

# 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 – 4.00pm



## THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR "A" 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020

### ***Giving up my will to live God's ways to Achieve my will.***

One of very good scriptures verse is 2 Corinthians 5:15, which says Jesus "died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again". We know that Jesus came so we could "have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)

#### **Getting the Best God Has to Offer**

God's love is the greatest gift we can receive in life. And it's also the key to experiencing the abundant life John 10:10 is talking about: peace, joy, right standing with God, and freedom from bitterness, anger and every kind of misery.

God loves you perfectly and completely just as you are right now. He can't love you any more than He does at this moment because He is perfect and complete. And even though we are imperfect, His love for us is unconditional and it never changes.

But as we grow in our relationship with God, our love for Him changes. In the beginning, we love Him because of what He's done for us-cleansed us of our sin, giving us new life in Christ-and how He blesses us. But over time, as we learn how beautiful and amazing He is, we don't just love Him, but we fall in love with Him.

It's so important for us to grow in our love for God because then the love of Christ will compel us to live for God and obey Him in every area of our lives. And it's our prompt, complete obedience to God that causes us to grow and mature so He can give us all of the things we need to have a victorious, abundant life in Christ.

**Don't Settle for a Mediocre, Barely-Getting-By Life** - As Christians, we have the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our spirits: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (see Galatians 5:22-23). This means we have everything we need, in Christ, to live a victorious life. And it's the fruit of the Spirit, like self-control, that empowers us to walk in obedience to God's will.

**God Will Fight Your Battles** - Sometimes God will simply run a protective shield around you where nothing will be able to get through to attack you. Other times something will start to slip through to come directly against you, and then God will move ahead of you to take it out. This is where God will literally take your enemy head on and do battle with it.

Sometimes God will fight the actual battle through you, other times He will simply tell you to hold your position and do absolutely nothing, and then He will move Himself to completely take out the attack coming against you. This is where God shows you how powerful and how awesome He really is when He moves into battle to personally protect you.

**The Power To Bless Through Jesus Christ** - Another very powerful tool we have as Christians is the ability to bless other people in the name of Jesus. In our Second reading St. Paul gives his blessings to the Christians in Corinth.

I think this is one of those benefits that we have forgotten how powerful it really is. We are so used to praying before our meals and asking God to bless the food with which we are about to eat, that we forget how much further we can really go with this privilege that we have already received from the Lord.

The ability to bless other people and other things is an extremely powerful prayer tool and every Christian should try and do it on some kind of a regular basis, as you never know how far God will actually work with you in this realm.

### **Examples of What You Can Bless In the Name of Jesus.**

Using God's grace and with the gift of our awareness of our baptismal calling ( Priesthood of the faithful) we have an endless lists of things and people we can bless. Just so you can see how far you can actually go with this privilege, here are a few examples.

Bless the food you eat at every meal.

Bless someone with peace if they have lost it due to an adverse development that may have just occurred in their life.

Bless the baby a mother is carrying in her womb, and ask God to bless the mother with a perfectly normal healthy baby.

- ✓ Ask God to bless someone with a new job if they have just lost their job.
- ✓ Ask God to bless someone with knowledge and wisdom if they are having a hard time in trying to solve a personal problem.
- ✓ Ask God to bless your finances or someone else's finances if they have run into trouble.
- ✓ Ask God to bless your house or any other valuable personal items you may have.
- ✓ Ask God to bless our country and our political leaders. Ask God to bless our leaders with His
- ✓ knowledge and wisdom so they can make the right decisions with the tough times we are now all facing.
- ✓ Ask God to bless any new adventure or any new job you are now taking.
- ✓ Ask God to personally bless you with His knowledge and wisdom so you can make all the right choices in this life.
- ✓ Ask God to bless you with favour at your place of employment.
- ✓ Bless the marriages of all of your children so they can stay under the hand and covering of God.
- ✓ Bless others with joy, peace, and happiness in the Lord.

Now you realise from these types of examples, there are just a wide variety of things that you can bless in the name of Jesus. You can pronounce blessings on yourself, other people, different type of situations like marriages and pregnancies, and actual objects like your houses and some of your personal items and possessions.

Fr. George Ngwa

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**UNITY SERVICE:** - 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Baptist Methodist Church at 6:00 p.m. Let us come and pray together for our shared uniqueness in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL – PORTSMOUTH** - Next weekend Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January there will be a second collection in aid of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. This collection is the only help the Cathedral receives from the wider Diocese family. Father P.J. Smith – Cathedral Dean – encourages us all to give generously to this collection and has particularly asked if parishioners could consider gift aiding their donations. The Cathedral faces some substantial financial challenges in the forthcoming weeks and months and is located in one of the highest areas of deprivation in the country.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS ROTAS** – The new Rotas, commencing 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020, are now available. There is a copy on the Noticeboard at the back of Church but individual Ministers and Readers will find their personal envelope in the Post Box at the back of Church. Thank you for all that you do to ensure the smooth running of our Mass services.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, The Parish is in dire need of Eucharistic Ministers & Readers. If you would be interested in taking on this role from February 2020, please speak to Fr. George who will let you know what is involved. The more people who are willing to come onto the Rotas, will reduce the workload of existing Eucharistic Ministers & Readers. Thank you!

**READERS' DAY WORKSHOPS – 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at St. Dominic's, Sway** - To mark the Year of the Word the diocese of Portsmouth is launching Readers' Training Workshops. Our Pastoral area has been booked in for the workshops at St. Dominic's Priory, Shirley Holms Road, Lymington SO41. The course is over 2 days – 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and Readers have to attend both sessions. The course finishes with commissioning and an award of a Diocesan Recognition. There are limited places, so to make sure you get a place, please email Chris Peacock: [readers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:readers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) as soon as possible. **All Readers – please find your personal envelope in the post box at the back of the Church. If anyone would like me to put their name down with Chris Peacock, please pop into the Office during Office hours. Lizzie.**

**THINKING ABOUT SEPARATION OR DIVORCE?** –where couples of all faiths or no faith background... ..Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? The **Retrouvaille** Programme is for **Married** Couples Facing Difficult Challenges in their Relationship A **Marriage** program that helps couples **restore** their **marriage** and rebuild a loving relationship. A **Christian marriage** program, Catholic in origin. It is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The programme is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. There is no group therapy or group work , For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille', or to register for the programme commencing with a residential weekend on **...28<sup>th</sup>.29<sup>th</sup> Feb & 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020** Call or text 0788 7296983 0797 3380443 or Email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN PILGRIMATE TO LOURDES - 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020.** Bishop Philip has sent out an invitation to join him in Lourdes this year. The Pilgrimage will take place from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July flying by charter aircraft direct to Lourdes from Bournemouth Airport, the cost of the Pilgrimage is £695 per person for a shared room. For further details and video please visit <https://vimeo.com/367708674>.

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR “A” 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020**

Saturday	18	2020 Jan.	Vigil Mass of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>18.00 VIGIL MASS</b> of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Brigid Horan (RIP)	
Sunday	19	Jan.	- SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -Year A	10.00 Holy Mass - <i>Helen Taylor (RIP) &amp; thanksgiving for continued good health of Churcher Family</i>	Coffee & Tea in the Hall after Mass
Monday	20	Jan.			
Tuesday	21	Jan.	St. Agnes	18.00 Holy Mass - <i>Maria &amp; John Richardson</i>	
Wednesday	22	Jan.	St. Vincent	10.00 Holy Mass - <i>Thanksgiving for decisive election results.</i>	Confession after Mass
Thursday	23	Jan.	Thursday of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Kathleen McLaughlain (well-being)</i>	
Friday	24	Jan.	St. Francis de Sales	09.00 Exposition, 09.30 Rosary, 09.50 Benediction, 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Augustine Kedy (RIP)</i>	Confession after Mass
Saturday	25	Jan.	THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL	09.30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Muriel Thomas (5 year anniversary – RIP)</i>	
Saturday vigil Mass			Vigil Mass of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	18.00 - Vigil Mass of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - <i>Mary McKeever &amp; Family (Special Intention)</i>	Confession 5.30 pm
Sunday	26	Jan.	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A	10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Mary &amp; Jack Conway (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!

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for St. John’s Cathedral next weekend.*

Collections 11/12 Jan. 2020		Sat. 18 Jan.	Sun. 19 Jan	Sat. 25 Jan.	Sun. 26 Jan.
Loose	£376.03	G.Gordelier	Annice Joseph	T.Gearey	P.Caffyn
Envelopes	£207.00	C.d’Espagnac	A.Veluthedathu	D.McCourts	P.Caffyn
		<b>EMHC</b>	T.Gearey	J.Nichols	M.Newland
			B.Dempster	M.Buckland	C.d’Espagnac
			K.Dempster	A.Caneda	M.Harwood
Thank you for your continued support				M.Harwood	M.Buckland

**Parish priest: Father George Ngwa**  
 email: [gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) emergency mobile: **07475753040**  
**Parish office: 01425 614968** Hall Booking via Parish Office [ololnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ololnewmilton@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](http://www.nfwp.org.uk)  
**Safeguarding Minister: Tony Harwood** Tel: **01425 511 952** or email [hughharwood314@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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**