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

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St Thomas More



The Presentation of the Lord Year A

1st/2nd February 2014

Weekday Masses Tuesday - Friday, 9.30am
(with Morning prayer at 9.10am)

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

Parish Priest: 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 February :		Mass Intention
Saturday 1st February 6.00pm	First Mass of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple	Ray Faulkner, RIP (1st Anniversary of death)
Sunday 2nd February 9.30am	**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE**	People of the Parish
Monday 3rd February	—	—
Tuesday 4th February 9.30am	Feria	Rose and Eddie Deery (Foundation Mass)
Wed. 5th February 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00	St Agatha, *memorial* Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	For all the faithful departed
Thurs. 6th February 9.30am	St Paul Miki & Companions, *memorial*	For all the faithful departed
Friday 7th February 9.30am	Feria	For all the faithful departed
Saturday: 5.15 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Masses Sat. 6pm & Sun. 9.30am	Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	

Please note: The hymn numbers board now also displays the Eucharistic Prayer (I-IV) the Proper Preface (I-VIII) and the Memorial Acclamation (A-C)

There will be a Second Collection this weekend (the 'White Flower Appeal') on behalf of SPUC, the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child

The Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

As many of you will be aware that there is a group of parishioners of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham who, led by Reverend Edwin Barnes, have been holding Masses at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Southbourne for over two years now. You will also be aware that whilst Fr Darryl is the Parish Priest of St Thomas More, he is also a Priest within the Ordinariate. With this in mind, Bishop Philip has asked that the Ordinariate Group look to move to St Thomas More. As yet, no date for the move has been set for the move and whilst there will be a number of areas that we need to consider, the aim is not to impact the worshipping which currently takes place here at St Thomas More. We hope that you will welcome and embrace the Ordinariate and work with us to help with a smooth transition.

The Presentation of the Lord Yr A

Reflection on the Gospel.

Scripture scholars now believe that the infancy narratives arose out of the early liturgical practices of the Jesus movement. Other parts of the gospel grew up around sermons and oral and written traditions which the Gospel writers put together. There is no trace of this development in the infancy narratives. They appear almost full blown with no background development. They have been carefully composed with references to the Jewish scriptures. They were like liturgical plays, little dramas written for the community, and perhaps acted by children in the community (- just as the infancy narratives are often acted out today).

This is not to suggest that they are pure fiction, but rather that they are stories put together for the community to emphasize their faith in who and what they knew Jesus to be. The two elderly spokespeople in today's Gospel repeat the early Christian faith - and ours too.

Mary and Joseph must have pondered the words of Simeon and Anna, wondering what this meant for their child. They, like most new parents, probably had dreams for him but the prophecy of Simeon, and the words of Anna sounded somewhat ominous.

Incidentally, the custom of blessing candles today comes from the fact that in ancient Rome, the "station" for the Mass today was a church in the ruins of the Forum (Santa Maria in Foro) and, since it was in the middle of winter, it was dark and people needed the candles to find their way among the ruins. The devotion to the young Jesus, the Light of the World, presents him as one who overcomes the darkness

When new parents bring their precious bundle home they feel that their child is the most precious baby in the world and they begin imaging all the great things this child will accomplish. As they share their dreams for their child with family and friends, there is always someone ready to throw a wet blanket on their hopes and remind them of the cost of child-rearing, both in financial and energy terms. The visitor would perhaps be better advised to say how lucky they are to have this precious bundle and add this bit of advice, "Love your child with all your heart and soul. Encourage your child in whatever interests he or she displays."



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Candidates and Catechists 2014 please note:
We have received a letter from the Department for Educational Chaplaincies asking us to inform all candidates to take note that there is to be a Diocesan Retreat to take place at Oaklands school in Waterlooville from the 4th - 6th April 2014.
The retreat weekend will be led by priests, catechists and youth workers from across the diocese in partnership with Youth 2000 - building on the great event they facilitated last year in Bournemouth.
Further details will be given later.

The next meeting for Confirmation candidates will be on Friday 7th February, 7.00 to 8.30pm, at St Joseph's parish centre.

(Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! 5th, 12th & 19th February,

6-7pm at Corpus Christi
(757 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH7 6AN)

All young people are invited to join us for this beautiful time of quiet prayer & adoration.

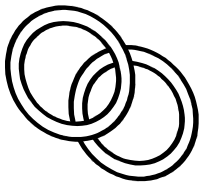
"From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others." - Pope John Paul II

For more information on these events and more, contact Will Hince on 07810827606 whince@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or check out www.facebook.com/bournemouthandavonstourcatholicyouth

Additional Authorised Person for Marriages required.

Please see Fr Darryl or Parish Office for details.

Training will be given if necessary.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays,
10.00am to 12.00noon



A reminder that our church is open every Wednesday morning for Eucharistic Adoration should you wish to spend a little time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. There is also a team of regular 'watchers' - if you could add your name to the list of 'regular watchers' to cover holiday times etc. that would be very helpful.

FABRIC & FINANCE UPDATE

Please note:
The full Parish Accounts for the accounting year, September 2012 to August 2013 are available to view on the noticeboard at the back of the church.



The minutes of the last Fabric and Finance meeting are on the notice board beside these accounts.

CASH FLOW SUMMARY 2013 (CALENDAR YEAR)

Income:		£48,442
Expenditure:		£52,870
Balance:		(£4,428)
Average weekly offerings:		£445
Cash accounts:	(13 Jan 2014)	£14,438
Living Our Faith:	(10 Jan 2014)	£6,332

Note: The negative balance for the calendar year is a result of outstanding costs from painting and electrical work which had been budgeted for.
The general picture reflects a broadly neutral cash flow situation.

S.F. (Chair of Fabric and Finance Committee).

VACANCIES

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: **Key Stage 1 Leader** required for September (or sooner). If you are looking to further develop your teaching career into leadership or are currently in a similar role we would like to hear from you. The advert and all the job details are on the school website (www.corpuschristiprimary.co.uk). Visits to the school are welcome and can be arranged by ringing the school office on 01202 427544. Closing date for applications is noon on 13th February 2014.

Part-time Education Officer
A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Education Officer to work in the Diocesan Department for Schools which is located at Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, Hampshire. The full advert, job description, application and Equal Ops forms for this post are on the Diocesan Website Vacancies Page.

Assistant to the Episcopal Vicar for Vocation (EVV)
The Diocese wishes to appoint to a new post a full time Assistant to the Episcopal Vicar for Vocation (who is based in Winchester). The person appointed to this post will be a practising Catholic who will be working with and under the direction of the EVV. The role will be to work with the Clergy Formation Team in the development and provision of support for the clergy of the Diocese in all the aspects of their ministry. Appointment to the role is subject to a satisfactory DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check. Considerable travel within the Diocese will be required. Full details, Job Description, experience, qualifications and personal attributes for the role, and an Application Form are available on the Diocesan Web Site (www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Completed Application Forms should be returned to Canon Paul Townsend, Peterhouse, St Peters Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8BW by 12 noon on Monday 10 February 2014. The starting salary will be in the region of £25,000 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

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

SCRIPTURE GROUP (at St Joseph's, Christchurch): ***'Living our Scriptures - Our Faith in Action'***
The group meet on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. For details contact Moira c/o St Joseph's.

GATHERING MASS : The House Groups of St Joseph's Christchurch invite you to a SPECIAL GATHERING MASS followed by a shared supper (bring a plate of meat free finger food & leave in hall before Mass)
Time. 7.15 - 9.30 p.m. date Friday 21 st February

TAIZE MASS with SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: at St Joseph's, 8 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst, at 7.15pm on Monday 10th February. Individual healing prayer available after Mass. Everyone welcome!

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM : Please join the Bournemouth Ordinariate on this year's pilgrimage to Walsingham from 27th to 30th June, led by 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, please ring Madeleine c/o OLQP.

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 c/o Corpus Christi

CAFOD SUPPORTERS' MEETING: Sat. 8th Feb., 10am-1.30pm, St Bede's Primary School, Popley Way, Basingstoke. Contact the CAFOD Portsmouth office by 3rd Feb. at portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or on 01252 329385.

CHOOSE LIFE, CHOOSE LOVE CONFERENCE: Fri 28th Feb – Sun 2nd March 2014: This conference will take place at St Patrick's Church in Soho, London. This is a weekend conference organised by the Diocese of Westminster Department for Pastoral Affairs on beauty, freedom, and the family. Speakers include Dana Rosemary Scallon (former MEP, co-founder of Ireland United for Life), Sr. Renee Mirkes OSF (Ethics Director, Pope Paul VI Institute USA), John Henry Westen (Editor, Lifesite News) and Jonathan Doyle (Founder and Director of CHOICEZ Media Australia). £50 to attend the full weekend conference, or £30 for one day. Please find a poster for this conference attached. Any queries, please contact Edmund Adamus: edmundadamus@rcdow.org.uk.

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.

THANK YOU	**for your weekly**	**offerings;**	**25th / 26th Jan.**
Envelopes :	£ 182.60	Cash :	£ 95.22
Standing Orders :	£ 155.31		**Total : £ 433.13**
CAFOD (January):	£ 32.20	*Thank you!*	