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



Newsletter
of the
Catholic Parish of
St Thomas More

ASCENSION of the Lord

Year A

31st May/1st June 2014

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

Week beginning 31st May :		Mass Intention
Saturday 31st May 6.00pm	First Mass of The Ascension	Arthur Collinson, RIP
Sunday 1st June 9.30am	**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**	Ray Rocks, RIP
Monday 2nd June	—	—
Tuesday 3rd June **10.00am**	**Requiem Mass**	**Gerald Murphy, RIP**
Wed. 4th June 9.30am 10.00am - 12.00 noon	of the Seventh week of Easter Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Jean & Ian Sornders, RIP
Thurs. 5th June 9.30am	St Boniface, memorial	For all the faithful departed
Friday 6th June 9.30am	of the Seventh week of Easter	Mary & Dick Mullins, RIP
Sat. 7th June 5.15 – 5.45pm 9.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation Vigil Mass of Pentecost	Thanksgiving for good health restored after cancer operation on Feb. 14
Sunday 8th June 9.30am	Pentecost	People of the Parish

There will be a Second Collection this weekend for
World Communications

Copies of the message from Pope Francis for World Communications Day are available on the 'free table'.

WELCOME! We extend a **Welcome to the Ordinariate of Our Lady Of Walsingham** who will be moving from Our Lady Queen of Peace to their new home at St Thomas More's next weekend.



The Ordinariate Masses will be every Sunday at 11.15am. Ordinariate members may, of course, attend our 6.00pmVigil Mass or our 9.30am Mass on a Sunday to fulfil their Sunday obligation, and St Thomas More parishioners are welcome to attend the 11.15am Ordinariate Mass in place of the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil or 9.30am Sunday Mass if they so wish.

The Ascension Yr A

NOT SEPARATED

The Ascension of our Lord was an event which must have been recalled with joy and thanksgiving by the Apostles and disciples of Jesus Christ. Reflection on the Ascension of the Lord should make us aware that we live in a world of mystery, with but one light illuminating the way ahead. Without this light of Jesus we would not know where we are, what will become of us, what we are to believe, and what the ultimate meaning is of life on earth.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" the New Testament asks (Rom 8:35-39). Indeed nothing can, for in "all things we are conquerors through him who loved us." We can remain certain that "neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." "He then led them" - the specially chosen witnesses of his post-resurrection appearances - "out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. And it came to pass that while he blessed them, he parted from them and was taken up into" heaven" (Lk 24:50f). At that moment every thought and feeling they ever had about him must have come crowding back into their minds.

But, in a truly wonderful way, their sorrow and anxiety gave way to more lofty and noble emotions. For we are told, "they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the Temple praising God." They had seen Christ being raised up on high, and their spirits were lifted up with him to a new spiritual plane, making them determined and confident in facing up to the prospect of trials such as Christ himself had endured. Christ had suffered and entered into joy, and so would they, after his example, although to a lesser degree. "Was it not necessary," Jesus had asked the disciples on the road to Emmaus, "that the Christ should suffer these things, and so enter into his glory?" And so it was that from the moment of Pentecost onwards, the Apostles would no longer hesitate in the face of opposition and persecution. We are told in the Acts of the Apostles (5:41) that they were even "glad to have the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name," meaning of course Jesus, who by his resurrection had received the name "Lord." Christ suffered and entered into joy; so did the Apostles in their measure, and so do we.

But the Apostles were not allowed to bask in the glow of this new found consolation. They were commanded to preach to all the nations, to baptise them and lead them to obey the teachings of Christ. At some point or other in the life of each of us there is pain and sorrow and trouble. But we must be tried in order to triumph, humbled in order to be exalted. "If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed," St Peter, by way of encouragement, tells us (1 Pet 4:13). Then when the time comes to leave this world, you will also be able to say with St Paul, "I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race: I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:7), and "all there is left for me now is the crown of justice reserved for me, which the Lord, the just judge will give to me on that day; and not only to me but to all who have longed for his coming." Lastly Jesus says, "Let not your heart be troubled. I go to prepare a place for you .. and I will come again, and will take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be" (Jn 14:1+).

www.biblical.ie/lections

Enkindle!

Come and join us for the launch of our new post Confirmation youth group!

Post Confirmation to Year 11
Friday 13th June 7-9pm, St Joseph's



The youth group will blend formation, fun, prayer & pizza into an epic youth event which will inspire and equip our young people for their mission in the Church and the world. *St Joseph's, 67 Purewell, Christchurch, Dorset. BH23 1EH*

(Most) Weekly Youth Holy Hour! This Wednesday (4th June) 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

48th World Communication Day.

It's no good trying to communicate the Gospel if we are not open to encounter the lives and the truth of others.

That's the theme at the heart of Pope Francis' message for the 48th World Communication Day.



Entitled 'Communication at the service of an authentic Culture of Encounter', the message says effective Christian witness is not about bombarding people with religious messages but about respectfully engaging with their questions and their doubts.

Vatican Radio reported: This is the Pope Francis' first message for World Communications Day and it offers a profoundly personal and Franciscan vision of the way that modern media technology must help us, not just to connect virtually, but to promote a real encounter with people and ideas that are often very different from own. A culture of encounter demands that we be ready not only to give, but also to receive and the internet, the message says, offers immense possibilities for encouraging encounter and solidarity. Noting the continuing "scandalous gap between the opulence of the wealthy and the utter destitution of the poor", the Pope says media can help create a stronger sense of the unity of the human family.

While acknowledging that the internet can isolate and create barricades between people, Pope Francis says the Church must respond with fresh energy and imagination to the challenges of the ongoing technological revolution. He uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to explain how we must see ourselves as true neighbours, ready to take responsibility for the needs of others. Returning to one of his favourite themes, the Pope says our streets are teeming with people who are often hurting and looking for a sign of hope and salvation. It's not enough to be passers by on the streets and digital highways of our world: rather we must keep open the doors of our churches and our digital environments so that people can enter and the Gospel message can reach to the ends of the earth.

Would you be able to help us improve the worship side of your Sunday morning Mass?
Would you be able to offer a maximum of two hours each week to help us to set up a Sunday morning singing group? We need four or five people to stand alongside Paul to lead the singing.

There is no difficult music, it is no different than singing as you normally do on Sundays, but you will be with other people instead of singing on your own. The two hours will consist of Sunday Mass with the odd one hour practice during the week.
We are looking for a singing group not a choir.

The group will lead the Settings (Kyrie etc), Psalms and Hymns. There will be no complicated four-part harmonies. We would also like additional musicians for Sunday Mornings, so if you play an instrument come along and play at Mass.

If you can help, please give your name to
Fr Darryl, Paul, Barry or the Parish Office.

Talk by Fr Alan Griffiths : "The role of lay leaders in Planning and Celebrating Liturgies".
24th June 2014, 7.30 pm at St Joseph's Centre, Christchurch

The APC have arranged for Fr Alan to give us a talk on It would be very helpful to all our Pastoral Area lay leaders! The APC are anxious to produce an Area-wide Contingency Plan and *would appreciate all lay leaders making a real effort to attend.*

Vacancies: St Thomas Garnet's Catholic Independent School, Boscombe wish to appoint a **Year 2 and Year 4 Teacher** for September 2014. If you are interested in either role and have the energy and enthusiasm that the Trustees seek, please send in your CV and covering letter to the Headteacher, Mrs Sarah Breeze by Monday 16th June. Visits to the school are warmly encouraged and successful candidates will be appointed subject to thorough checks in line with our safeguarding and safer recruitment policy. www.stthomasgarnets.co.uk

From the Diocese: Sign up for Portsmouth Diocese E-News
Keep up to date with what's happening in the diocese. The diocesan e-news comes out once a week – latest events, photos, videos. Sign up on www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Copy on notice board.

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 or the Annunciation Church		

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH SUMMER FETE: Saturday 28th June at 2pm.

MIDSUMMER FAYRE : Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church (15 Salisbury Road, Fordingbridge SP6 1EG). In the church hall and garden. Saturday June 21st, 11am - 2pm. Fun for all the family! Relax in the garden and on the patio with a Pimms or a soft drink. Enjoy something from the BBQ or a cream tea or cake. Stalls include plants, cakes, bric a brac, gifts, tombola, toys and games, bottle stall, raffle and more. There will also be an art exhibition and sale by the church art group.

CADENZA CHOIR CONCERT: The concert will raise funds for Zoe's Wish (easing the burden of illness). Wednesday 9th July 7.30pm – St Joseph's Church. Tickets: £6.00 to include glass of wine or soft drink. Available from the Zoe's wish website.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE RE-UNION : There will be a reunion in St Joseph's Parish Centre on Saturday 14th June at 7.45pm following the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land last November. A wonderful selection of photographs have been printed with a foreward by Fr John and ringbound. If anyone is interested or thinking of going on the pilgrimage to the Holy Land with the Diocese which is being arranged for next year, you would be most welcome to join us on the 14th June. Please bring nibbles and drinks to share.

OLD SPECTACLES REQUIRED! The Lay members of the ACI family of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart are collecting unwanted spectacles for the Sister's mission in the Cameroon. We meet at 11am every last Monday of the month at the convent at 6 Parkwood Road, Boscombe. All are welcome.
Please your old specs in the box on the 'free table'. Thanks.

CATHOLIC CELEBRATE WEEKEND: 27th & 28th September at St. Mary's College, Bitterne Park, Southampton. Speakers are Charles & Sue Whitehead, David Matthews and John Vaughan-Neil. There will be daily Mass and a variety of seminars and workshops as well as the main talks. The theme is "Jesus, the hope of all the world". Full details are on the Celebrate Website from where booking forms can be downloaded.

THE BLESSED JOHN PAUL II PILGRIMAGE: 7th -10th August. 50 mile walk from Bury St Edmunds to Walsingham, led by the Dominican Sisters from Sway. The cost is £55 each - £45 a head for families. It includes everything (food and lodging) from Bury St Edmunds to Walsingham. For more information, contact Sr Hyacinthe, OP

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 church.

THANK YOU for the offerings 24th/25th May

Envelopes :	£ 190.14	Cash :	£ 126.30
Standing Orders :	£ 144.93		**Total : £ 461.37**
Cafod (May) :	£ 61.90		*Thank you!*