

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 7.30- 5pm (from June 7-7)



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY Year B 27th May 2018

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY AND OUR FAMILIES.

“The human family is, in a certain sense, the icon of the Trinity because of the love between its members and the fruitfulness of that love.”— Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Over the past twenty-centuries, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Catholic Church has carefully reflected on the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. From this, our understanding of the relationship between the Holy Trinity and the human person has unfolded by the light of the Holy Spirit working through the Church. This relationship, a bond of life-giving love, is of such depth and magnitude as to be indescribable. It is our Triune God whose life-giving power and love sustains us from moment to moment. It is the Holy Trinity who allows us each breath, provides us with the energy of life, and graces us with that seed of faith deep within our hearts. Yet Christ's revelation of the inner life of God illumines not only our dependence on God, but who we are as persons, how we should relate to others, and how society should function and exist in relation to God. Therefore the Most Holy Trinity is the Light that enlightens every aspect of the human person.

God wants us to know and love him intimately. But how do you get to know someone you've never seen? One way is to send them a picture. This is exactly what God does by creating the family. We all know human beings are made in the image and likeness of God (Gn 1:27), but God isn't an individual; he is Trinity — a communion of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit exist as a mutually loving relationship that is both uniting (because the three are one) and creative (because the power of their love causes life to come into being). The Trinity loves to love and create.

The Trinity doesn't just create life and leave it alone. God loves what he creates, calls that creation into deep union with himself and rejoices in the life he shares with his creation. Married couples don't just have babies, they love those children, rejoice in those children and work to create a communion of love that grows stronger in its unity and bigger (in one way or another) with time. God extends an invitation to the world to join his family through the loving witness of your family. Families are called to be the picture of God's face to the world; we make sure that the image of God the world sees when they look at our families is clear, bright and in focus in various ways thus:

Ways the family can imitate the Trinity and reflect God to the world

Pray together: Families need to pray and worship together to learn how to love one another with the love that comes from God's own heart. Families that pray and participate in the sacraments together are actively learning to love at the feet of the Master. Praying individually makes us God's children. Praying together makes us God's family, a domestic church, since God wants our families to become an amazing work of art that shows his face of love.

Love deeply: The love between Father, Son and Holy Spirit knows no bounds. Our families are also called to love one another deeply. How do we make this happen? We take time for each other. Parents who do not have time for one-on-one time with each of their children cannot communicate the intimate love God has in his heart for each of us. A family that doesn't have time to be together cannot learn to be the team that represents the togetherness of the Trinity. Families cannot be an image of the Trinity by being collections of individuals sharing a roof. Family time and parent-child time must come first.

Love generously: The purer a love is, the more it longs to be shared. God creates because he loves. Work to make your family a deeply loving place, and consider the many ways you might be able to share that love. There are many ways to share the love you experience in your family. Welcome a child through birth or adoption. Support other families in loving each other better through small acts of kindness. Host a family for dinner. Be the peaceful, joyful, welcoming home where your kids' friends love to hang out. Work together as a family in your parish or community to serve those in need. Find ways to let others participate in the love your family shares just as God offers us ways to enter into the loving family that is the Trinity.

Love joyfully: God asks those he loves to rejoice in that love (Phil 4:4). He wants us to live life more abundantly (Jn. 10:10). Celebrate your life as a family. Create rituals for working, talking and praying together — and most of all, playing together! Remember Pope Francis' encouragement, telling parents to "waste time with your children." We were created to be happy forever with God in heaven. The family that rejoices together, plays together and laughs together creates a taste of heaven on earth.

God wants your family to become an amazing work of art that shows his face of love to the world. God wants your family to paint a picture with your lives that will change the world and call all of his children home to him. Let him make something beautiful in you. "The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith" (CCC No. 234).

The Most Holy Trinity: Model of Marital and Familial Love And Unity

When couples begin to look upon themselves and their relationship in Trinitarian light, upon their bond of love which is sealed in the sacrament of matrimony, the depth and meaning of the lifetime commitment they have made to one another takes on a profound significance. This is so because marriage is to be modelled after the three divine Persons of the Trinity whose gift of themselves is one of totality, unity, and fidelity. Thus marriage should reflect these same traits:

"The characteristic traits of marriage are: totality, by which the spouses give themselves to each other mutually in every aspect of their person, physical and spiritual; unity which makes them "one flesh" (Gen 2:24); indissolubility and fidelity which the definitive mutual giving of self requires; the fruitfulness to which this naturally opens itself" (The Compendium of The Social Doctrine of The Church (CSDC)

As we reflect on the Holy Trinity one of the first things we notice is the inseparable relationship between the three distinct Persons who are the one God. The Father loves the Son, the Son loves the Father, and the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and Son. We might say that the life of the Triune God is the highest and supreme principle of familial relationship. This profound bond of unity among the three divine Persons makes them "inseparable in what they are," and "inseparable in what they do" (Catechism of the Catholic Church - CCC No. 267). This inseparable unity also occurs in matrimony: that Christian marital bond between man and wife which is established and sealed by God himself (see CCC Nos. 1639-1640).

The Most Holy Trinity: Origin of Family Life

Let us too reflect on the life-giving aspect of the Holy Trinity. In the Nicene Creed Catholics affirm that the Holy Spirit "proceeds from the Father and the Son." The Holy Spirit is often understood as the Spirit of Love who proceeds from the infinite ocean of love between Father and Son. We might therefore say that the Holy Spirit proceeds not only from the love of Father and Son but as a *result* of that love as well. The infinite love of Father and Son is of such an intensity that the Third Person of the Holy Trinity flows forth, if you will.

This aspect of Love *giving life* to yet more Love is clearly what occurs in marriage when children are conceived. The man and wife, in an act of complete self-giving, produce, as a result of their own love for one another, a new life: a child whose eyes reflect the Most Holy Trinity, and whose love for the parents is so completely bound up in his or her life as to be inseparable from it. At birth, this child will look into his father's

and mother's eyes; yet he/she is not meeting his parents for the first time; for he has already known and loved them. The family existed at the moment of the child's conception, bound together in unity and love. The importance of the family cannot be overstressed. The Church considers the family as "the first natural society," and "places it at the center of social life" (CSDC No. 211). John Paul II observed in *Christifideles Laici* that the family is presented, in the Creator's plan, as "the primary place of 'humanization' for the person and society" and the "cradle of life and love."

In his address to the Fourth World Meeting of Families in January, 2003, the Venerable John Paul II spoke these wondrous words of encouragement: "Dear Christian families, proclaim joyfully to the whole world the wonderful treasure which you, as domestic churches, possess! Christian couples, in your communion of life and love, in your mutual self-giving and in your generous openness to children, become, in Christ, the light of the world. The Lord asks you daily to be like a lamp which does not remain hidden, but is put "on a stand, and ... gives light to all in the house" (Mt. 5:15)

Father George Ngwa

PALS – Monthly Meeting – Friday 1st June – 10.30 a.m. in the Church Hall

THE LIVING ROSARY GROUP is on Monday 4th June at 17.45 hours

BASICS BANK

At the back of the church is a leaflet headed 'Newsletter Spring 2018' which is the latest issue from New Forest Basics Bank (NFBB). Please take a copy. On the back cover you will see a list of foods which are urgently needed in addition to other 'luxury' food items you feel you could donate. There are children in some households who may appreciate the occasional sweet. Chocolate is not accepted because it melts.

A representative from NFBB came a few weeks back to ask for any monetary donation. This need not be on a Standing Order but can be a one-off gift, for example £5.00 which can be given to one of the parishioners who take your donations to Lymington. Their names are on the door to the cleaning cupboard in the Sacristy.

Your generosity is very much appreciated by NFBB.

All those who deliver these goods have an individual leaflet in the Parish Mailbox. Please collect your copy.

Many thanks for your continuing support.

Katherine Dempster

LADIES BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We are an Ecumenical Group, meeting weekly in each other's homes and are looking for new members. If you would like to find out more, please phone Jill Parsons on 01425 291 961

Family of Love": Scott Hahn Reflects on the Most Holy Trinity

Last Sunday, we celebrated the sending of the Spirit, which sealed God's new covenant and made a new creation. In this new creation, we live in the family of God, who has revealed himself as a Trinity of love. We share in His divine nature through His Body and Blood. This is the meaning of the three feasts that cap the Easter season—Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Corpus Christi. These feasts should be intimate reminders of how deeply God loves us, how He chose us, from before the foundation of the world, to be His children. The readings for Trinity Sunday illuminate how all God's words and works were meant to prepare for the revelation of the Trinity and God's blessing in Jesus Christ—the blessing we inherited in Baptism, and renew in each Eucharist. As God's heirs, we receive the commissions of Moses and Jesus today. We are to fix our hearts on Him, and to observe all that He has commanded. The Eucharist is His pledge—that He will be with us until the end, that He will deliver us from death to live forever in the promised land of His kingdom

There are three requisites to the proper enjoyment of earthly blessings: a thankful reflection on the goodness of the giver; a deep sense of our own unworthiness and a recollection of the uncertainty of our long possessing them. The first will make us grateful; the second, humble; and the third, moderate."

Hannah More

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Sunday	27	May	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY <small>THE MOST HOLY TRI</small>	18.00 Vigil Mass 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Misa Pro Populo</i>	Coffee & tea in hall after Mass
Monday	28	May			
Tuesday	29	May	8 th week in ordinary time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass	
Wednesday	30	May	8 th week in ordinary time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass– <i>Don & Agnes Campbell (R.I.P)</i>	Confession after Mass
Thursday	31	May	THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass	10.30 am Choir
Friday	01	June	8 th week in ordinary time	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass) – <i>Emanuel Saliba (RIP)</i>	Pilgrimage to Holy Land
Saturday	02	June	Ss Marcellinus & Peter Martyrs 8 th week in ordinary time	9.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Our Lady Holy Mass – <i>Fr. Marchin Drabik (ordination 19 years)</i> 18.00 Vigil Mass of the most Holy Trinity - <i>Elza (RIP)</i>	
Sunday	03	June	CORPUS CHRISTI	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Missa pro Populo</i>	Coffee & tea in hall after Mass

IMPORTANT: MASS OFFERINGS/intentions If you would like a Mass said for your intention then please take one of the envelopes on the shelf by the Confessional and fill in your details, add an offering and pop it into the general collection at one of the weekend masses. The next available day will be booked in the diary. If you wish a specific date, please give plenty of time and phone the office during opening times or call in to check the date is available. Thank you.

Our Parish Live Streaming

Total Number of Viewers for the Month of May – 5,476 – Total Time Viewed – 2,640 hours

Collections 19/20 th May	
loose	£460.45
envelopes	£198.00
Thank you for your continued support	

	Sat 26 May	Sun 27 May	Sat. 2 June	Sun. 3 June
Reader	T. Gearey	S. Ramsay	P. Thorpe	P. Caffyn
	A Nash	J. Thomas	B.Dempster	P. Caffyn
EMHC	B.Dempster	M.Buckland	J.Thomas	J. Kurian
	K.Dempster	S.Salinger	M.Newland	M. Tanner
	T. Gearey	A.Caneda	F. Fallon	Akhil Joseph

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

email: gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk emergency mobile: **07475753040**

Parish office: 01425 614968 Hall Booking via Parish Office

lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Secretary: Lizzie Davies Wed & Fri 10.00h-14.00h

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

Website: www.nfwp.org.uk

Safeguarding: Katherine Dempster Tel: **01425 611643** email: katherine.dempster@btinternet.com

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