

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR "C"
29TH SEPTEMBER 2019**

OCTOBER THE MONTH OF GRACE

October is the month devoted to the **Holy Rosary in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. This is the perfect time for us to reflect upon the meaning of the Rosary and its significance in our walk of faith. The Rosary is taken from the Latin word “rosarium” which means “crown of roses” or “garland of roses.” Devotion to the Rosary is one of the most distinguishable features of popular Catholic spirituality. The Rosary inspires us to meditate on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary because meditation is an important aspect of prayer in our lives as Catholics. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, meditation “engages thought, imagination, emotion and desire. This mobilization of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart and strengthen our will to follow Christ.”

THE ROSARY - A BRIEF ORIGIN - According to pious tradition, the idea of the Rosary was given to Saint Dominic when the Virgin Mary appeared to him in an apparition in the year 1214. October is dedicated as the Month of the Rosary because we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary each year on October 7. To understand this feast, we need to go back in time. In the 16th century, the Islamic Ottoman Empire presented a serious military threat to western Europe and sent a fleet of ships to attack Christian defences in southern Europe.

Pius V knew he needed more than just military strength to defend Christian Europe, so he asked that all the faithful pray the rosary, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother. At the end of the Battle of Lepanto, the Holy League was victorious and the maritime expansion of the Ottoman Empire was permanently prevented. The next year, Pius V established a feast on October 7 in honour of the Blessed Mother, originally called Our Lady of Victory. After a few centuries, the name was changed to Our Lady of the Rosary to more clearly recognize that prayer was the greatest power at work that day on the seas.

In 1571, the rosary was still a relatively new prayer form for the universal church. Pope Pius V had issued a decree formally establishing devotion to the rosary in the papal bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* just two years before the Battle of Lepanto. The Holy Father’s universal promulgation recognized the growing devotion to the Blessed Mother throughout Europe, as well as the increased prayer of the rosary in various locations. Pope Pius V established the standard fifteen Mysteries of the Rosaries which are grouped into three, the Joyful Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries and the Glorious Mysteries. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added a set of five to the existing fifteen mysteries and these became known as the Luminous Mysteries. Today, the total number of mysteries is twenty, which encourage additional meditations on the life of Jesus.

THE ROSARY AND MEDITATION - All throughout the history of the Catholic Church, many Popes and saints have encouraged praying the Rosary. As we begin to understand and appreciate the Rosary and pray it more frequently, we come to see the true meaning of its meditations. We begin to appreciate how its prayers are reminders not only of Mary the Mother of God but of Christ himself.

Through Mary, we are led to a closer relationship with her son, Jesus. The Rosary is an invitation for us to present our needs to God and to love Him more. When we recite the twelve prayers that form the decade of the rosary, we need to deeply reflect on the mystery associated with that decade. Simple recitation, whether vocally or in silence, is not enough because we miss the true essence of the prayers.

The rosary is an invitation to experience the grace of Mary’s spiritual motherhood as she leads us to her Son, Jesus. For this reason, it has been an invaluable source of countless spiritual graces for the saints. Remember, every time you pray the rosary you are given the privilege and honour of pronouncing the holy name of Jesus more than 50 times.

WEALTH OF SPIRITUAL GRACES - The wealth of spiritual graces offered through the rosary comes not from the multiplication of prayers (see Matthew 6:7) but from the imitation of Christ through obedience to the Father’s will, according to the example of the Blessed Mother.

Praying the Rosary therefore is not just simply about reciting prayers. It involves reflecting on the grace of God. Praying is a powerful act that lets us develop and strengthen our relationship with God and the Rosary offers the same beautiful reward. By praying the Rosary, we meditate on the events in the life of Jesus Christ and this lets us know God more. When we are unaware of the meditation aspect of the Rosary, we reduce the prayer to an empty, repetitive and meaningless gesture. In Matthew 6:7, Jesus Christ forbids us to practice prayer in meaningless and repetitive babbles. It is precisely the reflective nature of the Rosary that distinguishes it as a powerful and profound way of praying. Rosaries are not just beads or a prayer that we recite during the month of October. Many spiritual battles have been won because of this symbolic act. Many hearts have been touched and many discouraged people have been uplifted because of the Rosary.

ACTION AND PARTICIPATION - How do you plan to celebrate the month of Rosary? What is the significance of the Rosary in your personal life? Maybe October would be a good month to turn off the radio or podcast as you go to work or school and back and pray the rosary instead, or the TV at home for a few minutes to pray the Rosary with the family before going to bed. See what graces the Lord wants to pour into your life from the rose garden of this daily meditation.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLERGY RETREAT – Monday 30th September to Friday 4th October 2019. Please Note *there will be no Masses held between Tuesday 1st and Friday 4th October inclusive but the Church will be open for prayers*

CHURCH FLOWERS INTRODUCTORY SESSION - 30 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 2.30 P M IN THE HALL

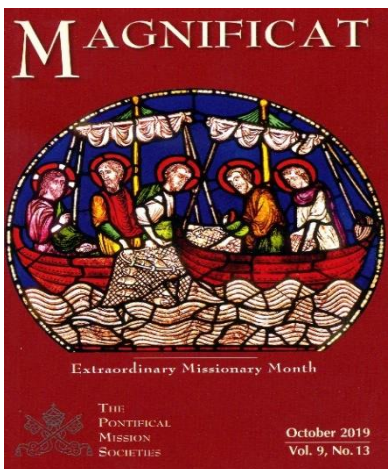
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Please pray for all our First Holy Communion candidates. The children start their programme on **Monday (30th September)** at 5.15pm in the Hall. Please invoke the Holy Spirit to help them and especially their families. May they have His help to keep strong in the commitment, since Baptism, to care and foster the spiritual welfare of these children of God and use this as an opportunity to deepen their own faith.

MY PICTURE MISSAL At the back of the Church, we now have 10 copies of “My Picture Missal” for children who can read but are not yet receiving Holy Communion. Please try to sit forward in the Church and help them follow the pages and learn all the ways we worship God in the gestures and prayers we do and say. If you wish to buy a copy to take away please let Johanna know. They are only £1.50.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 4th October No one should be beyond reach of the love and support they need to thrive. This Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to fast, pray and give, so we can extend the hand of friendship to the world’s poorest people. Fabiano’s village in rural Uganda has been devastated by drought. Every day, children would trek miles for water, risking their education – and safety. Donations from parishioners across England and Wales helped install a solar powered water pump in the village. Now Fabiano and his friends can collect water quickly and safely. On **Family Fast Day**, CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal for lunch or dinner and give the money we save to help children like Fabiano. Please collect a Fast Day envelope from church this week and give generously or you can donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/fastday

Mission Sunday, 20th October 2019, 2pm Bishop Philip invites you to join him to celebrate Mission Sunday Mass at St. John’s Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by Refreshments in the Discovery Centre. **Further Contact : Fr.Innaiah Maddineni , Portsmouth Diocesan Director, Missio , Tel:023 9237 6151 , imaddineni@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

The Pontifical Mission Societies have asked Magnificat worldwide to prepare a special October 2019 issue to help the faithful receive the many graces flowing from this Extraordinary Missionary Month .



In addition to the regular features—daily Mass and Prayer for the Morning and Evening inspired by the Church’s Liturgy of the Hours—each day of this special issue will include a mission-themed meditation, a profile of a missionary saint, and a prayer intention for the mission.

The October 2019 issue of Magnificat is a perfect way to engage the faithful in prayer day after day.

To help equip your entire parish to become a thriving missionary community filled with “missionary disciples,” Magnificat has printed additional copies of the October issue at a cost of £4.99 per copy.

Copies can be found at the back of Church. Please leave your payment in the Parish Office in an envelope addressed to Lizzie. Many thanks!

COMMEMORATIVE BENCHES FOR THE GROTTTO If you would like to sponsor 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. The cost of a bench including commemorative plaque with inscription amounts to approximately £200.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR “C” 29TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Saturday	28	Sept.	Vigil Mass of the 26 th Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 VIGIL MASS of the 26 th Week in Ordinary Time – <i>Teresa Oliver (RIP)</i>	Coffee & Tea in the Hall after Mass
Sunday	29	Sept.	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Jan Oleksik (70th Birthday)</i>	
Monday	30	Sept.	St. Jerome		
Tuesday	01	Oct.	St. Teresa of the Child Jesus	NO MASS	THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY
Wednesday	02	Oct.	The Holy Guardian Angels	NO MASS	
Thursday	03	Oct.	Thursday of the 26 th Week in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	
Friday	04	Oct.	St. Francis of Assisi	NO MASS	
Saturday	05	Oct.	Our Lady of Saturday	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Barbara de St. Croix (RIP)</i>	
Saturday vigil Mass			Vigil Mass of the 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	18.00 - Vigil Mass of the 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Valerie Kelleher (80th Birthday)</i>	Confession 5.30 pm
Sunday	06	Oct.	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00 Holy Mass. – <i>Ola Kaminska (Birthday)</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 21/22 Sept.		Sat.28 Sep.	Sun.29 Sep.	Sat.05 Oct.	Sun.06 Oct.
Loose	£294.97	Reader T.Gearey	S.Salinger	M.Hobbs	C.Barrett
Envelopes	£162.10	M.Newland	S.Ramsay	A.Nash	C.Barrett
		EMHC K.Dempster	A.Caneda	J.Thomas	M.Buckland
		C.d’Espagnac	Joseph Kurian	M.Harwood	Akhil Joseph
Thank you for your continued support		B.Dempster	M.Tanner	M.Newland	J.Nichols

2nd Collection CAFOD Harvest

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 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