

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: 29th February - 8th March 2020

DAY	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SAT	29 th	6.00pm	Mass + AS	Our Lady	1 st Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	1 st	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	1 st Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	Mary Boddington RIP Anniv	PWR
SUN	1 st	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	1 st Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	1 st	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	1 st Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	Robert Greenhalgh RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
MON	2 nd	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	3 rd	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
WED	4 th	9.30am	W & C	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	For those who are unwell	DMA
WED	4 th	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	of the 1 st Week of Lent	The Baker Family F/M	DMA
WED	4 th	10.00am	Mass	St Francis	of the 1 st Week of Lent	as per celebrant	PWR
THU	5 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	Kathleen England RIP B'day Anniv	DMA
FRI	6 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SAT	7 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	of the 1 st Week of Lent	For the work of CAFOD	DMA
SAT	7 th	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	2 nd Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	8 th	9.00am	Mass + AS	St Francis	2 nd Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	Norman Davies RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	8 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	2 nd Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	as per celebrant	PWR
SUN	8 th	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	2 nd Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: NEXT - 7th/8th MARCH - CAFOD LENTEN COLLECTION

EMERGENCE INTO GOD'S FREEDOM & GRACE

Strong presumptions of freedom, responsibility and moral awareness figure highly in the framework of our religious heritage. Everything seems to hinge on responsibility for sin requiring the need for redemption and forgiveness. In Western Christianity in particular, as distinct from Orthodox Christianity, the main way of understanding Jesus, his death & his resurrection has been & largely still is in terms of saving us from sin. The Orthodox tradition sees things more in terms of Jesus as the agent of divinisation - bringing humanity into union with God & by this union freeing us from sin. Although never mainstream, Franciscan theology, thanks to Duns Scotus (14th cent) also understood Christ as Plan A (union with creation in love from the very beginning) not just as plan B, (a response necessitated by our messing up through sin).

Free will and moral responsibility is one of the big philosophical questions. The prevailing opinion within secular academia seems to be that while acknowledging a strong & all-encompassing determinism it is still personally & socially important to respect the "common sense" assumptions of freedom and responsibility. And questions are being asked now about how our "freedom" may be further undermined by social media. This is the way we have evolved and this is the way we are, remembering that our action or inaction will always be part of any outcome. Through faith we recognise that only God can be truly free. "You shall know the truth & the truth will set you free" says Jesus. Faith awareness acting through our creative imagination is the beginning of freedom. God has imprisoned all in disobedience only to have mercy on all writes St Paul. A genuine awareness of grace flowers from the "prison" of a deterministic universe. In our Scriptures, (Genesis & Paul) we see attempts to grapple with these human experiences in relation to the Divine. By evolution we have emerged into self-consciousness in relation to others & to the world and through them to God. Strategies for survival (e.g. deception & male proliferation of sexual partners) that once were useful later became a disadvantage in more intimate & complex societies. The progress of humanity in self-consciousness was also a "fall" into

experiences of culpability, alienation and rejection. The gain of the ability to compare and contrast, to determine "good" & "evil" was also the loss of an initial experience of unity and harmony with all that is. We are now masters of analysis & dissection but less skilled at synthesis, at putting people, communities & things back together.

On the intellectual level we struggle with these huge mysteries and questions. We do not have certainty. There is so much we do not understand and cannot know. Not knowing (agnosticism), open mindedness and an appreciation that while many theories cannot be proved to be true, some can be shown to be false or at least inadequate, these are now common secular approaches to life's mysteries. This is why faith, trust (hope) & acceptance (love) of reality are the only appropriate ways of "knowing" God.

On the practical level we know by shared experience & wisdom that attitudes, words and actions have consequences, good or bad, in terms of our personal well-being, our social relationships, our co-existence with the animals and the planet and in terms of our relationship with ultimate reality, with the Divine, with God. The stories we tell ourselves, the words we say, the things we do help or hinder. They can take us upwards into higher levels of connection, consciousness, relatedness, into deeper, richer experiences of life, love and truth. They can also drag us back down to lower levels where we are in danger of losing the precious little freedom that we have. The dangers of temptation are real.

Only God, the true Absolute, who is in, with and through all, whose very being, in Holy Trinity, is love (is loving & relating) us can help us relate to others & the world in a way that doesn't make them "gods". Absolutes in this finite existence only create tyrannies and merciless competition for survival. To enable joy, love and peace in this life you have to be able to sacrifice it, to let it go in favour of the Divine who is always both immanent (within) and transcendent (beyond) creation. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Floriana Malicki (1st), Joseph Pentz (2nd), Maureen Purgavie (5th), Louisa Maud McNeill, Norman Anthony Davies (9th), Pamela Rosemary Greenwood (12th), Isobel Maud Baker (13th), Joseph John McGowan (14th)

Sick & Housebound: Josie Warren, Richard Blacklock, Daphne Jones, Colin Stack, Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday & Sean McVeigh.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: This year the service has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe and is hosted by the Methodist church in Milford. The focus is on Reconciliation, Peace and Love. There will be a presentation about Zimbabwe at **10.30 am**, followed by the service and completed with a very sociable Soup Lunch. This takes place on **Friday 6th. March** All welcome. For further information contact Di Mussert on 01590 643994.

A HOLOISTIC APPROACH TO THE MENOPAUSE: Tuesday, 10th March, 7pm-8pm, Maryland Room, St Francis of Assisi Church, Milford-on-Sea. Limited places, bookings only. email: alison@carneliansoul.co.uk or ring 07709314222; donation at your discretion for church hall maintenance. A holistic event for ladies experiencing the menopause. Learn how simple yoga meditation and breathing exercises can aid the symptoms. Tips on diet etc.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Robert Noel Greenhalgh, Sarah Eileen Bridget Dunn (1st), Gervase Scroope, Minnie Darlison, William Donald Fitzgerald-Graham (2nd), John Hurley Marshall, Mary Elaine Taylor (5th), Eileen Baker (6th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers Helen Pignatelli, Edelweiss James, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon and Mary Byrne.

Fr Quarmby's Mass times for the week commencing 1st March: 10am – Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri, 8am – Tues & Sat, Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday at 9.0am followed by the Rosary at 9.30am.

NIGHT PRAYER: (based on the office of Compline) will be held on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent at either St Saviour's or St Nicholas Church at 7pm. The first, on 4th March, is at St Nicholas Church and will have a short address by the Vicar, Rev'd Simon Newham. On 18th March, one of the sisters from St Dominic's Priory will give the address. The schedule is on the porch notice board.

CHRISTIAN AID LENT SOUP LUNCH: on Thursday, 5th March at 12.pm-1.30pm at St Saviour's Church Hall. See details in the porch.

World Day of Prayer Friday, 6th March at 2pm at St Mary's, South Baddesley. This is an annual ecumenical service and is this year prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe. Always an inspirational service to attend. See poster in the porch.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: on Friday, 6th March. A short talk will be given regarding an aspect of CAFOD's current work at Mass on Sunday 1st March. Lent Parish envelopes and prayer cards will be available at this Mass.

THE CARE FOR CREATION TEAM: will be collecting plants and seeds until Sunday 8th March for OLSJ Catholic Primary School who have an exciting and creative plan for their outdoor area for the children to work on and enjoy. Your donations of plants and seeds, especially pollinators, will be most gratefully received. Please leave by the garage behind the church or give to Andrea Janssens direct.

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

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Patrick O'Keeffe, Mary Agnes 'Barbara' Balls (1st), Michael Campbell, James 'Jim' Thomas Cannon (3rd), Thomas Walker, Alice Manghan, William Cullen (4th), Canon Michael Sexton, Clodagh Eileen Shelley (5th), Athel Joan Hawker, Leonard Sweeney, Reginald Dennis Gilkes (6th)

Sick and Housebound: Gerry Heneghan, 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.

LENT COURSE: Our 2020 Lenten course will start on Thursday 5th March at 7.30pm in Joseph's Place. The course, 'Another Story Must Begin', will follow the 2012 film *Les Misérables*. Please let Cathy Pickles know if you would like to take part - cathypyx@aol.com.

Stations of the Cross: Friday 6th March 10am - on behalf of the Catenians led by Terry Quinn.

CWL: The next meeting of the CWL is on Tuesday, March 10th at 2.15 in Joseph's Place. Anne Heppenstall's husband David will be giving a talk at approx 3pm. See below for details.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: will be meeting on Monday March 2nd at 2pm in Joseph's Place. In addition to the quiz, raffle, tea and good company we have a return visit from the Barber Shop Singers.

TALK ON 1st Battalion Rhodesian African Rifles : On the 10th March 2020, at 3pm in Joseph's Place, Anne Heppenstall's husband David and an associate, are giving a talk entitled "THE LESONG SEARCH - THE R.A.R. IN MALAYA 1957". This is open to the parish and might appeal to the men in the parish as well as ladies. David Heppenstall will be donating his speaker's fee to the CALM Charity in memory of his grandson. This charity helps young men who try to commit suicide.

PARISH LUNCH on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at Brockenhurst College, 12 noon for 12.30pm. £20 per person. Booking forms are now available at the back of OLSJ church & from Fr David. Only 40 places available.

WOOL OR YARN NEEDED: The Knit & Stitch group are holding a sale of work in aid of the Building Fund later in the year on Oct 30th. Have you any wool/yarn that you could donate for us to make up into items we could sell. Any colour or ply, even unfinished projects can be utilised. Also if you are a craftsperson could you contribute some of your work to the sale? Anything hand made. Please contact Jill Heneghan 07503682669 or jillb8man@hotmail.com

FUND RAISING UPDATE: We currently have 39 Pledges which will realise £84,915 after five years including Gift Aid. Building Fund Bank Account income at 29th Feb 2020:- Donations/Pledges - £6,956.89; Gift Aided Donations/Pledges - £17,364.70; Fundraising - £5,638.14; Living our Faith - £3,230.00; Bank Balance: £33,189.73.

'GO TO CHURCH WITH AN EGG' - This fund-raising activity is in two parts! (Stage One) It will only work if, from 29TH FEB - 29th Mar you bring an Easter egg or eggs (any size) to church & place in box provided. (Stage Two) Buy an envelope which contains a strip of raffle tickets for (£1). If any ticket ends in a 0 or 5 you will win an egg, large or small, collect on Palm Sunday. P.S. Don't lose your ticket!

All Parishes

PARISH LUNCH on Wednesday 22 April 2020 at Brockenhurst College, 12 noon for 12.30pm. £20 per person. Booking forms are now available at the back of OLSJ church & from Fr David. Only 40 places available. **All welcome from Brockenhurst or Milford.**

Heritage - Are you interested in helping to identify or share the heritage of the Church or the School in Lymington? Do you have any memories, photographs or items you could share with us as we build our story? In the first instance please contact Nichola Kirby on 07710 156087 or by email on nicholakiby@outlook.com

CORONAVIRUS: Following the Bishop's note in the E-News: You are requested to make a non-contact sign of peace, receive Holy Communion only in the hand, if you have flu or a cold please, or are otherwise concerned do not receive from the Chalice; and observe scrupulous hygiene re: hand cleansing etc.