

## 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 9.00am- 7.00pm



### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

#### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE WIDOW – MARKS OF A COMMITTED CHRISTIAN

Our Gospel today presents to us a widow who has been at the heart of all Christian teaching on Charity. She did not set out to impress anybody. Her one only desire was to act from the belief that her action must match the conviction of her faith.

As Christians, the Bible is clear throughout its pages that we're called to give generously. Even in the book of Exodus chapter 35, we see the Israelites all generously giving the materials and time to build the tabernacle. If any of those people decided to withhold the materials they owned or the skills they had, the tabernacle wouldn't have come together.

In the New Testament God himself gave us his only son because he loves us so much, and that Son died on a cross for us. It sets a model that generosity in God's people should be sacrificial. Here's a small sampling of what the Bible has to say about giving and generosity.

*Why should we give generously?* : To answer this question we go to 1 John 3:16-18 - This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. How can we ever convince people that we understand the Gospels if we do not act on what we read in its pages? Luke 6:44 - For each tree is known by its own fruit. Indeed, people do not gather figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from brambles.

**Marks of a Generous Giver:** The love of money is a central cultural idol in our world today, and so it is always a blessing to meet with so many people in the Church and outside the Church who are sacrificial givers. It is very true that church's members should engage in radical economic sharing with one another so that "there are no needy among them". Such sharing also promotes a radically generous commitment of time, money, relationships, and living space to social justice and the needs of the poor, the oppressed, the immigrant, and the economically and physically weak.

Let us therefore see these marks of Christian generosity which fully define us as Christians as St. Matthew says *by their fruit you will recognize them.* ( Mt. 7:20 )

#### **1. You see your role as a steward.**

"All the earth is the Lord's and all things therein" (Ps. 24:1). You know you're merely returning to God what rightly belongs to him.

**St. Matthew reminds us thus:** "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where

your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **Matthew 6:19-21.** As Paul tells us, “We brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world” (1 Tim. 6:7).

**2. Share locally with your neighbours:** First and foremost you give locally—to your family, your church, your neighbours. Jesus illustrates this “proximity principle” in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37). Your giving to your local church and neighbourhood help keep your heart and prayers rooted with your brothers and sisters in Christ. As you grow in grace, you will yearn to give more.

**3. You are concerned for the Missions:** You become concerned for the works of the Missions and Missionaries. You started giving to support works of evangelism, Christian education, formation of the Clergy and the Training of Priests, alleviating the pain of natural disasters and so on. As you’re able, you give generously to a few of these organizations in big ways.

**4. You sacrifice willingly:** Here you’re inspired by biblical examples like the widow’s mite and the parable of the sheep and the goats where Jesus concludes, “As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me”

**5. You know God loves a cheerful giver:** You’re convinced that God treasures cheerful giving and you try to grasp the depth of God’s generosity to you in Christ and you realize that your giving is an instrument in his kingdom. You overflow with joy at participating in God’s work in the world.

**6. Your giving is marked by (mostly) secret generosity:** You become aware of your heart’s tendency toward Pharisaism—doing the right thing for the wrong reason; pretending to be holy and give only to be noticed or praised. So you heed the advice in Matthew 6:1–4, where Jesus commands: “Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret.”

Secret giving goes against convention in philanthropy, where supporters are listed by size of gift and buildings bear the names of wealthy donors. Churches and Christian organizations often rightly avoid these conventions. I think Jesus makes room for (occasional) exceptions, however. He made public the generosity of the widow in. He knew her example would inspire and convict. Don’t go seeking praises. The Lord may use your faithfulness to influence others.

**7. You give consistently:** You’re not a sporadic or haphazard giver, giving gifts occasionally. Faithful generosity requires discipline, which in turn provides stability to your causes.

**More scriptural verses to remind us of how important our generosity works in our favour instead.**

Proverbs 20:11 - Even a young man is known by his actions whether his conduct is pure and upright.

Matthew 12:33 - Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.

Luke 6:43 - No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.

James 2:18 - But someone will say, "You have faith and I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

James 3:12 - My brothers, can a fig tree grow olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

**Fr. George Ngwa**

## **NOVEMBER REMEMBERING THE DEAD.**

**Masses for the faithful departed.** Just as we pray for others here on earth, we are encouraged by the Church to pray for souls who may be in purgatory. Why? We are all in need of grace to come into the perfection of charity. We cannot enter heaven if we have not been completely cleansed of sin and all punishment due to sin. *See Catechism of the Catholic Church #1031 and 1472*

Since the Mass is the "source and summit" of the Christian Life, we naturally look to that Holy Sacrifice of Christ, containing the perfect prayer, to offer for our deceased relatives and friends who may still need the help of our prayers. Priests are under a strict obligation to remember in a special way the person for whom the Mass is being offered. Often you will hear the priests say the name of the person in the part of the Mass which specifically remembers those who have gone before us. Sometimes the intention for the Mass is listed in the bulletin or announced before the Mass. We can't really speak of "time" since the deceased person has entered eternity, but we can speak in terms of "final purification" before entrance into heaven. We believe that a Mass offered for a departed relative or friend may help hasten that final purification which he/she may still be undergoing in purgatory. So yes, a Mass does help lessen the soul's time in purgatory. And since the Mass truly *is* the Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, it is the most perfect prayer and sacrifice. As such, there is nothing more glorious that we can offer to God on behalf of souls. **Please place your envelopes in the Wooden Box on the Altar of St. Joseph.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHEILA VERNON** - A Vigil Mass will take place for Sheila Vernon at 5.00 p.m. on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November and her Funeral Requiem Mass will take place at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November followed by a Bereavement Reception in the Church Hall. Please note there will be no evening Mass.

#### **SAFEGUARDING – IMPORTANT – RE-CHECKS**

Portsmouth Diocese are in the process of updating all volunteer applicants who completed a CRB form prior to June 2013 to change them over to the new system of DBS (Disclosure and Barring) in line with current legislation. This applies to all volunteers who visit the sick and those that have ANY contact with children either inside or outside the church, on behalf of the Parish. For example Children's Liturgy or organised events.

As you can appreciate I am now tasked with updating Our Lady of Lourdes and to make it easier I have booked the Hall on TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER at 4.00 pm to issue the relevant documentation. There will be no need to re-apply for the volunteer role(s) you already hold and IF there are no other changes to your circumstances i.e change of address, there is no further need for references.

To help me complete the exercise as quickly as possible, I WILL RING (16 people) all those to which this applies. We can then complete the documentation at one sitting. Once the re-checks have been processed by the Safeguarding team in Portsmouth, all further updates will be completed by you on line. Please let me know if you do not have a computer. Thank you for your understanding.

God Bless, Katherine Dempster, Safeguarding Minister

#### **MISSIO RED BOXES – The A.P.F. Mill Hill Missionaries Appeal**

As mentioned in a previous Newsletter, Yvonne is standing down at the end of the year after 16 years as local Secretary for the Missio Red Boxes appeal. The money raised helps support 16,523 clinics, 9,492 orphanages, 612 care homes and people with leprosy, 15,679 homes for the elderly or disabled, 368,520 lay missionaries, 116,843 seminarians and 415,656 priests. Help is given in India, Mongolia, the Philippines, Cameroon, Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. Collectors are vital at local level to carry on this important work and therefore we are putting out a plea to anybody in the Congregation who would be prepared to help. Ideally the load could be shared between a secretary and 2 or 3 collectors, minimising the workload for 1 single person. **For further information please speak to Lizzie in the Parish Office.**

**THANK YOU!** A very big "Thank You" to all the helpers who erected the marquee and set up for our Holy Souls Mass at Milford Road Cemetery last Friday afternoon.

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CHURCH ON A MONTHLY ROTA BASIS** – usually in groups of 4 or 5. If you can help, please phone Robin Vantin on 01425 838 227. Thank you!

# THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	11	Nov.	32 <sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time Remembrance Sunday	18.00 Vigil Mass of 32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time- <i>Ange &amp; Lewis d'Espagnac (RIP)</i> 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Marcin &amp; Julia (RIP)</i>	Coffee & Tea in Hall after Mass
Monday	12			17.00 Vigil Prayers for Sheila Vernon	
Tuesday	13	Nov.	32 <sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	10.00 Sheila Vernon's Requiem Mass	No evening Mass today
Wednesday	14	Nov.	32 <sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	0.90 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Brigid Horan (RIP)</i> 13.00 Michael O'Dwyer Funeral	Confession after Mass
Thursday	15	Nov.	St. Albert the Great	0.90 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Timothy Butler (RIP)</i>	
Friday	16	Nov.	St. Edmund of Abingdon	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction 10.00 Holy Mass - <i>Hilary Sendall</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	17	Nov.	Our Lady of Saturday	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Holy Souls</i>  18.00 Vigil Mass of 32 <sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time – <i>Eddy Kelleher</i>	17.30 Confession
Sunday	18	Nov.	33 <sup>rd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass - <i>For the repose of the Souls of Lucien's Family &amp; Friends</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 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Nov.		Sat. 10 Nov.	Sun. 11 Nov.	Sat. 17 Nov.	Sun. 18 Nov.
loose	£297.00	<b>Reader</b> B.Dempster	C.Fradd	M.Newland	P.Caffyn
envelopes	£171.00	K.Dempster	C.Fradd	P.Thorpe	P.Caffyn
		<b>EMHC</b> M.Newland	J.Nichols	F.Fallon	M.Tanner
		F.Fallon	S.Salinger	J.Thomas	A.Caneda
		M.Harwood	M.Tanner	M.Newland	S.Salinger
Thank you for your continued support					

**Parish priest: Father George Ngwa**

email: [gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) emergency mobile: **07475753040**

**Parish office: 01425 614968** Hall Booking via Parish Office

[lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.nfwp.org.uk)

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