

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH In NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT.

Parish priest: *Father George Ngwa*

Church opening hours 07.30 – 17.30 (from Nov 1<sup>st</sup>)



**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year    Year A    29 October 2017**

## **CHRISTIAN LOVE - GOD - NEIGHBOUR AND SELF**

One of our free view Television programmes *The Nightmare Neighbour* fits perfectly into our reflection this Sunday. Often when I watch this programme I cannot help asking myself so many soul searching questions such as; “Am I a good neighbour to others?” and / or “Do I have such a neighbour?” and “What can I do about it as a Christian?”

Of all the things which a Christian must do in his / her life, the greatest is to love God with everything he/she has. The second most important is to love his neighbour. ***Who is our neighbour in the context of our Gospel reading? Is it literally the person who lives next door to you? No, it refers to everyone around you including your enemies.*** This law to love your neighbour is based on a proper regard for the consideration of others. We are obliged to love one another. The love of a citizen or Christian to his neighbours is a self-sacrificing love. It is one where he seeks the highest good for the other person. He/she knows what they must do to show this love, by having knowledge of God and the love which he shows to all. They can learn from observing God’s love. Love seeks only the good for others.

**The principles behind loving your neighbour:** The Apostle Paul wrote these words to the Christians living in Rome saying: ***Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law ... therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.*** (Romans 13:8-10)

The life of a Christian must have as part of it, loving r neighbour. These are some principles to guide that love:

- ✓ Our neighbour includes people from any social background and from any human race.
- ✓ To love those around you means taking action to help that person with their needs. There are always going to be people in the society around you who need your help.
- ✓ Lack of love is something we should always be on the watch out for. It can be an easy trap to fall into when we become insular and inward-looking.

**Treating others like we treat ourselves;** We all make sure we have a place to sleep, clothes to keep us warm and food to eat. We forgive or make excuses for our personal faults. We do not hate our failures etc. We look after ourselves to ensure we are kept in good health. And there is nothing wrong with having this care and attention to ourselves. What God wants us to constantly remember is that; we need to have this same love for our neighbours. This love involves making sure that others have a place to sleep, clothes to keep them warm and food to keep them in good health. So, to love others as we love ourselves means to be continually on the outlook to make sure that the needs of others are met. To love others is an unceasing duty and is a central part of a Christian’s life. Love seeks only the best for others.

For Jesus, to love your neighbour as you love yourself was to practice justice towards your fellow human beings:

- Live generously towards the poor and stranger
- Do not steal from anyone .
- Do not be deceptive in dealings with people.

- Do not swear in God's name.
- Do not oppress, rob, or exploit the poor by paying unfair wages.
- Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind.
- Do not be partial to the poor or show favour to the wealthy but judge honestly.
- Do not commit financial fraud.
- Do not hate your brother.
- Do not seek revenge or hold a grudge but extend forgiveness.
- Speak the truth to them and about them.
- Be generous to all
- Do not discriminate between them for whatever reasons

The issue isn't who our neighbour is and who we're supposed to love. The issue is our hearts. Who are we?

**RESOLUTIONS AND OPTION FOR MY NEIGHBOUR: - in loving my neighbour as myself, I promise that:**

**1. I will see my neighbour:** - I will love my neighbours, whoever they are, by truly seeing them. I will look past the obvious, and I will look into their eyes, their hearts, and their circumstances. If I am blinded by my own bitterness or anger, I will beg God to give me His eyes to see His beloved creation as He does.

**2. I'll ask for forgiveness and offer it:** - I'll ask for forgiveness for the strongholds within my own heart that keep me from sympathizing with or loving others. If I am closed off or indifferent towards a particular person or group of people, I'll confess it before the Lord and ask for His forgiveness. If I need to ask for forgiveness from my neighbour, I'll humble myself and apologize. If I need to extend forgiveness towards a particular person or people group, I'll extend it.

**3. I'll pray:** - I'll love my neighbours by praying for them—even if it's difficult at first. I'll beg God to give me a sincere heart, and I will petition and pray until I am sincere. I will pray for my neighbours' circumstances in life, especially the ones I least want to pray for.

**4. I'll rejoice and mourn:** - I will walk alongside my neighbours. I will rejoice when they rejoice and mourn when they mourn. I will align my spirit with theirs.

**5. I'll learn and be teachable:** - Christ's ways are often hard and challenging, and I'll choose the harder path. I'll be teachable, and I'll learn. I'll allow my neighbours to challenge my heart without taking offense or becoming bitter. I'll be teachable and mouldable. I'll accept constructive criticism as the pathway that draws me closer to Christ. I won't be self-righteous or act as a know-it-all.

**6. I'll ask hard questions about myself:** - Why do I think the way that I think? Why do I behave the way that I behave? Was that right? Was that Christ-like? I won't accept the status quo and will ask myself if I'm really living in accordance with the teachings of Christ or if I'm confused.

**7. I'll refuse to be judgmental, but I'll be bold enough to spur others on to be more like Christ:** - I will love my neighbour by refusing to be judgmental. I refuse to focus on the sin in my neighbour's life as opposed to the sin in my own. I will, however, be bold enough to challenge my neighbour in love and to pray for areas of bondage, pain, injustice, and sin in his life. I will love my neighbour by understanding that love often challenges and calls out something greater so that we can experience the fullness of Christ.

**IMPORTANT** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November is the Feast of All Saints. It is a Holyday of Obligation and the Mass on Tuesday evening is the Vigil Mass and **not** the Mass of the Tuesday. The 10.00 Wednesday morning Mass of the Feast of All Saints will also be the funeral Mass of Andy Sacco. **Note. There is not any Exposition/ rosary/ Benediction on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.**

The Auxiliary Bishop of Bamenda is making a courtesy visit to Portsmouth Diocese from the 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November. He has accepted to visit Our Lady of Lourdes Parish New Milton and celebrate Holy Mass with us on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.. He will be with Bishop Philip in the morning of 5<sup>th</sup> November. He will be saying a word of appreciation for the Christians here in New Milton for the help given to Bamenda. After the Mass we will have some tea/coffee in the parish hall with him.

**Next week's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is for Bamenda**

**November Month of the Holy Souls.** There are envelopes available for you to request prayers for your family and friends and a box for these on St Joseph's altar. If the box is not there place the envelope in the Offertory or pop through the Presbytery door. Thank you.

**Enid Binyon**, mother of Irene Soares, was a committed OLOL Parishioner for about 20 years until she became too infirm to attend Sunday Mass here about a year ago. Sadly she died on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. For those of you who knew her we have been informed that her Requiem Mass will be held at Holy Redeemer Church, Kilmington Way, Highcliffe on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 11am. Please pray for her and her family.

**Advance Notice.** The funeral Mass of Mr Francis Mincham will take place here on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am Please remember the family in your prayers.

**SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION. Do you wish to be a candidate?** If so, please contact Father George as soon as possible.

**Would like to become a School Governor?** Then please check out the notice board. Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Primary School Lymington is advertising a vacancy.

On 25 October 1970, Pope Paul VI canonized **40 martyrs of the English Reformation**. Among those were 6 Welsh priests, religious and lay people, whose suffering is remembered on their feast day. It was brought to my attention that the six Welsh martyrs did not have their feast day on 25<sup>th</sup> October celebrated. This was because they were not included in the Portsmouth diocese ordo and only celebrated that day in Wales. They are not forgotten because they are included in the feast day of the forty martyrs which is celebrated on May 4<sup>th</sup>

Pope Francis "How often in difficult moments of history, have we heard it said: 'Today our country needs heroes'? Likewise, we can ask, 'Today what does our Church need?' Martyrs, witnesses, that is, everyday saints of ordinary life, lives lived coherently; but we also need those who have the courage to accept the grace to be witnesses until the end, until death". (Vatican 22/4/17)

**If you wish to join in the Collaborative Ministry for this Parish, please fill in a form. You may have missed the occasion when they were put in the newsletter or lost it but there are some spares at either entrance to the church. Only 12 have been handed back so far, so if you would like to do something please let us know. You can always leave your form in the Parish post tray by the Confessional. Some envelopes are behind the welcome forms. Thank you.**

**ATTENTION all readers and Extraordinary ministers.** Some people have had to drop out and so there are extra spaces to fill. If you are able to help please fill in the cancellations on the Master rota. Thank you.

**Appeal to the Parish.** There will be an appeal to all parishioners to review their offerings to the Parish after Masses this weekend. Parish Income is currently not sufficient to cover costs, and has dropped about 25% compared to the previous year. Those who are able will be asked to consider Gift Aiding if they do not already do so. (Parish Treasurer)

**Don't forget there are 3 Masses on the Feast of All Souls**

<b>Sunday</b>	29	October	30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the year	<b>18.00 Vigil Mass – John Williams</b> <b>10.00 Holy Mass - For the People of the Parish</b>	Coffee & tea in hall after Mass
<b>Monday</b>	30	October	Ordinary time		
<b>Tuesday</b>	31	October	Ordinary time	<b>19.00 Vigil Mass – Andrew &amp; Tiffanie Armstrong</b>	7.30 pm Tap classes in hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	1	November	All Saints	<b>9.10.00 Holy Mass – funeral of Andy Sacco RIP</b>	<b>HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	2	November	All Souls	9 am Exposition, 9.30 Rosary 9.50 Benediction <b>10 00 Holy Mass – Charles &amp; Minnie Garbett RIP</b> <b>12.00 Holy Mass – Holy Souls</b> <b>15.00 Holy Mass – NM Cemetery - Derrick Hobbs RIP</b>	Rosary intention for peace in the world CHOIR practice after Mass <b>CANCELLED</b>
<b>Friday</b>	3	November	Blessed John Body	<b>9 am Exposition, 9.30 Rosary</b> <b>9.50 Benediction</b> <b>10.00 Holy Mass – private intention for a mother RIP</b> <b>6.30 Holy Mass in Latin</b>	PALS meeting after morning Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	4	November	St Charles Borromeo	9.30 Divine Mercy chaplet veneration of the relic of Sr Faustina <b>10.00 Holy Mass -Terry Boland - 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death</b> <b>18.00 pm Vigil Mass – for the people of the Parish</b>	Confessions after morning Mass & before Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	5	November	31 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year	<b>10.00 Holy Mass – Harriet Pendry RIP</b> <b>17.30 Holy Mass – Canon Kevin O'Connor RIP</b>	Coffee & tea in hall after both Masses

**Prayer to St Michael, said at the end of Masses.** St Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

<b>Collections 21/22 October</b>	
loose	287.86
envelopes	288.85
World Missions	440.52
Thank you for your continuing support of this parish.	

	Sat 28 Oct	Sun 29 Oct	Sat 4 Nov	Sun 5 Nov
<b>Reader</b>	T Gearey	C Fradd	P Thorpe	M Tanner
	A Nash	J Thomas	B Dempster	J Thomas
<b>EMHC</b>	F Fallon	S Salinger	B Coyne	M Tanner
	J Thomas	A Caneda	J Coyne	A Joseph
	R or M Yon	J Kurian	M Newland	J Nichols

**Parish priest: Father George Ngwa**

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**Parish office: 01425 614968** email: [www.ololnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:www.ololnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Web: [www.nfwp.org.uk](http://www.nfwp.org.uk)

Hall Booking via parish Office. Secretary: Johanna Thomas Wed/ Fri 10.45-12.00.

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

**Safeguarding: Katherine Dempster 01425 611643 or email: [katherine.dempster@btinternet.com](mailto:katherine.dempster@btinternet.com)**

Church Live streaming monthly totals: Number of viewers 3707, unique viewers 1234