

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**



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 23RD SEPTEMBER 2018

LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM CHILDREN

In a very dramatic way Jesus concludes his doctrine of who is the greatest with the image of a little child. Indeed we have much to learn from children or rather from our “younger selves.” It is just a matter of switching back and remembering how it used to be. What do children know that adults seem to have forgotten? Children are more confident, more courageous and enjoy life far more intensely than adults. Sometimes it feels that we spend our entire lives trying to return to who we were as children. Here is what some famous personalities want us to learn from our younger selves to bring more clarity and joy into adulthood.

1. Every day is a fresh start. *“Isn’t it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?” - L.M. Montgomery.*

Wasn’t it always amazing how the end of a school day always felt so final, so finished? The break between June and September seemed like a lifetime. Because when you are young, every day feels like an eternity and a new day means new opportunities to make new friends, explore new adventures, learn new things. Children don’t carry baggage from one day to the next. They start fresh, always.

2. Creative pursuits are fun and good for you. *“Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.” - Franklin D. Roosevelt*

How often do you see children losing themselves in a creative project for hours at a time? Drawing, playing with clay, building a sandcastle with meticulous attention to detail. For some reason, as we get older, we stop seeing creative activities as worthwhile. How many adults, aside from artists, draw on a regular basis? How many play with clay or finger paint just for the fun of it?

3. Be courageous. *“Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage.” - Anais Nin.*

Sing out loud. Dance when you feel like it. A child’s life feels limitless because they are not confined by fears of failure or humiliation. They march forward with hope and determination because they don’t know any better. They haven’t been beaten down, they haven’t experienced failure. They embrace life and all it has to offer with open arms.

4. Laugh every day. *“A day without laughter is a day wasted.” - Charlie Chaplin*

Children have the beautiful ability to find joy all around them. Just watch the humour a child can find in a shopping mall or at the park. They see silliness everywhere.

5. Be active. *“Play energizes and enlivens us. It eases our burdens. It renews our natural sense of optimism and opens us up to new possibilities.” - Stuart Brown*

When you were young, playing outside was the highlight of your day. You would run and chase your friends until you were out of breath and your cheeks were rosy. You would jump and do cartwheels at the drop of a hat and you never thought of it as “exercise” or “daily fitness.” It was just playing. And it was fun. “It is a happy talent to know how to play.”

6. Nurture friendship. *“In the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, and sharing pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.” - Khalil Gibran*

Children find true joy while playing with friends and they love making new ones. They join soccer teams, go to a birthday parties, start new schools. These are all ways that kids make new friends. Children adhere to the motto, “the more the merrier,” and adults should, as well.

7. Be the hero. *“Above all, be the heroine of your life, not the victim.” - Nora Ephron*

When a child tells you a story about school or the soccer field, they are usually the hero of their story. The world revolves around them. As we age, we don't want to be conceited or egotistic, so we downplay our accomplishments and achievements. We don't want to brag. But in doing so, we often slip to the side of self-deprecation. We put ourselves down to make others feel better or to be more relatable. Modesty becomes an admirable quality and we start to convince ourselves of our own mediocrity.

8. Scars are badges of honour. *“Every day you either see a scar or courage. Where you dwell will define your struggle.” - Dodinsky*

When a child breaks a bone, everyone they know will sign the cast. They become the superstar of the class, the survivor. If they fall down and cut themselves, everyone wants to see the scar, they wear it proudly. As we get older, we hide our scars, our wounds become our secrets. We don't want to be seen as weak or pitied, so we tell no one where it hurts. But what children recognize is that scars aren't signs of weakness, a scar is a sign of strength and survival. A story to tell. An accomplishment.

9. Try new things. *“Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore.” - Andre Gide*

Children are not afraid to play a sport they have never tried before. They will jump on a trampoline, dive into a pool or ski down a mountain even if it is foreign to them. As adults, we fear the unknown. We stay safely ensconced in our comfort zone and rarely venture out. Adventure exhilarates us and awakens the spirit.

10. Notice the little things. *“Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.” - Robert Brault*

My niece loves watching the sandpipers run back and forth at the water's edge. She notices their little legs and how fast they move along the sand. Something simple that we take for granted brings her immense joy and profound inspiration. When did we stop noticing the tiny miracles that surround us daily? How much more beautiful would life be if we could see these miracles again?

Fr. George Ngwa

FRATERNAL VISIT – The Priests from the Bamenda Ecclesiastical Province working and studying here in the UK, will be visiting our Parish on Monday the 1ST October. They will gladly celebrate Holy Hour and a song Holy Mass with the Christians of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish New Milton at 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Please do make it a date with us as you did a year ago.

I will gladly welcome some food and drinks to keep them for 2 days. Many thanks in advance

LIVING ROSARY GROUP - Please note that our next Meeting of the Living Rosary Group is on Monday 1ST October at 5.45pm.

MISSION TODAY – MISSIO – RED BOX COLLECTORS PLEA Yvonne Saunders is stepping down as a Red Box Collector after 10 years and we are desperately looking for a replacement to carry on this valuable work. Are there any willing people in our Congregation that would accept to take on this work. Major areas of support by this Mission are in India, the Philippines, Cameroon and South Africa.

LIVING ROSARY GROUP - Please note that our next Meeting of the Living Rosary Group is on Monday 3rd September at 5.45pm.

KERALA DISASTER RELIEF FUND – Our Kerala community is very grateful for the help given last Sunday Food fest to raise funds to help the victims of the monsoon disaster. At the close of the day some £1003.70 was realised. May God bless and reward your generosity.

From Bishop Philip - 15th and 29th September 2018 – Refugee Event. () The picture of the 3-year-old Syrian boy Aylan Kurdi's lifeless body on a beach horrified us all and begs the question, just what can we do as a parish to sponsor and house refugees? In response to this a practical way of housing refugee families will be presented at two Caritas "Welcoming our Neighbour" events, one in the Sacred Heart Church, Waterlooville on 15th Sep and another repeat event at St. Joseph's, Maidenhead on 29th Sep. Find out more under "Events" on the diocesan website, look it up on Eventbrite or send an email to caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

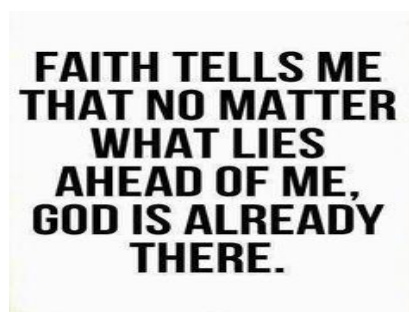
EARLY WARNING DIARY DATE for our Harvest SUPPER: Our Harvest Supper is taking place on Saturday October 20th at 7:00 p.m. Don't forget to keep this evening free.

CHURCH CHOIR: Since some members will be on the 'Trinity Pilgrimage' - N. Poland, Ukraine and Lithuania, **Regular practices will continue from Thursday October 4th.**

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

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Laugh, even when you feel too sick or too worn out or tired.
Smile, even when you're trying not to cry and the tears are blurring your vision.
Sing, even when people stare at you and tell you your voice is crappy.
Trust, even when your heart begs you not to.
Twirl, even when your mind makes no sense of what you see.
Frolick, even when you are made fun of. Kiss, even when others are watching. Sleep, even when you're afraid of what the dreams might bring.
Run, even when it feels like you can't run any more.
And, always, remember, even when the memories pinch your heart. Because the pain of all your experience is what makes you the person you are now. And without your experience--you are an empty page, a blank notebook, a missing lyric. What makes you brave is your willingness to live through your terrible life and hold your head up high the next day. So don't live life in fear. Because you are stronger now, after all the crap has happened, than you ever were back before it started.

[Alysha Speer](#)

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 23RD SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	23	Sept.	25 th Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 Vigil Mass of 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time- 10.00 Holy Mass –	Coffee & Tea in Hall after Mass
Monday	24	Sept.	Our Lady of Walsingham		
Tuesday	25	Sept.	25 th Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass - <i>Stephen Shanaghy Health & Healing</i>	
Wednesday	26	Sept.	SS Cosmas & Damian	0.90 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Brigid Horan RIP</i>	Confession after Mass
Thursday	27	Sept.	St. Vincent de Paul	0.90 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>In Thanksgiving for Myra & Consolation for her Mother</i>	
Friday	28	Sept.	St. Wenceslaus	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>MPP</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	29	Sept.	The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Rosetta & Fred Vietro</i> 18.00 Vigil Mass of 25 th Week in Ordinary Time –	17.30 Confession
Sunday	30	Sept.	26 th Week in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass - <i>Giovanni Di Mai Da Loho RIP</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 place 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 notice and phone the office during opening times or call in to check the date is available. Thank You!

Collections 15 th /16 th September		Sat. 22 Sept.	Sun. 23 Sept.	Sat. 29 Sept.	Sun. 30 Sept.
loose	£398.60	Reader A.Nash	P.Caffyn	M.Hobbs	P.Caffyn
envelopes	£224.00	T.Gearey	S.Salinger	P.Thorpe	P.Caffyn
		EMHC K.Dempster	Joseph Kurian	F.Fallon	S.Salinger
		B.Dempster	M.Tanner	M.Newland	J.Nichols
Thank you for your continued support		T.Gearey	A.Caneda	M.Harwood	Akhil Joseph

Catholic Education Collection on 9th September £200.40

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

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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