

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

in NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT

Our Parish live streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton>

Website: www.nfwf.org.uk

Church opening hours 7am to 7pm.



Easter Sunday

Year A

16th April 2017

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. This is Blessed news and Glorious triumph. Easter's empty tomb has never been and will never be old news but Joyous tidings and solemn wonder even to those who killed him. The message of the resurrection is the ever-new and good news about Jesus Christ who conquered sin and death, who rose from the grave and therefore everything He touches becomes instantly and eternally new. This statement is true in a real, personal, direct, applicable way for each of us. We the Easter Christians are the ones who trust the Spirit's presence, even in the midst of adversity. We are the ones who accept our own illnesses as opportunities to reveal God's love to others and quietly feed the hungry and share our resources with those abandon. We are the ones who gather our families in the face of approaching death and remind them that we are an Easter people. We are the Easter people who believe that the cross transformed all suffering and pain, and the Resurrection secured the promise of eternal life. It is this paschal mystery, this Easter faith, that we are called to live each day.

The resurrection of Jesus demonstrates:

- That Jesus was the Christ.
- That there is another life after this.
- That it is safe to trust in a complete forgiveness in the merits and righteousness of Christ alone.
- That He is now ever with and in His Church and Sacraments, there to dispense the blessings of His efficacious presence, to breathe His Spirit on people's souls, and to make them participants in His new life.
- That Jesus has brought us and Angels together again. Easter has put an Angel of God in every sepulchre. As the friends of Jesus come with spices of love in their hands, they come into the communion of the glorified, and begin to have conversation with angelic excellence.

The joy we are being invited to have and share in this season, is beyond what we see in our everyday lives. For us Christians, Easter Joy for Everyday Life is more than just a day; the Church gives us a seven-week Easter season to celebrate. Yet sometimes our problems make us feel so heavy that we fail to celebrate. Issues like illness in the family, job security, disappointment in a relationship and the burdens of everyday life can make it a challenge to feel particularly joyful – even in the Easter season. If we can overcome our fears, the real power of letting Jesus into our hearts will begin and sooner or later, we will be free and ready to serve with Jesus. Jesus loves us and at this moment, he holds each one of us in his warm and loving gaze and loves us so freely at a depth that our human minds can't take in. Whether we comprehend this or not, Jesus loves us endlessly and waits for us with his arms open, ready to hold and support us. As we receive his embrace and feel the peace and joy of Easter over us, we can look over his shoulder, and see beyond to those in need who now wait for us. That's when we realize that the real joy in our lives is putting aside our own faults, challenges and difficulties for a while and entering into the lives of others.

Pope Francis said that at Easter, we leave ourselves behind and encounter others by “being close to those crushed by life's troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast.” We are being commissioned therefore as Easter People. We find peace in Jesus' love for us and now we share it with others. We find ourselves standing side by side with Jesus, looking together at those we are being sent to love. That is where the real joy of Easter waits for us. **HAPPY EASTER TO ALL**

Fr. George Ngwa

1. There will be a Holy Hour in the Church on Sunday 23rd April (Divine Mercy Sunday) to celebrate Divine Mercy and gain the desired Indulgence as granted by the Church.

This will begin from 2:30 - 3:30p.m.

2. The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday and goes until Divine Mercy Saturday. You can join thousands of people in praying the novena this year! This year there are already more than 100,000 people praying! Will you join us for the Divine Mercy Novena?

The Divine Mercy novena prayers were given to St. Faustina through an apparition of our Lord Jesus. Each day has a new petition that seeks God's mercy for different purposes. The message of Divine Mercy is a powerful and moving way to come closer to Christ. His Mercy is central to our lives and we must continually depend on it and ask for it daily. What a great time to pray with the Church for Divine Mercy. Join us in praying the Divine Mercy Novena beginning this Good Friday!

Here are the details about the plenary indulgence that is possible to gain on Divine Mercy Sunday - the Sunday after Easter.

DIRECTIONS

In a decree dated August 3, 2002, the Apostolic Penitentiary in Rome announced that in order "to ensure that the faithful would observe this day (Divine Mercy Sunday) with intense devotion, the Supreme Pontiff himself established that this Sunday be enriched by a plenary indulgence...so that the faithful might receive in great abundance the gift of the consolation of the Holy Spirit. In this way, they can foster a growing love for God and for their neighbour, and after they have obtained God's pardon, they in turn might be persuaded to show a prompt pardon to their brothers and sisters."

The plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!). Additional provisions are offered for those who are impeded from fulfilling these requirements, but wish to acquire the plenary indulgence.

The Second Sunday of Easter in the new Missale Romanum bears the name, "DOMINICA II PASCHÆ seu de divina Misericordia." While the readings and prayers for Mass on this day remain unchanged, the decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary gives guidance to preachers as they reflect on the mystery of Divine Mercy:

The Gospel of the Second Sunday of Easter narrates the wonderful things Christ the Lord accomplished on the day of the Resurrection during his first public appearance:

"On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad to see the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you,' and then he breathed on them, and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained'" (Jn 20,19-23).

In addition, the decree requires that parish priests "should inform the faithful in the most suitable way of the Church's salutary provision. They should promptly and generously be willing to hear their confessions. On Divine Mercy Sunday, after celebrating Mass or Vespers, or during devotions in honor of Divine Mercy, with the dignity that is in accord with the rite, they should lead the recitation of the prayers that have been given above. Finally, since 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy' (Mt 5,7), when they instruct their people, priests should gently encourage the faithful to practice works of charity or mercy as often as they can, following the example of, and in obeying the commandment of Jesus Christ, as is listed for the second general concession of indulgence in the Enchiridion Indulgentiarum."

Fr George Ngwa

Announcements from the Secretary. Happy Easter!

The trip to the Chrism Mass was a joyful experience for all who went. A big thanks to Catherine for organising the coach and being monitor. For those of you unable to attend the day, Bishop Philip's homily is on the Portsmouth Diocese website. I have downloaded a copy and put it on the notice board as well as printing out a few for those who prefer the paper version and want to spend some time reading it.

The office is closed on Wednesday this week as I am attending a funeral in the morning, but will be there on Thursday instead.

The Youth who attended World Youth Day will be at Coffee after Mass on Sunday 23rd April. This is the Parish's opportunity to hear from them all about their experiences and we are grateful that they have got together again to present something for us. There will be additional cake to entice you in, and celebrate a Ruby wedding.

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| Sun 16 th April | Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord | Sat Vigil Mass 8pm- Peggy Tolliday RIP 10.00 Holy Mass- Holy Souls in Purgatory | Coffee in the Hall after Mass on Sundays |
| Mon 17 th Apr | Monday within Octave of Easter | No Mass | |
| Tues 18 th Apr | Tuesday within Octave of Easter | 18.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for adoration followed by Rosary and Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass- () | |
| Wed 19 th Apr | Wednesday within Octave of Easter | 9.00 Exposition, 9.30 Rosary, 9.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass- Charles and Minnie Garbett RIP | Rosary intentions for the sick of the Parish. Parish Finance Committee Meeting 6pm in Hall |
| Thur 20 th Apr | Thursday within Octave of Easter | 9.00 Exposition, 9.30 Rosary, 9.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass- Mary and Jack Loftus RIP | Rosary intentions for Peace in the world |
| Fri 21 st Apr | Friday within Octave of Easter | 9.00 Exposition, 9.30 Rosary, 9.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass- The Turner family in thanksgiving | No Holy Communion Classes restart 28 th April. |
| Sat 22 nd Apr | Saturday within Octave of Easter | 9.30 Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration of the relic of Sister Faustina 10.00 Holy Mass- () 6pm Vigil Mass – Elza RIP | . |
| Sun 23 rd Apr | Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday (the Feast of St George is transferred to Monday 24 th April) | 10.00 Holy Mass- in thanksgiving for 40th Wedding Anniversary (Johanna and Andy Thomas) 2.30pm Divine Mercy Service | Coffee in hall after Mass After tea and coffee on Divine Mercy Sunday, there will be a presentation by the young people of the Parish that attended World Youth Day in Krakow last Summer. |

Sacrament of Reconciliation After Wednesday and Saturday morning Mass and before Sat Vigil Mass at 5.45pm and on request

COLLECTIONS: 9th April. Loose £387.64 and Gift Aid (envelopes only) £200.00. Thank you for your continuing support of this Parish.

For enquires about Baptisms and Weddings please contact the office for forms, and for funerals please discuss dates first with the funeral directors and meet the parish priest with a date

Readers

Easter Sunday 10am Mass

Hugh Fawcett and C Fradd

EMHC 15/16 April

Sat: 8pm Vigil R or M Yon, F Fallon, B Petts

Sun: G Mambo, A Joseph, J Nichols

Parish Priest: Father George Ngwa:
email: gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Emergencies only: mobile 07475753040
Parish Office: Mrs Johanna Thomas:
lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Tel. 01425 614968;

OFFICE HOURS: Weds and Fri 10.45-12.00 *

Please leave any messages on answerphone or email.

Thank you.

Safeguarding: Katherine Dempster Tel. 01425 611643

Health and Safety: Lorenzo Bandonill

Hall Booking: via Parish Office



