

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 - 6.00pm



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR "C" 14TH JULY 2019

...And Who is My Neighbour ???

In Gospel reading today Jesus is asked a question by a Scribe. The scribe was an educated man and realized that he could not possibly keep that law on love of self and others, nor would he have necessarily wanted to. There would always be people in his life that he could not love. Thus, he tries to limit the law's command by limiting its parameters and asked the question "who is my neighbour?" The word "neighbour" in the Greek means "someone who is near," and in the Hebrew it means "someone that you have an association with." This interprets the word in a limited sense, referring to a fellow Jew and would have excluded Samaritans, Romans, and other foreigners. Jesus then gives the parable of the Good Samaritan to correct the false understanding that the scribe had of who his neighbour is, and what his duty is to his neighbour.

One time Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher once observed, "No one would remember the **Good Samaritan** if he'd only had good intentions – he had money too." Of course the Good Samaritan was a man who was able to walk the walk.

1. The Good Samaritan was willing to get involved. We may quote scripture and recite platitudes on love and God, but unless we are willing to get involved in the lives of others, we are only blowing smoke. The Samaritan treated and bandaged the wounds. He set the injured man on his donkey. He took him to an inn and cared for him throughout the night. The Samaritan could have said to himself, "I give regularly to my church. I donate to charities and even have direct debit or a standing order pledge. I have done my part." But he didn't. As the scriptures say, he had compassion and he acted on it.

2. The Good Samaritan ignored racism. Even though he was considered a "despised Samaritan," he rose above such shallowness to care for a fellow human being made in the image and likeness of God as himself. This is all he saw in the person robbed and lying there in front of him. He became his brother and keeper.

3. The Good Samaritan had money. Margaret Thatcher was absolutely spot on: this was a man who managed his money. He undoubtedly lived on a budget, spent less than he made and maintained a contingency fund for unexpected expenses. We must realize that we need to be very intentional if we are going to give to charity whenever there is a knock on the door. Knowing this will raise your attention to those in need around you.

4. The Good Samaritan had a good name. One wonders if the Samaritan had been to that inn before, perhaps paying for some other needy person's stay. We know this: the innkeeper trusted the Samaritan, probably because he had proven himself to be trustworthy.

5. The Good Samaritan was generous. The Samaritan didn't know how long the injured man would be laid up, but I am guessing (because the text said the attack left him "half dead"), that it could be a prolonged stay. At any rate, the wellbeing of this stranger was more important to

our Good Samaritan than whatever the cost might be. Again, this generosity would never have been possible if he hadn't had money in the first place.

The central message of this story is that, if we are to be good neighbours, we need to be more like the Samaritan. The implied message is to get strong financially and stay strong financially so we can have the means to act on our good intentions.

Jesus concludes with this admonition, "Go and do likewise." When we learn this lesson, we, and the world around us, will be better for it.

What can we learn from the good Samaritan?

1) You don't need to be named - First, noticed how the good Samaritan continues to be known as the "good Samaritan" until now? He was unnamed, yet his actions continue to be an example to all of us today. His actions tell us that we can be a nameless, faceless servant with no need for applause. Many of us want to be famous and try to make a name for ourselves. This Samaritan was a nobody - literally, according to the perspectives of that time - but his act of love will always be remembered for as long as the word of God exists.

2) You can love your neighbour, even more if you are hated - It's easy to love those who love us. What's difficult is to love those who hate us. The Good Samaritan showed us, however, that it can be done. The Good Samaritan showed us that we can love everyone, even those who hate us. We can show love to those who despise us. We can love them even if they don't love us, and God will see that.

3) Servant-hood comes from the heart, not from positions - We read in the Luke 10:25-37 passage that the Samaritan was but the third person who saw the poor robbery victim. The first two, a priest and a levite, had positions of servant-hood but did not serve. Servant-hood, or the desire to serve others, is not and should not be dictated by positions. It comes from the heart. Those in a position, however, should use it to serve others. The Lord Jesus Himself said, "*... but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave - just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*" (see Matthew 20:26-28)

By ending the encounter in this manner, Jesus is telling us to follow the Samaritan's example in our own conduct; i.e., we are to show compassion and love for those we encounter in our everyday activities. We are to love others regardless of their race or religion; the criterion is need. If they need and we have the supply, then we are to give generously and freely, without expectation of return. This is an impossible obligation for the lawyer, and for us. We cannot always keep the law because of our human condition; our heart and desires are mostly of self and selfishness. When left to our own, we do the wrong thing, failing to meet the law. We can hope that the lawyer saw this and came to the realization that there was nothing he could do to justify himself, that he needed a personal saviour to atone for his lack of ability to save himself from his sins. Thus, the lessons of the Parable of the Good Samaritan are three-fold: (1) we are to set aside our prejudice and show love and compassion for others. (2) Our neighbour is anyone we encounter; we are all creatures of the creator and we are to love all of mankind as Jesus has taught. (3) Keeping the law in its entirety with the intent to save ourselves is an impossible task; we need a saviour, and this is Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fr. Laurence Bryce will officially celebrate his first Holy Mass with us on Saturday 13th July at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 14th of July at the 10:00 a.m. Mass respectively. The Parish Community will celebrate with him in the Parish hall after the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass

THE CATHOLIC DISABILITY FELLOWSHIP are holding their **Annual Mass** on Sunday 14th July 2019 at 3.00 p.m. in The Church of the Immaculate Conception at Liphook. Address 108 Headley Road, Liphook, GU30 7PT.

HOLY REDEEMER HIGHCLIFFE – GOLDEN JUBILEE – Friday 26th & Saturday 27th July – If you wish to attend either or both of these events, please sign the tick-off list on the Noticeboard at the back of Church in order to assist with catering arrangements.

Do you attend weekday Masses, either regularly, occasionally or on a particular day of the week or month? Well.... The parish needs readers for weekday masses. The numbers of those willing or able has diminished and so there is additional burden on the few. If you read this and hear the call to help, even if you are unsure if you can do it, or have never read in church before, please come forward and speak with Johanna directly or give the office your details. If this is really not something you are able to do, you can still help by offering your Mass intentions that people hear the call and come forward. Thank you. Johanna (01425 291913)

HOLIDAY LEAVE – The Office will be closed on Wednesday 17th & Friday 26th July as Lizzie will be on leave. Please address all enquiries to Fr. George.

MESSAGE FROM FR. VERVENNE – “My thanks to Fr. George and everyone who, in any way, made my Golden Jubilee celebration such a joyful and memorable occasion. My most sincere thanks for the many cards and gifts received. Your kindness was very much appreciated.”

CANONISATION OF BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN – Sunday 13th October 2019 – The Vatican has announced that on 13th October 2019 Pope Francis will be canonising Blessed John Henry Newman, along with 4 other Blesseds, in Rome. This will make Cardinal Newman the first English person, who has lived since the 17th Century, to be recognised as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. To prepare for this momentous occasion, a new website has been created by the Oratories of England, with information about Cardinal Newman, including information on the 2nd miracle, updated on the canonisation, videos, blogs, podcasts and more. Visit the official website at newmancanonisation.com.

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL (Secondary Phase, Southbourne Site) If you are applying for Secondary School for your child for September 2020 please come to one (or both) of our Open Evenings on 19th and 24th September 2019, both evenings start at 6pm. Please bring your child's original Baptism Certificate to the school on those evenings for copying. You can print off a Supplementary Information Form for your Priest to sign from our website or contact St Peter's School on (01202) 421141 extension 2298 to request a form/information by post. The Supplementary Information Form and Original Baptism Certificate must be delivered to the school by 31st October 2019 at the latest.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR “C” 14TH JULY 2019

Saturday	13	July	Vigil Mass of the 15 th Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 VIGIL MASS of the 15 th Week in Ordinary Time – <i>Sheena Kidd Birthday & 30th Wedding Anniversary blessings</i>	Refreshments in the Hall with Fr. Laurence after Mass
Sunday	14	July	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Veronica Graham(RIP)</i>	
Monday	15	July			
Tuesday	16	July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass - <i>Theresa Paul (RIP)</i>	
Wednesday	17	July	St. Bonaventure	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>For the repose of Jan Drabik</i>	Confession after Mass
Thursday	18	July	Thursday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Blessings for Susan Murphy</i>	
Friday	19	July	Friday of the 15 th Week in Ordinary Time	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Brigid Horan (RIP)</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	20	July	Our Lady of Saturday	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Maria Lourdes Caneda Birthday blessings</i>	
Saturday vigil Mass			Vigil Mass of the 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	18.00 - Vigil Mass of the 15 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Jan Drabik (RIP)</i>	Confession 5.30 pm
Sunday	21	July	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00 Holy Mass. – <i>Susan (RIP)</i>	Coffee & Tea in the Hall after Mass

IMPORTANT – MASS OFFERINGS/INTENTIONS. If you would like Holy Mass said for your Intention(s), 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 29/30 June		Sat. 13 July	Sun. 14 July	Sat. 20 July	Sun. 21 July
Loose	£254.66	Reader G.Gordelier	Annice Joseph	T.Gearey	P.Caffyn
Envelopes	£180.00	C.d’Espagnac	A.Veluthedabhu	D,McCourts	P.Caffyn
		EMHC T.Gearey	J.Nichols	M.Newland	M.Tanner
		B.Dempster	M.Buckland	C.d’Espagnac	J. Kurian
Thank you for your continued support		K.Dempster	A.Caneda	M.Harwood	M.Buckland

2nd Collection on this Sunday - 14th July for Apostleship of the Sea – Sea Sunday

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 Wednesday 12.00h-16.00h & Friday 10.00h-14.00h

Our Parish Live streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton> Website: www.nfwp.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: Tony Harwood Tel: **01425 511 952** or email hughharwood314@hotmail.co.uk

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 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