rainbow Fund. Between us we raised the **magnificent sum of £273.50** which will go towards providing outings and treats for children with terminal or life limiting illnesses. God bless.