

# 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**



**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR "C"**  
**15TH SEPTEMBER 2019**

## **'God Loves You; Rest in His Embrace' - Part 2**

*{Pope Francis presiding over an interreligious meeting attended by Christians, Muslims, Hindus and thousands of young people at the Maxaquene Pavillion – Maputo Mozambique; Warns Against Resignation & Anxiety, Calling Them 'Great Enemies of Life'. }*

I would like to add another important thing: pay attention to older people.

The elderly can help keep your dreams and aspirations from fading, from faltering at the first experience of difficulty or powerlessness. They are our roots. "Think about it: if someone tells young people to ignore their history, to reject the experiences of their elders, to look down on the past and to look forward to a future that he holds out, doesn't it then become easy to draw them along so that they only do what he tells them? He needs the young to be shallow, uprooted and distrustful, so that they can trust only in his promises and act according to his plans. That is how various ideologies operate: they destroy (or deconstruct) all differences so that they can reign unopposed. To do so, however, they need young people who have no use for history, who spurn the spiritual and human riches inherited from past generations, and are ignorant of everything that came before them" (ibid., 181). Older generations have much to tell you and offer you. True, sometimes we elderly people can be overbearing and nagging, or we can try to make you act, speak and live the same way we do. You will have to find your own way, but by listening to and appreciating those who have gone before you. Isn't this what you did with your music? In the *marrabenta*, the traditional music of Mozambique, you incorporated other modern rhythms, and the *pandza* was born. What you listened to, what you saw your parents and grandparents singing and dancing to, you took and made your own. This, then, is the path that I would point out to you, a path "born of freedom, enthusiasm, creativity and new horizons, while at the same time cultivating the roots that nourish and sustain us" (ibid., 184).

All of these are little things, but they can give you the support you need not to give up in times of trouble but to move forward with hope, to find new ways and outlets for expressing your creativity, and to face problems together in a spirit of solidarity.

Many of you were born at a time of peace, a hard-won peace that was not always easy to achieve and took time to build. Peace is a process that you too are called to advance, by being ever ready to reach out to those experiencing hardship. What power there is in an outstretched hand and a friendship that finds concrete expression! I think of the suffering of those young people who came full of dreams to find work in the city, and who today are homeless, without family and real friends. How important it is to learn to offer others a helping and outstretched hand! Try to grow in friendship with those who think differently than you, so that solidarity will increase among you and become the best weapon to change the course of history.

The image of an outstretched hand also makes us think of the need to be committed to caring for the earth, our common home. You have indeed been blessed with stupendous natural beauty: forests and rivers, valleys and mountains and so many beautiful beaches.

Sadly, however, a few months ago you suffered the collision of two cyclones, and saw the consequences of the ecological disaster that we are experiencing. Many people, including a great number of young people, have already taken up the pressing challenge of protecting our common home. This is the challenge before us: to protect our common home. Here you have a beautiful dream to cultivate together, as a family, a great challenge that can keep you united. I am convinced that you can be the agents of this much-needed change: protecting our common home, a home that belongs to all and is meant for all.

Let me leave you with one last thought: God loves you, and this is something on which all our religious traditions are agreed. “For him, you have worth; you are not insignificant. You are important to him, for you are the work of his hands. That is why he is concerned about you and looks to you with affection. Trust the memory of God... His memory is a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in ‘deleting’ from us every trace of evil. He does not keep track of your failings and he always helps you learn something even from your mistakes. Because he loves you. Try to keep still for a moment and let yourself feel his love. Try to silence all the noise within, and rest for a second in his loving embrace” (*Christus Vivit*, 115).

This love of God is simple, silent and discreet: it does not overpower us or force itself on us; it is not strident or flashy. It is “a love that is free and freeing, a love that heals and raises up. The love of the Lord has to do more with raising up than knocking down, with reconciling than forbidding, with offering new changes than condemning, with the future than the past” (*ibid.*, 116).

I know that you believe in this love that makes reconciliation possible. And because you believe in this love, I am certain that you are hopeful and that you will not fail to walk joyfully in the ways of peace.

Thank you very much and, please, do not forget to pray for me.

God bless you all.

**Pope Francis**

**Fr. George Ngwa**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ROSARY IN THE GROTTA** will be said at 10.30 a.m. on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September**, weather permitting (otherwise in Church). There is a Group from the Parish leaving at 11.00 a.m. to go on a Pilgrimage to Italy.

**PALS MONTHLY OUTING - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept.** First we will have lunch nearby - Please be in the church car park 11:30 a.m. Some of us will be in Italy with the Eucharistic Pilgrimage, therefore, any queries for this outing please contact Susie Ramsay.

**CLERGY RETREAT – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019.** Fr. George will be attending a Clergy Retreat in Douai Abbey in Upper Woolhampton and unfortunately, therefore, there will be no Masses held between Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October inclusive.

**SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA Talk on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019.** On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October there is a CHEESE AND WINE EVENING at HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCH, HIGHCLIFFE. John and Pauline Morgan will give an illustrated talk on their recent pilgrimage. Tickets are £5 available from Barbs Booth on 01425 273496

**A Thank You Message from Pauline Thorpe –** “I wish to thank everyone for all the kind words and prayers I have received during my recent illness. It is greatly appreciated. God bless you all. Pauline”

**CHURCH FLOWERS INTRODUCTORY SESSION - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 2.30 P M IN THE HALL** Ever wondered about joining in with creating the church flowers? We are now just 3 of us and would appreciate some additional help. I have organised a taster session in the Hall on **Monday 30 September at 2.30 p m.** to encourage you to come and 'have a go'. I will make it as simple as possible and bring along some printed material which will help to explain the general principles. We will complete a simple arrangement for you to take home or leave in the church. Or you can just watch.

I know some of you have expressed a wish to help at some stage so please give me a ring and join in; I will provide the flowers and foliage. My number is 01425 611643, I am on 'What's App' (07887747493) as well as email [katherine.dempster@btinternet.com](mailto:katherine.dempster@btinternet.com). I look forward to seeing you along with Jan Marriott and Veronica Sacco.  
Best wishes Katherine Dempster

**EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH – OCTOBER 2019** Pope Francis has called the whole Church to observe an Extraordinary Month of Mission (EMM) this October. It is, in the Holy Father's words "a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon and recommit ourselves to Missio ad Gentes; that most important element of mission that focuses on bringing the Gospel to those who have not yet heard it".

**SAFEGUARDING – A message from our Safeguarding Minister – Tony Harwood.** Volunteers who visit the sick and housebound must have a current DBS and have attended a Vulnerable Adult Course arranged by the Diocese. If asked to take Holy Communion to a new person, please inform Fr. George, who will carry out the first visit. Volunteers who have contact with children and run courses or outings must have a current DBS and have attended a Child Protection course. Additionally, strict guidelines exist on the number of adults to children regarding any Liturgy Instruction/First Holy Communion/Confirmation classes. Ideally a parent will accompany the child, otherwise a named person must be present. Providing the Leader of the Group has the appropriate documentation, additional help can be sought from a known parishioner, who will act under the supervision of the Leader. For more information please contact Tony on 01425 511 952. (Copies of the Training Calendar for September and October 2019 can be found at the back of Church.)

**VOLUNTEER COUNTERS URGENTLY NEEDED .** The Parish urgently needs new volunteer counters to replace those no longer able, to help count the weekly collections. This takes about an hour or so, usually on Mondays in the Presbytery, starting at 10.00hrs. There is a rota which should mean counters are only required to once every four weeks. Counters sort and count notes and coins received, and record takings for all the different collections. Somebody from each counting group will be asked to deposit the takings into the bank deposit point. For further information speak to Susie Ramsay or Andy Thomas, both usually available after Mass in the hall on Sundays. If you can help please let one of us know, or leave your details (name and contact phone) with Lizzie in the office and someone will call you to discuss. Many thanks.

**BENCHES FOR THE GROTTA** The benches in Our Lady's Grotto are in need of replacement and donors are sought so that new benches can be purchased by the Parish. The benches have to be uniform in size, shape and colour, suitable to seat three persons and guaranteed to last for some time. An example of the proposed benches has been placed in the Grotto. This bench has a 15 year anti-rot guarantee. Benches may be affixed with a brass memorial plaque (standard size) with a three-line inscription. Total cost with plaque is expected to be £200 (including estimated £60 for engraved plaque). If you would like to pay for one of the 10 proposed benches, in memory of a loved one, please complete the order form available at the back of the church and submit it in an envelope to: 'The Secretary', Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Office, 15 Mount Avenue or come to the Office in person and speak to Lizzie. Orders will be taken on a first-come basis.

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS** Christians all over the world are being persecuted and are suffering from the effects of war, famine, exploitation and climate change. In the Pope's message in last week's and this week's edition of our Newsletter, he talks of the suffering in Mozambique. We subscribe to the magazine – Catholic Herald – and there are also other informative magazines that we receive from time-to-time which can be found at the back of Church. Please spare the time to read this literature for more information on international news concerning our Christian brothers and sisters worldwide. Don't forget **CAFOD Family Fast Day on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October and World Mission Sunday on 20<sup>th</sup> October!**

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR “C” 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

Saturday	14	Sept.	Vigil Mass of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 VIGIL MASS of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time – <i>Johanna Mountevans (Thanksgiving for full Recovery)</i>	Coffee & Tea in the Hall after Mass
Sunday	15	Sept.	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Muriel Thomas (Birthday Anniversary RIP)</i>	
Monday	16	Sept.	St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian		
Tuesday	17	Sept.	St. Robert Bellarmine	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass – <i>Eduardo Brion Senior &amp; Maura Brion (RIP)</i>	
Wednesday	18	Sept.	Wednesday of the 24 <sup>th</sup> 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
Thursday	19	Sept.	St. Theodore of Canterbury	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Holy Souls</i>	
Friday	20	Sept.	St. Andrew Kim Taegon & St. Paul Chong Hasang & Companions	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Marietta Obligacion</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	21	Sept.	ST. MATTHEW	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>MPP</i>	
Saturday vigil Mass			Vigil Mass of the 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	18.00 - Vigil Mass of the 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Thomas Merifield (Blessing and Birthday Wishes)</i>	Confession 5.30 pm
Sunday	22	Sept.	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00 Holy Mass. – <i>Vera Schwarz (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary 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 7 & 8 Sept.		Sat.14 Sep.	Sun.15 Sep.	Sat. 21 Sep.	Sun.22 Sep.
Loose	£373.43	<b>Reader</b> B.Dempster	P.Caffyn	J.Marriott	A.Veluthedathu
Envelopes	£207.00	K.Dempster	P.Caffyn	G.Gordelier	Annice Joseph
		<b>EMHC</b> M.Harwood	M.Tanner	F.Fallon	J.Nichols
		J.Thomas	AkhilJoseph	M.Newland	S.Salinger
Thank you for your continued support		C.d’Espagnac	J.Nichols	T.Gearey	M.Buckland

– **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this weekend for Home Missions**

<p><b>Parish priest: Father George Ngwa</b>                  email: <a href="mailto:gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a> emergency mobile: <b>07475753040</b>  <b>Parish office: 01425 614968</b> Hall Booking via Parish Office  <a href="mailto:lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>  <b>Secretary: Lizzie Davies</b> Wednesday 12.00h-16.00h &amp; Friday 10.00h-14.00h                  Our Parish Live streaming: <a href="http://churchservices.tv/newmilton">http://churchservices.tv/newmilton</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nfwp.org.uk">www.nfwp.org.uk</a>  <b>Safeguarding Minister: Tony Harwood</b> Tel: <b>01425 511 952</b> or email <a href="mailto:hughharwood314@hotmail.co.uk">hughharwood314@hotmail.co.uk</a></p>
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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