

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:

Normal service will
resume on Sat 5th
Jan.

Masses & Services for the Week: 22nd December - 30th December

DAY	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SAT	22 nd	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	4 th Sunday of Advent (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	23 rd	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	4 th Sunday of Advent (P)	People of the Parishes	PWR
SUN	23 rd	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	4 th Sunday of Advent (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	23 rd	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	4 th Sunday of Advent (P)	Normina Marshall RIP F/M	DMA
MON	24 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Proper of the Day	as per celebrant	PWR
MON	24 th	5.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	Christmas Night Mass (Children)	People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	24 th	7.30pm		Our Lady	Christmas Carols	N/A	
MON	24 th	8.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	Christmas Night Mass	People of the Parishes	DMA
TUE	25 th	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	Christmas Dawn Mass	People of the Parishes	DMA
TUE	25 th	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	Christmas Day Mass	as per celebrant	DQ
TUE	25 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Christmas Day Mass	People of the Parishes	DMA
WED	26 th	10.00am	Mass	Our Lady	St Stephen, Feast, (R)	as per celebrant	PWR
WED	26 th	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	St Stephen, Feast, (R)	as per celebrant	DQ
WED	26 th		No Service	St Francis			
THU	27 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	St John, Feast, (W)	Anne Thomas (Intentions)	DMA
FRI	28 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Holy Innocents, Feast, (R)	as per celebrant	PWR
SAT	29 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	St Thomas of Canterbury, Feast, (R)	Those who are unwell	DMA
SAT	29 th	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	Holy Family (W)	People of the Parishes	SB
SUN	30 th	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	Holy Family (W)	People of the Parishes	SB
SUN	30 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Holy Family (W)	People of the Parishes	SB
SUN	30 th	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	Holy Family (W)	as per celebrant	PWR

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: 24th/25th December - Christmas Offering; 1st January - SPUC White Flower Appeal

MARY IS EAGER TO HELP HER COUSIN ELIZABETH

Mary is a young girl. She is pregnant and vulnerable. According to Matthew's Gospel Joseph is at first unwilling to continue the relationship. Yet Mary does not think of herself but goes "with haste" to support her older cousin who is expecting a child of her own. She goes to help, to share her joy and in some mysterious way to share the Spirit of God who is at work in all their lives. Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people according to the Law but they stand at the end of an epoch. With Mary God has begun a whole new thing! It is the beginning of the era of grace when the gracious love and forgiveness of God are poured out on the whole of humanity. Mary is the first one to say Yes to this gracious initiative of God. It is all about letting God work and trusting in what God does and what God will do. Its so much surer, more reliable, more effective and more wonderful than any of our meagre efforts. Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

At this time of year we can let ourselves be over whelmed by God's goodness and undeserved love. We can like Mary allow this grace to overflow in concern for others and in a desire to share the joy God gives us. Yes we probably do go to excess but if we sweeten it with kindness, forgiveness and forbearance, with gracious and benevolent giving then we honour, celebrate and echo the largesse of God for all. (DMA)

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

As Christmas fast approaches I would like to thank you all for your prayers and your support during the past year and for your kind wishes and generous gifts this Christmastide.

Thank you to everyone in the parish for your prayers and commitment, your love of God and your support. A special thank you to those whose faith, good works and service is known only to God.

It is good to know that there are many supporting the parish very generously. God works through and with us all and therein lies our strength as a community. We are all encouraged that despite our busy lives and many responsibilities we can still support our faith community. I know God blesses us all. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Robert Joseph Lynch (23rd), Fortunee Annette Bernard (25th)

Sick & Housebound: Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Gill Boddington, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday, Margaret Langford, Sean McVeigh, Sarah Nicholls & Hilary Sendall.

COFFEE MORNINGS: every 1st and 3rd Sunday after 9:00 am mass at St Francis Milford on Sea. The 2019 Coffee Rota Lists are in the church front porch, helpers please take a copy, many thanks. Maggie.

NO COBWEBS ON ST FRANCIS! That's all thanks to our church cleaning teams. Please consider offering your help, by giving your name to Leah, if you feel you can join one of the teams. It involves being called on, several times during the year, on dates to suit, for dusting and vacuuming tasks. Apart from our lovely church, we also keep the Maryland Room spic-and-span for our social events. Your offer of help will be very welcome. Thank you.

ADVENT MEMORIAL TREE: we invite you to add the names of all those who have died that you would like to call to mind and include in our parish prayers. Please write their names on a 'bauble' and attach it to the tree so that your loved ones will be present in all our thoughts as we pray together for a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Honoria Marshall, Ethel Knight-Grigg (24th), Winifred Sergeant (25th), James Kelly, Catherine Kitty Hayward (27th), George O'Donnell (29th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep Deacon Hilary and Anna Hubbard in your prayers

Fr Quarby's Masses: For the week commencing 16th December: 10 am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 8 am on Tuesday.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered every Saturday after Mass, 10.30 to 11 am.

New Forest Basics Bank Appeal: There is a basket at the back of the church to collect food items throughout Advent and we ask you to give as generously as you can. There is a list of most needed items on the board in the porch. Alternatively, you may prefer to make a financial donation directly to the NFBB. Your help and support is deeply appreciated.

Christmas Day Lunch will be served at St Saviours' Church Hall. This is open to anyone who would like to share this special meal in the company of others. All are welcome. Tickets £10 each. Please see the notice on the board in the porch for more details. If you know of anyone who might like to attend, please pass on the information.

Any items for the newsletter to anna@boylemellor.co.uk to arrive by Thursday morning

All Parishes

The SVP Christmas Poem

The SVP gives no gifts at Christmas. We give them all year through.

We give our love and friendship. A gift we know is true.

We seek the lonely housebound and those that need support

But just finding them is proving harder than we thought.

Our gift needs no posh wrapping and it's there for all to see.

We wish we could befriend more and more but finding them is key.

The gentle smile and listening ear is something that we share.

We try and bring a little warmth and show that we still care.

So when the cards and trimmings have gone and there's nothing left to see,

The gift we gave at Christmas is still there – it's the companionable SVP!



St Vincent
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: William Custis (22nd), John Adams, Nicholas James Phillips (24th), Pamela Joan Clifford, Frances Anne Locke (25th), Mary Flood, Annie Foot, Lily Pearce, Eileen Mary Weguelin (27th), Blanche Bardell, (28th)

Sick and Housebound: Mike Hedges, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Simone Cluett, Concetta Losanno, Terry Iles, Mai Wilson, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Celine McCay, Mary Norton, Patricia Mate.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION: Application forms for this year's programme are available at the back of church. Please complete the form and return it to Cathy Pickles **BEFORE 6th January**. Details of the dates and times are on the form.

CWL: The next meeting of the CWL will be on Tuesday 8th January at 2.15 .in Joseph's Place. Happy Christmas to all.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY COFFEE TEAM: - our heartfelt thanks to all the marvellous people who make us welcome and serve us so cheerfully every Sunday after Mass in Joseph's Place. The parish is indebted to you for giving so freely of your time and service. There is always space on the rota for anyone who would like to join the team.

FOOD DONATIONS - New Forest Basics Bank are very grateful for the food donated by Parishioners but we should like you to check the use by date before giving it to us as we cannot give out food that is out of date.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES - PARISH CAR PARK: As you are aware there are limited spaces in the parish car park. The Christmas services get very full so the car park fills up quickly. If you could park in the public car park at the back of church-near Tesco's- it would be appreciated. The pedestrian gate from the public car park to church grounds will be open. Please note you may have to buy a ticket for the public car park. **HOWEVER**, if you are bringing someone to Mass who has difficulty walking, please contact the office a.s.a.p. with your number plate details and we will do our best to reserve a car park space on site for you. **NOTE TO EVERYONE:** Please be extra careful walking around the site, especially leaving the church or Joseph's Place, as cars will be moving around the site.

FUND-RAISING: Our next fund-raising event will be on Saturday 29th December when we will be raising money to help provide a prayer area for Our Lady & St Joseph's Primary School. Do come along for a cake or a bowl of soup and support our local school.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH 2018 – a reminder that on Sunday 23rd December We would be grateful for any suitable gifts (or appropriate donation) for the Christmas Tree. (Value £2.00 to £4.00) for our guests to take home wrapped and Labelled for a Lady or Gentleman. **Thank you, Mike and Ann Reynolds 01590 679084**

Dates for the Diary: Parish AGM will be held on Sunday, 20th January 2019 in church, immediately after the 10.30am Mass. It will include reports from the PPC & Finance Committees.

All Parishes

DO YOU REJOICE IN THE LORD? Is He asking you to consider a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? To explore further, contact Fr. John Cooke, vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT: The KS2 Carol concert was a great success and enjoyed by all. This was thanks to great collaboration between the school and the parish. It was a fitting end to the school year which included a good number of parish / school events and links:-The whole school Mass at OLMSJ church; season of Lent activities; KS2 – Stations of the Cross; KS1 doing a day visit to St Anne's, Brockenhurst; KS1 making crosses with a prayer to be taken out to the sick & housebound in our three parishes. Class 3 making of rosary rings which were sold in aid of CAFOD at OLMSJ church; how the children have improved their understanding of the Mass by participating whole heartedly in school Masses. Indeed, links are growing so well that the parishioners are in the process of raising much needed funds for an outside prayer garden at the school. Parishioners are always invited to school Masses & thanks to those who do join us there. Thanks also to the SVP for their discreet financial support.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS & OUR FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: from our three parishes who support the school and enable it to fulfil its mission as a Catholic educational community.