

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:** lymbrockmil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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. Exec. Head: Gerida Montague

Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils: Mike Reynolds, Lymington; Ian Holden, Brockenhurst; Anthony Kirke, Milford on Sea

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vanessa Dugdale (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:

Saturday morning after
Mass until 10.30am
or by arrangement.

Masses & Services for the Week: 28th December - 5th January 2020

| DAY | DATE | TIME | SERVICE | CHURCH | LITURGY | INTENTION | P |
|-----|------------------|---------|-----------|------------|--|-----------------------------|-----|
| SAT | 28 th | 6.00pm | Mass | Our Lady | The Holy Family Yr A (W) | as per celebrant | PWR |
| SUN | 29 th | 9.00am | Mass | St Francis | The Holy Family Yr A (W) | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 29 th | 10.30am | Mass + AS | Our Lady | The Holy Family Yr A (W) | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 29 th | 6.00pm | Mass | St Anne | The Holy Family Yr A (W) | Brian Gray RIP | DMA |
| MON | 30 th | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady | Liturgy of the Day (W) | as per celebrant | PWR |
| MON | 30 th | 4.00pm | Rehearsal | Our Lady | Wedding Rehearsal | N/A | DMA |
| TUE | 31 st | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady | Liturgy of the Day (W) | for our young families | DMA |
| TUE | 31 st | 1.00pm | Wedding | Our Lady | Daniel West & Poppy Proto | N/A | DMA |
| WED | 1 st | 10.00am | Mass | St Francis | Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Sol. (W) | for all mothers | DMA |
| WED | 1 st | 10.00am | Mass | St Anne | Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Sol. (W) | as per celebrant | PWR |
| WED | 1 st | 9.30am | W & C | Our Lady | Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Sol. (W) | N/A | |
| THU | 2 nd | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady | Ss Basil & Gregory, Mem, (W) | Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M | DMA |
| FRI | 3 rd | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady | Liturgy of the Day (W) | Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M | DMA |
| SAT | 4 th | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady | Liturgy of the Day (W) | for those who are unwell | DMA |
| SAT | 4 th | 6.00pm | Mass | Our Lady | The Epiphany of the Lord (W) | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 5 th | 9.00am | Mass | St Francis | The Epiphany of the Lord (W) | as per celebrant | PWR |
| SUN | 5 th | 10.30am | Mass | Our Lady | The Epiphany of the Lord (W) | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 5 th | 6.00pm | Mass + AS | St Anne | The Epiphany of the Lord (W) | The Baker Family F/M | DMA |

Family Life & Relationships

If there is anything that merits the metaphor of "minefield" it is this subject. Say or write something controversial and one risks a media firestorm on the one hand or a chilling condemnation on the other. Family life issues touch on areas of marriage, sexuality, procreation, abortion, gender identification, caring for the sick and vulnerable, genetic manipulation etc. These are deeply personal issues and it is very easy to induce burdens of confusion, shame, anxiety and guilt. Reactions are understandably strong either way. All of us struggle with these issues and yet we are called to be healers, albeit, wounded ones.

Centuries of ignorance, patriarchy, repression and condemnation across many cultures and religious traditions have caused untold suffering and produced a collective psyche wounded and alienated from the body. Judgement and condemnation have prevented openness, honesty and a healthy acknowledgement of many issues.

The Church, its people and its clergy, has suffered greatly as a consequence of this multi-faceted dysfunction. Only in recent years has the full extent of the problem begun to emerge. The child abuse scandal, a great evil in itself, is really a symptom of this broader and deeper malaise.

Our secular society itself is equally conflicted and confused as indicated by the disparity between the age of consent and the age definition of a minor. On the one hand it openly promotes or tolerates the commercial exploitation of sex and is ambivalent about casual or recreational sex. On the other hand it still celebrates families, faithfulness & responsibility, it outlaws discrimination, it openly abhors the abuse of the vulnerable, harassment and the misuse of power or wealth to procure sexual favours etc.

Society has in part reacted against the inherited (medieval) negativities but the reaction itself has been blighted by its own naiveties which have left us with a whole lot of other problems (e.g. How do we give compassionate help to those who experience a gender mismatch without causing unnecessary gender confusion in other children?).

These issues are now becoming globalised which has led to culture wars, deeper divides between "progressive" and "conservative" cultures. There is rapid liberalisation in some countries and severe repression in others. Human relationships and sexuality are powerful forces and how they are lived and coped with has huge repercussions for every society. Help, support, formation, education and even regulation have always been deemed necessary in one form or another, for good or ill, according to the different cultural frameworks.

In principle there needn't be any conflict between supporting the (majority), heterosexual family unit and also those (minority) in same-sex relationships. Its about doing all one can to help all relationships be truly loving, caring, responsible and nurturing.

Its evident that the Church hierarchy has lost credibility on these issues. What we need now is a forum for families and individuals to have their say and to freely explore these issues without fear of hasty rejection or reaction. (Synodality is something that Pope Francis is trying to encourage in the Church – the whole Church listening & exploring together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit). How to live together, how to sustain relationships or live singly, how to cope with sexual desire or loneliness, how to help young people in the often long period between puberty and marriage or life partnership, how to really love others who are different in some way, how to protect the unborn child, how to care for each other when we are ill or frail or helpless, how to face the opportunities and challenges of our increasing ability to manipulate our genetic make-up? And if we imagine there are neat and easy solutions to these questions we need to wise up. For us who are Catholic Christians we need to ask ourselves how do we image and reflect God's love in all our human relationships? (DMA).

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Kevin Andrew Ford, Eve Brown (30th), Mary Elizabeth Woolgar (3rd)

Sick & Housebound: Colin Stack, Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday & Sean McVeigh.

THANK YOU FROM FR DAVID: Thanks to everyone for prayers and good wishes, kind gifts and a generous Christmas offering. I pray that you will have a happy and blessed New Year.

MESSAGE FROM FATHER PETER: Another Christmas has come and once again I should like to thank all those parishioners who were kind enough to send me cards/gifts and whom I have not been able to thank personally. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Taize at All Saints - 6pm: These lovely reflective 4th Sunday Services resume again in 2020. First two will be: January 26th; February 23rd. Time of quiet, prayer, and Taize chants.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Jessica (Jessie) Emblem (29th), Sheila Doreen Thatcher (31st), Joseph Oswald Williams, Reginald Dudley Hills (2nd), Maria Catherine Wingate, Rosamond Biltcliffe (3rd) Mary (Mollie) Syrett (4th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Jules Holden, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon and Mary Byrne.

Fr Quarmby's Mass times: weekday Mass times for weeks beginning: 29th December PLEASE NOTE that there is no Mass here in Brockenhurst on the 2nd and 3rd January. (Fr David Q. is supplying at New Milton), & 5th January: otherwise 10 a.m. every day except Tuesday 8 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday (except Christmas Day) at 9.00am followed by the Rosary at 9.30am.

Fr. Quarmby thanks all the kind people of the parish who have so generously helped him in many ways over the past year – and promises to keep them all in the Masses over Christmastide and New Year. Happy New year to one and all.

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New Forest Basics Bank Collection: A big thank you also to all those who generously bought the table decorations at the lunch, or gave a donation, which raised a total of £110 for the NFBF following a recent break-in at their premises.

Christmas Greetings and Thank You from Father Charlie: Fr Charlie has written from Malawi to thank everyone in our parish for their help and prayers. The money we raised together with other donations means they will be able to complete two more classrooms for children who at the moment are taught under trees in the school grounds. He assures us of their prayers, and he will offer the sacrifice of the Mass for our Parish. His full letter and photos will be on the notice board in the Parish Rooms.

Red Mission Boxes: Missio has expressed their thanks for the donations from Red Box Collections from this Parish which this year amounted to £362 plus the Collection at church which was £190.98 giving a grand total of £552.89. Well Done Everyone.!

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

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Blanche Bardell (28th), Patrick 'Paddy' Mc Clean (29th), Henry Hunter, Martha Lally (30th), Sydney Teague (1st).

Sick and Housebound: Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Concetta Losanno, Mai Wilson, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Patricia Mate.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: If you wish your child to take part in the 2020 First Communion Programme please take and complete a form from the back of the Church and return to Cathy Pickles as soon as possible. Your child should ideally be in year group 3 at school.

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MESSAGE FROM FATHER PETER: Another Christmas has come and once again I should like to thank all those parishioners who were kind enough to send me cards/gifts and whom I have not been able to thank personally. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

THANK YOU everyone for your prayers and good wishes, plus all the offers of help after my operation: it has been overwhelming and humbling. May God bless you all. Clare Bassett."

The CWL would like to thank all those parishioners who have attended their coffee mornings. This year we have been able to give out £1,100 between these charities:

CUF (supporting pre-school children in S, Africa), Medaille Trust (Trafficking) Margaret Clitherow Trust, Crisis at Christmas, Basics Bank, Parkinsons, Alzheimer Research, Barnardos, Apostleship of the Sea and the new Charity "Scotty's Little Soldiers for children whose fathers have been killed on active service. We were also able to donate £400, via Nichola and Ros, from our Speakers Legacy, to the Building Fund. Once again thank you for coming to our coffee mornings, without customers none of this would be possible.

100 CLUB DRAW RESULTS: - Star prize £75: no 38 Neville Lewcock; £40: no.74 Lisa Thurston; £30: no.6 Martha Medina; £20: no 72 Anthony Cunningham; £15: no.69 Elizabeth Finn; £10: no.30 June Siddall. Congratulations to all our winners this year. Thank you to everyone who subscribed and helped raise funds for the parish. The subscription for 2020 is still £15 per ticket and we will be contacting members in January. Envelopes will be available at the back of the church which can be completed and left at the parish office.

SUNDAY COFFEE: the parish extends grateful thanks to everyone who helps serve us coffee every week after Mass. Your service, kindness, hard work and time is much appreciated and greatly benefits us all.

Fundraising: 'It's a fiver' made £325.70 for the Building Fund. Thank you to everyone for taking part. **2020:** There will not be any Fundraising events in January. We will be back in February.

What a fabulous event **ANGELFEST** was! The amount raised for our building fund was an amazing £1,120.98. Thank you to everyone who supported it. Special thanks to Gerida Montague, Ellie Prince and all the staff and children at the school who worked incredibly hard to make the event such a success.

FUND-RAISING UPDATE: Pledges - Number of pledges: 31
Expected return over 5 years including gift aid: £75,915
Actual Bank Account Receipts to date:- **£28,492.03**

All Parishes

SPECIAL THANKS: to our retired priests, Mgr Fr Peter Ryan & Fr David Quarmby for their generous assistance all through the year but especially at Christmas time when there are many more Masses required for our parishes.

CRIB COLLECTIONS: For the Christian Communities of the Holy Land (via the Friends of the Holy Land)

SCHOOL MASS- date for your diary: The next Mass at the school will be on Thursday 9th January at 9am. You are all welcome to attend.