

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 7.00am- 7.00pm



NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST TIME Year B 24th June 2018

COME FOLLOW ME - IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS - PART ONE



Mount of Olives



Sea of Galilee



**The exact spot John the Baptist was Born
Hic Praecursor Domini Natus Est**

I felt this euphoria as I step out of the plane Tel Aviv and touched the soils of the Holy Land. I heard the voice saying Jesus was here and I told myself that yes He was here and I am doing it in the footsteps of Jesus himself who said *come follow me*. Yes it has been a childhood dream to go see the Holy land as many of our Sunday children's liturgy portrayed Jerusalem as a place where Jesus was and so we could only picture that Jerusalem was not on this earth. So, when gradually my infant catechesis started to mean that much to me, there was only this burning desire and *Jerusalem a must go place*.

This pilgrimage to the Holy Land has been a life-changing experience, an absolute bliss and unique spiritual adventure. In itself it was another journey and a way to get closer to Jesus or to discover the roots of our Christian faith. It was a moment to SEE, SPEAK, TOUCH, HEAR, and FEEL aspects of the religious history that inspires every corner of the world from this Holy Land. It was also a time to make for me to see how connected I am / we are, to the people who as disciples first gazed on Jesus, meditated on his teachings and made it a personal message of everlasting conversion, which till date preserved the precious Christian heritage in this magnificent land.

JAFFA: *First it was Jaffa in Nazareth the port from which Jonah sailed in an attempt to flee from God.* I could sympathize with Johan as I vividly remember how in the Seminary, I had the thoughts of ending my studies for sacred Priesthood and embrace a more personal career. Yes God was calling me but the task ahead sometimes was enormously challenging and this is what Jonah experienced. Then the opportunity to celebrate Holy Mass on the Mount of the Beatitudes, on the grounds of the Church of the Beatitudes. Looking at the Situation in the Middle-East, Cameroon and the world, I prayed fervently "*Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; they shall be satisfied.*"

GALILEE: *The Sea of Galilee* I have in life made only one cruising in a ship; and that was in Florida –USA in the summer of 2016. It was a moment of extreme excitement and re-union with friends and classmates after 33years. However, that morning on the Sea of Galilee I experienced a different mood. It was quiet, peaceful and varied emotional feelings.

Today, Galilee is a popular resort town nestled in the backdrop of the Golan Mountains and an extended colourful landscape of beauty. The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee two thousand years ago is recorded in Sacred Scriptures. Of the thirty-three miracles documented in the New Testament, nearly a third of them took place in or around Galilee. In fact, the village of Capernaum is described in the Bible as being the *home town of Jesus*.

I had the fantasies of following Jesus with the crowd or entering the boat with him. We had time to read the Bible stories of Jesus in and around Galilee but especially in Capernaum – the Town of Jesus. You imagine being a disciple and gasping as you see Jesus walking on water. You imagine being tossed about in the frightening waves of a storm before Jesus brings the wind and noise to a standstill. You imagine casting a net into the calm waters and become completely overwhelmed as your boat nearly capsizes because of the miraculous haul of fish. Our sailing on the Sea of Galilee turned out to be something more than just fun. It was a worship experience a moving time of prayer. It was also time to be patriotic, singing the English Anthem – *God Save the Queen* and hoisting flags of various nationalities of our pilgrim Family.

There was truly an encounter with God. It has rightly been said several times that there is a deeply emotional transformation that takes place when a pilgrim sets out on the peaceful waters of the Sea of Galilee. *This awe-inspiring sailing in a boat truly helps pilgrims connect with and understand the countless biblical stories that took place there. (To be Continued...)*

Fr. George Ngwa

From Bishop Philip Egan, Clergy Moves and Appointments as from 8th September 2018

- Daniel Agber as Priest in Charge of St. Edmund's Horndean and Assistant Priest under Mgr. Jeremy Garratt as Parish Priest;
- Ross Bullock to Jersey as Assistant Priest;
- John Chandler to Sacred Heart Bordon and St. Joseph Grayshott as Parish Priest;
- John Chadwick to Immaculate Conception, Christchurch and Holy Redeemer, Highcliffe as Parish Priest;
- Raffaele Cozza (as Priest in Charge) and Fr. Luca Speziale (as Local Superior) to St. Swithun Wells, Eastleigh under Fr. Mark Hogan as Parish Priest;
- John Cooke to Sacred Heart Fareham and Portchester as Parish Priest. Fr. John will become the Coordinating Pastor of Solent PA;
- Canon Dominic Golding to Jersey as Parish Priest and Dean;
- Zac Mabee to Reading Christ the King as Priest in Residence;
- Innaiah Maddineni to Portsmouth St. Colman and St. Paul as Parish Priest;
- Jude Mbono to Maidenhead St. Joseph as Assistant Priest;
- Joseph McNerney to Southampton Hospital as Chaplain;
- Elijah Fru Nde to Southampton St. Joseph and St. Edmund as Assistant Priest;
- Gerry Onyejuluwa to St. Theresa's Totton and Our Lady of the Assumption and St. Edward the Confessor Lyndhurst as Parish Priest;
- Jaya Praveen to Southampton St. Joseph and St. Edmund as Assistant Priest and Priest-Chaplain to the University of Southampton;
- Emmanuel Rinda to Basingstoke St. Joseph as Assistant Priest;
- Francis Sasinowski to Our Lady's Stubbington and St. John's Lee on Solent as Parish Priest;
- PJ Smith to St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth as Parish Priest and Dean;
- Bill Wilson to St. John Bosco, Woodley as Parish Priest;
- Keith Windsor OFM Cap to Isle of Wight as Catholic Chaplain to the Prisons.

Mgr. John Nelson appointed chaplain to 2nd Battalion Mercian Regiment and Catholic Chaplain to the British Forces' community in Cyprus.

Retirements: Mgr. Nicholas France, who has just celebrated his golden Jubilee of ordination, retires this autumn and will be living in Southampton.

- Fr. Michael Cronin retires from being Chaplain to Southampton Hospital.

- Fr. Robin Sanders and Fr. Tony Day, both of whom after generous service in recent times have been suffering ill health and have now retired.

Farewell: We bid farewell to Fr. Thom Amungwa, who returns to Bamenda with our prayers and much gratitude for his service latterly in Bordon and Grayshott.

Welcome: We welcome to the Diocese Fr. Emmanuel Rinda and Fr. Elijah Fru Nde from the Archdiocese of Bamenda. Fr. Zachary Mabee, a priest of the Diocese of Lansing, Fr. Keith Windsor, a Capuchin friar, who will concentrate on prison ministry on the Isle of Wight. Deacon Aidan Lynch (Diocese of Arundel and Brighton), whose family is moving into the Bracknell area. He will serve as Deacon in Bracknell St. Joseph and St. Margaret Clitherow under Fr. Danny McAvoy.

New Deacons: Nicholas Le Cornu, ordained Deacon in Jersey last Thursday, appointed to assist in the parish of Jersey under its Dean and Parish Priest.

New Roles: Fr. John Cooke as Vocations Promoter for the Diocese.

- Fr. Jaya Praveen the Priest Chaplain to the University of Southampton.

Bishop's Council: I thank immensely Canon Dominic Golding for all his support and hard work as Vicar General. Canon Dominic is stepping down and in his stead, I have appointed Canon Paul Townsend as a VG. Canon Paul will continue his work as Vicar for Clergy, responsible for Bishop's Support of Clergy.

- Fr. PJ Smith as the new Episcopal Vicar for Education. Fr. PJ will continue with his responsibilities as leader of the Department for Educational Chaplaincies.

"He Must Increase": Scott Hahn on the Nativity of St John the Baptist

The people in this week's Gospel are frightened and amazed by the mysterious events surrounding the birth of John. Only his mother and father, Elizabeth and Zechariah, know what this child will be. John the Baptist was fashioned in secret, knit by God in his mother's womb, as we sing in this Sunday's Psalm. From the womb he was set apart, formed to be God's servant, as Isaiah declares in this week's First Reading. The whole story of John's birth is thick with Old Testament echoes, especially echoes of the story of Abraham. God appeared to Abraham promising that his wife would bear him a son; He announced the son's name and the role Isaac would play in salvation history. The same thing happened to Zechariah and Elizabeth. Through His angel, God announced John's birth to this righteous yet barren couple. He made them call John a special name—and told them the special part John would play in fulfilling His plan for history.

Fanning the Flame invite all 10-25 year olds to their Summer Camp

Please support The Sisters at Sway who run this annual event.

This summer, the Fanning the Flame Catholic Mission will once again be running their Summer camp for 10-25 year olds in the New Forest. I was there last summer and it was a great day with everyone really enjoying it. There was good crowd of youngsters from all over the Diocese. The weather helped and we had an outdoor Mass. Wherever you are in your Catholic faith, come and be refreshed and renewed in God's love for you! This year's theme is "Ablaze in the Truth". The camp runs from 20th - 24th August and bookings close on 1st August. For more information and booking forms visit the Fanning the Flame website or e-mail: ftfcm1995@gmail.com

WANTED Garden Volunteers

As you must have noticed, Byard has been transforming the garden by the carpark over the last few years but sadly is unable to continue doing this. We are all very thankful for the beautiful colourful planting he has produced and which he says should continue yearly. This will require a lot of hard work to sustain so **please**, if you would like to take charge of organising its continuance please let Johanna know. All that can be done at present is to keep it watered. Thank you.

Living Rosary Group – Please note that the next Meeting will be held on Monday, 2nd July, at 5.45 p.m. Please let Mary know if you are unable to attend.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 24th June 2018

Sunday	24	June	THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	18.00 Vigil Mass 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>MPP</i>	Coffee & Tea in Hall after Mass
Monday	25	June			
Tuesday	26	June	12 th Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass <i>Dominique Debourge(RIP)</i>	
Wednesday	27	June	St. Cyril of Alexandria	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Ralph Popham (RIP)</i>	Confessions after Mass
Thursday	28	June	St. Irenaeus	18.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass – <i>Shelagh Ward</i>	Clergy day of Prayer -Douai Abbey - Woolhampton
Friday	29	June	SS Peter & Paul	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Hilary Sendall</i>	Funeral Mrs. Jeannette McMahon. Confession
Saturday	30	June	First Martyrs of the Church of Rome	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – 18.00 Vigil Mass of 13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time- <i>Joyce Gowing (RIP)</i>	17.30 Confession
Sunday	01	July	13 th Week in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Mel Clarkson (healing)</i> <i>(14.00 Baptism)</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. Suggested minimum offering £10.

Collections 16/17 th June		Sat. 23 June	Sun. 24 June	Sat. 30 June	Sun. 1 July
loose	£458.72	Reader J.Marriott	S.Ramsay	A. Nash	P. Caffyn
envelopes	£184.02	T.Gearey	J.Thomas	P. Thorpe	P. Caffyn
Thank you for your continued support		EMHC M.Newland	Akhil Joseph		S. Salinger
		F.Fallon	J.Nichols	M. Harwood	A. Caneda
		J. Thomas	M.Buckland	C.d'Espagnac	J. Kurian

2nd Collection on Sunday 1st July for Peter's Pence

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

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

Parish office: 01425 614968 Hall Booking via Parish Office

ololnewmilton@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