

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF LYMINGTON, BROCKENHURST & MILFORD-ON-SEA

Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph
132 High St, Lymington, SO41 9AQ

St Anne
Rhinefield Rd, Brockenhurst, SO42 7SR

St Francis of Assisi
Park Lane, Milford-on-Sea, SO41 0PT

Parish Contacts:

Parish Office: Maryhouse, 132 High Street, Lymington SO41 9AQ. **Telephone:** 01590 676696.

Parish Priest: Rev David Adams; **Parish Administrator:** Lisa Thurston. **Email & Newsletter Items:** lymbrock@sky.com.

Website: www.nfwp.org.uk; **Parish Blog:** www.lymrcchurch.blogspot.com. **Registered Charity No:** 246871/2

School: Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School, Ramley Rd, Pennington, 01590 672711. **Head of School:** Nanette Allies

Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils: Mike Reynolds, Lymington; Henry Mellor, Brockenhurst; Anthony Kirke, Milford on Sea

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Cathy Pickles (Lym); Susan McCabe (Brock); Liz White (Mil).

PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Health & Safety Co ordinator : Linda Guilding; **Health & Safety Reps St Francis:** Colin Stack & John Parry .

For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound: Contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

**After the Saturday Morning Mass
From 10am - 10.30am**

Masses & Services for the Week: 24th February - 4th March

DAY	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SAT	24 th	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	2 nd Sunday of Lent (P)	CAFOD	DMA
SUN	25 th	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	2 nd Sunday of Lent (P)	Tom Lyons RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	25 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	2 nd Sunday of Lent (P)	as per celebrant	PWR
SUN	25 th	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	2 nd Sunday of Lent (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	26 th	9.30am	Word & H C	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day (P)	N/A	
TUE	27 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day (P)	Mary Godden RIP	DMA
WED	28 th	9.30am	Word & H C	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day (P)	N/A	
WED	28 th	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	Liturgy of the Day (P)	as per celebrant	PWR
WED	28 th	10.00am	Mass	St Francis	Liturgy of the Day (P)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
THU	1 st	2.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	St David, Feast (W)	Mary Rose Boddington RIP Anniv	DMA
FRI	2 nd	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day (P)	The Baker Family F/M	DMA
SAT	3 rd	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day (P)	For those who are unwell	DMA
SAT	3 rd	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	3 rd Sunday of Lent (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	4 th	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	3 rd Sunday of Lent (P)	Norman Anthony Davies RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	4 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	3 rd Sunday of Lent (P)	Kathleen Josephine England RIP B'day Anniv	DMA
SUN	4 th	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	3 rd Sunday of Lent (P)	as per celebrant	PWR

FEB 24TH / 25TH: The CAFOD Lenten Fast Collection following on from the Friday Lenten Fast Day

MAR 10TH/11TH: Obligatory Collection - The Clergy Assistance Fund.

WHAT IS GOD ASKING – WHAT IS GOD GIVING?

For much of human history people have been fearful of God. In the emerging consciousness of humanity the deity was difficult to find and hard to understand. People were suspicious of the forces that seemed to arbitrarily control their lives. Gods were to be feared not loved. They had to be placated and kept on side. This way of imaging God was dark and toxic.

The Old Testament patriarch, Abraham, was called away from such pagan religion into a relationship with the living God. This was the beginning of revelation as we have experienced it in the Judeo-Christian tradition. The pagan peoples who lived close to Abraham and the early Israelites are known to have practiced some kind of child sacrifice at various times. They obviously had an influence on the Jewish people. You can imagine the scenario; "We are so devoted to our god we are prepared to sacrifice our children! What are you prepared to do for your god?"

The story of Abraham and Isaac is a response to that kind of taunt. At some point people began to realise and believe that God doesn't want the sacrifice of humans – perhaps God will be pleased with an animal instead? But God doesn't really want animals to be killed either (cfr Micah 6: 6-8).

It takes thousands of years for people to realise that God doesn't want anything killed or destroyed at all. Jesus reveals God as life-giver not life-taker! Instead of demanding that we sacrifice ourselves God actually makes the sacrifice on our behalf. At one time we thought we had to kill things to get to God. In Jesus God accepts death to reveal the divine love, which is unconditional, gratuitous, inclusive and indiscriminate. Jesus accepts being killed, accepts being a victim so that we would no longer turn others into victims. God can be loved. We are not seeing a toxic God of our own imaging but the God whom Jesus reveals – Father and Mother to all.

There is another important teaching of spiritual wisdom here. Life gives and life takes away. Sometimes life takes from us the very people or things we have been cherishing the most. Isaac was the child of the promise – the whole future depended on him. Our life our work, the people we love, the people we depend on, the gifts God has given us, the enjoyments and pleasures we experience, our own life too, some day we will have to let them all go back to God. We must even hand over our sin, as Psalm 65 says: *To you all flesh will come with its burden of sin, too heavy for us our offences but you wipe them away.* We believe and trust in God's goodness and we hope new life will be given in ways we cannot now understand or imagine. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Thomas Lyons (26th), John Frederick Kimber (28th), Floriana Malicki (1st), Joseph Pentz (2nd)

Sick & Housebound: Sarah Bell, Audrey Heneghan, Margaret Langford, Hannah McArthur, Sean McVeigh & Hilary Sendall.

Women's World Day of Prayer: This year the service, which has been created by the women of Suriname, (N.E. Coast, South America), will take place on **Friday 2nd March at 2:30pm and is hosted by Milford on Sea Baptist Church, Barnes Lane;** and also at **St. Mary's , Everton at 7pm.** The theme this year is "All God's Creation is very Good" and is very topical focusing on our current need to recycle and care for God's Wonderful World.

BAPTISM - THIS SUNDAY 25th Feb: During the Mass we will be baptising baby Adrian Molenda, second child of Maria & Adam who live in Milford. Our prayers are with them for this happy occasion.

JUNE MARY GROVES RIP: for the last couple of years June was being cared for in a nursing home in Barton. Her Funeral Service is due to take place on Friday, 2nd March at 3.45pm at Bournemouth Crematorium. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

SINGERS & EXTRA CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED: This is for the Holy Week Triduum. Please help the parishes celebrate these important Liturgies. Practise is on Mondays at 3pm at Paddy's house (Brockenhurst). Fr David will give you location details.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Robert Greenhalgh (1st), Reginald Scrope, Minnie Darlison (2nd)

Please keep Anna Hubbard and Eileen Dunn in your prayers.

FR QUARMBY'S MASSES for the week commencing 25th Feb, will be as follows:- Mon 10am; Tues 8am; Wed 10am; Thurs 11am; Friday, Stations of the Cross at 10am BUT NO MASS; Sat 10am.

UPDATE FROM DEREK NEWTON: Margaret is awaiting transfer to Southampton General Hospital as soon as a suitable bed is available. She will be admitted to the ReHab unit in order to work on recovering her mobility and have access to the spinal nerve specialists at Southampton. At the moment she is starting to regain mobility with physiotherapy, but it is a slow process. The pain is now much reduced and under control but there remains a need to ensure that there will not be a recurrence in the future. **Margaret says a big thankyou to everyone for their kind messages, offers of support and prayers.** As usual, Margaret is very resilient and cheerful but looking forward to having specialist rehab and getting back to where she was before all this happened asap!!!! Best regards to everyone. Derek

PARISH LUNCH: Please could we announce the Parish Lunch for next Tuesday - 27th Feb, at 12 noon, at the Forresters. Thank you.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: It's good to be able to say that we now have several volunteers to lead the Stations of the Cross, prayed in community on Fridays at 10am, during Lent. All we need is more of us to form that community! The world needs our prayers. For those who are able to stay for Mass, this will follow at whatever time the Stations are completed.

CHOIR RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE: This really will be at the back of the Church today. Please help yourselves to a copy.

NEWS FROM OUR YOUTH: In July, Jules, Malo, Clarisse Holden with Freddie Pearson will be setting off for a trip to Rwanda with other members of St Saviour's Youth Group. A fundraiser is being organised in aid of the trip and our young people would love us to attend their Quiz Night that includes a main meal and soft drinks. The ticket is £8 pp (see Holden or Pearson families) You may prefer to bring your own bottle for the meal. See you there!

Any news for next week by Thursday morning, to greenoaks@waitrose.com

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Joan Evans (24th), Kenneth Webdale, Martine 'Tina' Booth, Annie O'Brien (27th), Patrick O'Keeffe (1st)

Sick and Housebound: Terry Iles, Mai Wilson, Cathy Pickles, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Celine McCay, Mary Norton, Patricia Mate, Henry Haverty

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will be followed after the 9.30am Mass on each Friday during Lent

LENT COURSE: Cathy Pickles will be running a Lent Course called 'Beloved Disciples' - an inspiring (and often funny!) DVD course for the over sixties. The course will run for four weeks, commencing on **March 1st** at 10.15am with refreshments in Joseph's Place.

SINGERS & EXTRA CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED: This is for the Holy Week Triduum. Please help the parishes celebrate these important Liturgies. Practise is on Mondays at 3pm at Paddy's house. Anne Reynolds, a member of the choir or Fr David can give location details.

MISSIO: Red Box Collection: We will be having a collection point for MISSIO Red Boxes at the back of the church at Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses next weekend (3rd & 4th March). If you have a red box and are able to bring it along, it would be very much appreciated. Please ensure that your box has your name on it before handing in, so that we can identify your donation. Any queries, please contact Jenny on 01590 610413.

A BIG THANK YOU: Patricia Emmett would like to say a huge thank you to the PPC for the Apostolic Blessing which she received on the occasion of her birthday and in recognition of the general work she has undertaken in the parish over many years, particularly for CAFOD and ecumenism. She felt truly blessed at this totally unexpected surprise - THANK YOU!

All Parishes

JUNGIAN PSYCHOLOGY & PRAYER: On Saturday, March 10th at Joseph's Place, from 10.30am till 1.00pm Mary Dunn will lead a session on Jungian Psychology & Prayer. Jung developed a 'Map of the Soul' and his work has great bearing on prayer. During this Session - we will unpack Jung's thinking on the Ego, on Primary Process Thinking, and the way that Prayer affects the structure of the Psyche. Richard Rohr refers to silent, contemplative prayer as a "transformation of the consciousness of the one doing the praying".

CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY: PLEASE RETURN YOUR ENVELOPES THIS WEEKEND IN THE SECOND COLLECTION.

MASS OF THE OILS: If you would like to attend this Mass in Portsmouth Cathedral on Tuesday 27th March please contact either Catherine d'Espagnac on 01425 615349 or Cathy Pickles on 07715 842006 for further details.

HEALTH & SAFETY: First Aid: All churches have a First Aid box which is usually located in the Sacristy. St Anne's and Lymington also have a First Aid box in their kitchens also.

It is important to have First Aiders at each Mass.

If you have First Aid training could you please let the parish office know.

If you would like to be First Aid trained please let the parish office know as we are trying to get enough volunteers together to organise a course.

If there is an accident please record it in the Accident book. The accident book should be in the Sacristy.

Risk assessments have to be completed before any parish event such as a concert, a fete, BBQ etc takes place. If you are organising a parish event please let the parish office know in good time so a risk assessment can be put in place.

Fire Drill: It is a Diocesan requirement that we have a Fire drill once a year. All churches now have Fire Wardens. If the alarm sounds please follow the fire wardens' instructions.

They are trained to evacuate the church safely. They will be wearing fluorescent jackets. Please leave the church quickly and quietly and go immediately to the Fire assembly point in the car park. Do not return to the church until instructed to do so by the lead fire warden.

If you see something which you think is a Health & Safety issue e.g. a trip hazard, please contact the parish office on 01590 676696 or lymbrock@sky.com