

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 07.30am – 5.00pm



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR "C" 17TH NOVEMBER 2019

WHO ARE THE HOLY SOULS ?

These are the faithful departed who have gone through the battle of life, are confirmed in the state of grace, and are certain of eventual beatitude (happiness with God). Many souls, because supported by Extreme Unction coupled with Viaticum and the Apostolic Blessing, go directly to heaven. Others—many others—not so supported must enter purgatory for have their souls purge of any sin(s) before going to heaven. In His mercy God allows us to pray for the holy souls, and we do this best on All Souls' Day.

BLEND OF GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY

Purgatory is a place where the justice and the mercy of God blend. Justice demands that sin be punished. Mercy limits the severity of the punishment. Our Lord says through His beloved evangelist: John 9:4 "The night comes when no man can work," but in His mercy He lets others work for that holy soul.

NATURE OF PURGATORY - These holy souls are detained in purgatory (a term in use since the eleventh century). This place is defined as a "holy hell" or a "sad heaven." Purgatory is much more like heaven than hell, for the souls detained there are not in Satan's clutches, but ready for God's loving embrace. They have their pains, but they also have their joys. They have their pains, because they cannot see God, though they are so close to Him. Their knowledge that their sentence is terminating builds up the desire for heaven to such a pitch that the pain of privation is most intense. But there is a mixed feeling. They also have their joy. Pertinently St. Catherine of Genoa wrote: "Apart from the happiness of the saints in heaven, I think there is no joy comparable to that of the souls in purgatory." Their state is such that it is more correct to call them holy souls than poor souls.

THE HOLY SOULS CANNOT PRAY FOR THEMSELVES. Those in purgatory cannot pray for themselves, this is why they are also called "poor" souls. They can no longer merit anything for themselves (their opportunity for increasing in merit was during their earthly lives) and they must rely entirely on others to pray and make sacrifices on their behalf. As they are nevertheless part of the Communion of Saints, they depend upon us to help ease their suffering and quickly advance them through their purification so that they can join the saints in heaven.

The holy souls know in advance how long they must stay in purgatory, and they can do nothing to shorten that stay. They are at the mercy of others. They are like the poor man at the football stadium—without a ticket. He sees the crowd and hears them cheer, but he cannot join until someone gives him a ticket. So the holy souls are dependent on others to get them to heaven.

We have access to several keys to help rescue the holy souls in purgatory and get them to heaven.

There's only one door out of purgatory for the Holy Souls there. It opens only into heaven. But here's the catch: they can't open it themselves. We have to open it for them. We have the key. The question is, will we help unlock it for some of them during this month of November, which the Church dedicates to the Holy Souls?

HOW TO HELP THE HOLY SOULS. - The faithful left behind can do just that, and they want to do it. The holy souls are their friends who have gone ahead into eternity. The faithful still love them and want to do something for them. They can—through their prayers. This is certain from the clear statement (Maccabees. 12:46): "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from sins." The prayer used may be the one suggested by Cardinal Newman in his hymn for the dead: "*Help, Lord, the souls which Thou hast made, The souls to Thee so dear, In prison for the debt unpaid Of sins committed here.*"

The faithful can also help these holy souls through the Sacrifice of the Mass. They make an offering on All Souls' Day that Masses be said. These Masses help the holy souls, both because the Mass is so powerful in itself and because the faithful have coupled their sacrifice (this offering) with the Sublime Sacrifice. That these sacrifices are helpful is no guess, but a fact known from the same book of Macchabees (12:43) where Judas Macchabeus had his soldiers send drachmas to Jerusalem to offer up a sacrifice for the soldiers who had fallen in battle.

The practice of remembering the departed at the altar was widespread already in the early Church. St. Monica, to give one example, was familiar with it. When she lay on her deathbed at Ostia, she made a lyrical request of her son, Augustine (*Confessions*, IX, 11) : "Bury my body wherever you please. Let that not be your concern. Only one thing I beg of you: at the Lord's altar, wherever you may be,

CHURCH TEACHING ON PURGATORY. -The souls in purgatory died in the mercy of God, this is why they are called holy; however, because they still had attachment to sin at the time of their death, they must undergo a spiritual purification of their souls before they are able to fully love God with their whole heart, mind, and soul for all eternity.

The holy souls are "saved souls"—they will enjoy the reward of heaven—but during their lives they were not the perfect souls that Christ commanded them to be (Mat. 5:48), and for which he provided every grace and means for them to become (2 Pet. 1:3). We are meant to die after living as saints. Those who die in the love of God but fall short of holiness due to habitual sinful clingings must be pure before being admitted to the beatific vision, that is, the vision of God that the saints in heaven enjoy for all eternity.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY. We have access to several keys to help rescue the holy souls in purgatory and get them to heaven.

There's only one door out of purgatory for the Holy Souls there. It opens only into heaven. But here's the catch: they can't open it themselves. We have to open it for them. We have the key. They can get there a lot quicker if we unlock that door for them. Notice how the Church puts All Souls Day, Nov. 2, right next to Nov. 1, All Saint's Day? The question is, will we help unlock it for some of them during this month of November, which the Church dedicates to the Holy Souls?

1. Pray the Novena to the Holy Souls.
2. Offer up your Holy Communion for the souls in purgatory.
3. Have Masses said for your departed loved ones, especially on the anniversary of his or her death.
4. Pray The Way Of The Cross for Souls in Purgatory.
5. Pray the special Holy Souls Rosary. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Holy Rosary is the most powerful prayer.
6. Obtain indulgences: Indulgences reduce or cancel the temporal punishment that we incur through sin.* There are many ways to obtain indulgences through pious actions, and we can apply their merits to the dead.

If you visit a church or oratory on All Souls Day and there recite the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed, you can earn a plenary (full) indulgence applicable only to the souls in purgatory (under the usual conditions).*

7. Give alms: The giving of material assistance to the poor has always been considered a penance that can be offered for the Holy Souls. "For almsgiving saves from death and purges away every sin" (Tobit 12:9).
8. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the intention of the Holy Souls.
9. Prayer of St. Gertrude for the Holy Souls: this prayer is attributed to St. Gertrude the Great and was the prayer by which she obtained the release of many souls from purgatory.
10. Sprinkle holy water on the ground: St. John Macias, a great friend of those in purgatory, would often sprinkle holy water on the ground for the spiritual benefit of the suffering souls.
11. When passing by a cemetery, pray the short Eternal Rest prayer. This prayer carries a partial indulgence applicable to the poor souls:

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon them. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."

12. Practice the tradition of praying the Eternal Rest prayer (above) before and after your meals as an easy way to remember to pray for the holy souls every day. You can also pray the prayer between the decades of your daily rosary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Opening Times – Please note that the Church will be open from **7.30 a.m. and will close at 5.00 p.m.**, except when there are evening Masses.

CARITAS EVENT "World Day of the Poor" – This Sunday 17th November 2019 *"The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever" (Psalm 9:18).* On the World Day of the Poor, **17th November, between 1pm and 5:30pm**, Caritas Portsmouth are holding an afternoon in St. Peters, Winchester where we can all come together to share experiences and encourage new ideas around the issue of poverty. The event will include a short play by "Staging Faith" on the life of St. Vincent De Paul, and also some personal testimonies of people who have experienced life on the margins. There will be opportunities to network with others and to see what we can practically do to help those in need around us. Come along and let this event be the place where we begin to open our church doors to those in need and be a voice of the voiceless. For further information contact Kevin Gallagher from Caritas at caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 07388994057.

PALS - NOVEMBER 19th Tuesday, Our Monthly Lunch - Please meet in the church car park 11:30. Queries to Jane 501 126. Next month **December 4th** is our Christmas Lunch - which is now fully booked.

HOLY REDEEMER – CHRISTMAS FAIR - **Saturday 1st December** Holy Redeemer in Highcliffe are holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 1st December, starting at 2.30 p.m. There will be a Tombola, Christmas Cards, Fancy Goods, Bric-a-Brac, Books, Toys, Cakes & Teas, together with a Grand Draw.

VOCATION SEEKER EVENING – **Friday 6th December, 7.00 – 9.00 p.m.** at The Sacred Heart Church, 41-43 Portland Street, Fareham, PO16 0NF (easy access via road, train & bus). The Diocesan Vocation Seeker Group meets monthly, on the First Friday of the month, for food, prayer, reflection & friendship. For info/invitation please contact Fr. John Cooke 01329 318 869, or email to vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk, website www.portsmouthvocations.org.uk

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES – 2020 . Can you please let the Office know, as a matter of urgency, the names of all candidates preparing for Confirmation in 2020.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS – NOVEMBER Please find envelopes at the back of Church for you to add the names of your deceased parents, relatives and friends for whom you wish to pray during the month of November. Please place your envelope in the wooden box which is situated on Our Lady altar. *There will be a special Mass on Friday 29th November at 3.00 p.m.*

CAFOD – The True Spirit of Christmas Giving. Whether it's teaching someone to read or giving enough seeds to grow a year's worth of food in a vegetable garden, **World Gifts** has a perfect gift for everyone. This year change lives around the world and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas giving with **World Gifts**. Please find Booklets and Order Forms at the back of the Church.

CATHOLIC DISABILITY FELLOWSHIP/PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE. When a French man, +- Jean Vanier visited an asylum for men with learning disabilities in northern France in 1964, he found the residents walking around in circles and doing little else. They were enclosed by high concrete walls, some were screaming. Suddenly one man came out of his reverie, looked at Vanier with hopeful eyes and asked: "Will you be my friend?" In the moment that it took him to smile and nod, Vanier's life was changed. He went on to found communities that he named "l'Arche" (the Ark), where people with disabilities lived in equality with the carers. There are now 154 l'Arche communities worldwide, including 12 in the UK. For more information visit their website at www.catholicdisabilityfellowship.org.uk

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR “C” 17TH NOVEMBER 2019

Saturday	16	Nov.	Vigil Mass of the 33 rd Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 VIGIL MASS of the 33 rd Week in Ordinary Time – <i>Edell Estall (Birthday)</i>	Coffee & Tea in the Hall after Mass
Sunday	17	Nov.	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 Holy Mass - <i>Rose Joe (RIP)</i>	
Monday	18	Nov.	Dedication of Basilicas of St.Peter & St.Paul		
Tuesday	19	Nov.	Tuesday of the 33 rd Week in Ordinary Time	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass - <i>All deceased members of Joseph Kurian's Family (RIP)</i>	
Wednesday	20	Nov.	Wednesday of the 33 rd Week in Ordinary Time	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Anna Joseph (RIP)</i>	Confession after Mass
Thursday	21	Nov.	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Terence Boland (52nd Anniversary RIP)</i>	
Friday	22	Nov.	St. Cecilia	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Raymundo Yapit III & Marcelina Merle & Teodulo Obdianella (RIP)</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	23	Nov.	St. Clement I	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Betty & David Bolland (RIP)</i>	
Saturday vigil Mass			Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	18.00 - Vigil Mass of the 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Elza (RIP)</i>	Confession 5.30 pm
Sunday	24	Nov.	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Solemnity	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Jane Gow & Family (Thanksgiving to God for Blessings received)</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 9/10 Nov. 2019		Sat.16 Nov.	Sun.17 Nov.	Sat.23 Nov.	Sun.24 Nov.
Loose	£367.83	Reader B.Dempster	S.Salinger	J.Marriott	P.Caffyn
Envelopes	£192.75	K.Dempster	S.Ramsay	M.Newland	P.Caffyn
Thank you for your continued support		EMHC F.Fallon	M.Tanner	T.Gearey	A.Caneda
		J.Thomas	M.Buckland	K.Dempster	Akhil Joseph
		C.d'Espagnac	J.Nichols	B.Dempster	M.Buckland

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 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