

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.nfwf.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:

If needed urgently contact Fr David at the parish office.

The Week: 28th March 2020 - 5th April 2020 ALL PUBLIC MASSES & SERVICES SUSPENDED

DAY	DATE	SERVICE	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SUN	29 th	Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent Yr A (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	30 th	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	31 st	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	James Martin (Peace)	DMA
WED	1 st	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	For Government & Civil Servants	DMA
THU	2 nd	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	Health & Social Care Workers	DMA
FRI	3 rd	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SAT	4 th	Mass	of the 5 th Week of Lent (P)	Josie Greenhalgh (Intentions)	DMA
SUN	5 th	Mass	Palm Sunday Yr A (P)	Maureen Mary Gaillet RIP Anniv	DMA

ON JOINING UP THE DOTS

If we want to grow in our faith understanding we need to start “joining up the dots”. It took me a long time to wake up to this. Its like having all the ingredients of a cake and cooking them separately and NOT enjoying the result! Once you mix them together and cook them in the oven of “pondering & treasuring” as Mary did, the results are rewarding.

For example, the 2nd Vatican Council (1960s) reminded us that Christ is present in creation, in all people, in the Word, in the Sacraments, in the ministers of the word & sacraments, in the gathered People of God, in all the baptised etc. Start connecting all these dots and suddenly one is enveloped and filled with the loving, creative presence of Christ in every possible way.

I want to concentrate here on some other “dots”, which taken together will help us appreciate the wonderful work God has done in Christ. It will also help to allay our fears and root us more confidently in trusting God’s great love and mercy.

So what are the “dots”? **No.1:** “... for they will all know me, from the least to the greatest – declares the Lord – since I shall forgive their guilt and never call their sin to mind.” (Jeremiah 31:31 re: the New Covenant, nearly 600 yrs before Jesus). **No.2:** “worshippers, when they had once been purified, would have no consciousness of sins” (Heb 10:2). **No.3:** “(we are) ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter (of the Law) but of the Spirit, for the letter (of the Law) kills but the Spirit gives life.” (2 Cor 3:6). **No.4:** “ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law.” (1 Cor 15:56). **No.5:** “...so that by his (Christ’s) death he could set aside him who held the power of death, namely the devil, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.” (Heb 2:15). **No.6:** “I watched satan fall like lightning from heaven.” (Luke 10:18). And finally, **No.7:** “...the accuser (lit. satan) of our brothers and sisters, who accused them day and night before our God, has been thrown down.” (Rev 12:10)

So cooking all these ingredients in the oven of pondering and treasuring, what do we get? In the New Covenant, i.e. the new relationship, God forgives our sin and indeed has no consciousness of it. (cfr. John 5:22 –“Nor does the Father judge anyone;.”). Our consciousness of sin is about a sense, experience or conviction that having broken the “Law” we are thereby judged and condemned.

It is an experience of separation or alienation from God, a sense that the relationship has been broken from our side and we are helpless. In our consciousness we have an “accuser” a satan or devil, who is constantly accusing us and burdening us with a sense of guilt. From this experience arises the fear of death, in the spiritual sense. *(This is different from the instinctive fear of danger & death which is natural to us as sentient beings. Jesus was so afraid in the garden, he sweated blood, and sadly some other people have suffered similarly.)*

Now from God’s side there comes not condemnation but justification. The judgement is a judgement of forgiveness and mercy. God looks on us not as rejected children but as loved children. We are wounded yes, and the divine Physician only wants to heal and restore.

So what of our sins, our selfish, angry, destructive behaviour? Of course, God not want that! God wants only our good and the good of everyone else. So, does God punish us for our sins? No, God weeps over the wounds we inflict on ourselves and others. We are punished BY our sins not for our sins. Acknowledging responsibility (confession) is not self-condemnation but the necessary precursor to healing and restoration. So behaving justly, wisely, lovingly is an imperative. We must do what is right for the right reasons. Our future, our planet depends on it.

But let us explore further. The accuser (satan) has been thrown out of heaven. But where is heaven? Like the kingdom of God it is both within us (Luke 17:21) and beyond us. To experience heaven is to experience “it” within the consciousness of our own being. Yet because heaven is relationship with Divine Love it is also from beyond our being. In the consciousness of our being is heaven, purgatory and hell. The angel with a flaming sword that was placed by God at the gates of Paradise after Adam and Eve were banished from it (Genesis 3:24) has been cast out. The gates of heaven are now laid open. Learning from trusting children, as Jesus bade us, we are changed by love and can run joyfully into the arms of our loving Father. (Matt. 18:3).

“Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed own, shaken together, and overflowing will be poured into your lap; because the standard you use will be the standard used for you.” (Luke 6: 36-38). (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Piotr Rowinski, Patrick Debonnaire Maunsell, Ellen Elizabeth Wesborn (Bela) (29th), Raymond John Salt (1st)

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

MILFORD SECULAR PARISH COUNCIL has already set up a scheme to help with connecting helpers to isolators in Milford. If you are in isolation and need help they can be contacted on: Milford 644410. Anthony Kirke says he has been allocated a helper & he arrange on for Daphne as well.

ALSO FROM ANTHONY: Hello Friends, I have started a WHATSAPP group for members of St Francis' Church! Please do join and watch and/or contribute as you like. I think you need to do it on your mobile, (or can you do it on tablet or laptop?) You need to download the WHATSAPP app (free) and then use the link below: You can add photos too if you want.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Gz27ZrWk8f9BWPoRbOuro>

Keep well in your isolations! Anthony

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Mary Westby, Bridget Mary Holland (29th), Cecelia Mc Fadden, Clement Simon Brand (1st), Joseph Benjamin Weeks, Fr Joseph Connolly (2nd), Mary Ann Foley, Christian John Manley, Christina Mann (3rd), Anthony Richard Thorpe (4th)

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

Coronavirus & St Anne's – Message from the Parish Pastoral Council: As a church, we are committed to care for our community during the current Coronavirus outbreak - especially those who are elderly or vulnerable. We are working with **Brockcare**, a group run by the Anglican Church in Brockenhurst, which is coordinating help throughout the village. For parishioners who are living in Sway, a similar group has been set up, so we can ensure you get the help you need. If you have to self-isolate, we can arrange for shopping to be dropped off at your door, and/or for someone to keep in contact with you by telephone, in order to maintain a social link and to offer reassurance.

Here are the relevant contact details:

St Anne's: Ian and Aude – 623408; Madeleine and Paul - 622360

Brockcare: St Saviour's Church Office - 624584

(Open 10.00 - 12.00 Mon to Friday. At other times please leave a message and your phone number and someone will get back to you ASAP)
Joyce Kolaczowski (Brockcare) - 623329

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

All Parishes

CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.nfwf.org.uk for more from Pope Francis, Cardinal Vincent Nichols and our own Bishop Philip and for Masses on the internet.

Dedication of England as Mary's Dowry: THIS SUNDAY. The prayers for the dedication will be sent to all the newsletter recipients separately. They are also available online at: www.behold2020.com.

POPE FRANCIS called for all Christians to respond to the coronavirus pandemic "with the universality of prayer, of compassion, of tenderness", adding, "Let us remain united. Let us make our closeness felt toward those persons who are the most lonely and tried". Speaking after the traditional recitation of the Angelus, the Holy Father called on all Christians to join together in prayer. "In these trying days, while humanity trembles due to the threat of the pandemic, I would like to propose to all Christians that together we lift our voices towards Heaven."

In the late Cardinal Basil Hume's book "To be a Pilgrim" page 228, he writes: A priest started his homily at a funeral saying: I am going to preach about Judgment. There was dismay in the congregation. Then he went on: Judgment is whispering into the ear of a merciful and compassionate God the story of my life which I had never been able to tell. (from by Helen Lister, St Francis parish)

Prayers for all our NHS doctors, nurses, carers, chaplains and ancillary staff who are on the front-line in this epidemic.

Prayers please for Jane Rayner, Tom & Eileen's daughter – who is receiving on-going treatment in Salisbury hospital after hip joint surgery

Prayers please for all those in our parish & beyond who are vulnerable health-wise and under strict 12 week isolation. Also for any relatives and family members who have tested positive for covid-19. Also for Adrian, a recently retired senior nurse, who has received his call up papers to come back and work in the NHS. He said: the hospital wants me to work on it's ethics committee. He's asked for prayers for the committee, and said that, as a Catholic, it will be challenging to be a participant in making very difficult decisions, which will have very real consequences. And also for Michael and his wife Helen. Michael is extremely vulnerable & both are under very strict isolation. (requested by Patricia Curtis).

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: William Mate (28th), Palatiano Russell (30th), Tiffany Read (31st), Margaret Monica Light (2nd), Charles Cull, Doris Smith (3rd)

Sick and Housebound: Jane Rayner, Sr Rosaleen, 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.

Prayers please for Jane Rayner, Tom & Eileen's daughter – who is receiving on-going treatment in Salisbury hospital after hip joint surgery. And also for Patricia Mate who is very poorly.

Gerry Heneghan is now home after his operation and is making a good recovery. He thanks everyone for their prayers and get well wishes.

From Keith Stuttaford: Thank you to in the parish for your prayers and wishes following my heart attack. I was fixed with a stent within three hours at Southampton General Hospital. The treatment was excellent and I am now almost fully recovered, although still on light duties for a couple more weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS: to our 100 Club winners who are as follows:- Star Prize £75 Mrs Eileen Rayner No 41; £40 Benjamin Scrace No 33; £30 Mrs Kay Malpiedi No 88; £20 Mrs Clare Bassett No. 7; £15 Mrs Norah Holder No. 21; £10 Mrs Margaret Hayward No 68. Many thanks to all our 101 members (a record for the parish) who have made a valuable contribution to Parish funds.

EASTER EGGS: Alas! The Easter Eggs will not now be hatched for lucky winners on Palm Sunday. Keep your tickets safe (but we also need to sell more – not quite sure how that's going to happen!). Providing food shortages don't necessitate their premature consumption (in which event we promise not to allow ourselves excessive enjoyment, honest!) the Easter Eggs will be distributed to the lucky winners when the dark clouds have passed and the sun is shining once more, next November (??), but hopefully sooner, if they haven't all melted in the global warming!!

All Parishes

SUPPORT FOR THE VULNERABLE & ISOLATED: Please can we all try to keep in touch with one another, especially those who are on their own, using phone calls, texts & emails. Practical help & support, if needed should be offered by those who are not high risk to themselves or others but hygiene and social distancing must always be observed. Help should only be accepted from persons who are known to you or who have been authenticated by someone you know. Do not answer the door to strangers and let all phone calls go to answer machine or voice mail unless you know and trust the caller. If anyone needs help and support please ring or email the parish office 01590-676696

SUSPENSION OF MASSES & PUBLIC SERVICES

ALL PUBLIC MASSES & SERVICES SUSPENDED. Priests will continue to celebrate Mass privately behind closed doors & to pray for the people. Churches to remain open during the day where possible for personal prayer only, and strict hygiene & social distancing rules MUST be observed. Church members are no longer obliged to participate at Sunday Mass but are encouraged to pray the Liturgy using a missal or online resources (e.g. www.universalis.com), or viewing Masses that are, ideally, live streamed or, if not, then recorded. (see item below on internet Masses). Communion with Christ can be received spiritually, cfr the explanation & sample prayer opposite.

ACCESS TO THE OTHER SACRAMENTS: Pope Francis has said that these crisis conditions now permit Bishops to authorise General Absolution when it is needed. And he has also said, in effect, that if it is not possible or advisable to access a priest we should pray to God directly expressing our sorrow for sin and our desire for forgiveness and then trust confidently in God's mercy. Fr David will be available on the phone for counselling and reassurance. He will also be on call to administer the Anointing of the Sick in urgent cases.

FUNERALS: These are to take place only at the graveside or the crematorium with only close family in attendance. A more appropriate Memorial Mass or Service can take place at a later date when conditions allow. (For further details on all of the above go to the parish website).

MASSES ON THE INTERNET: You can find many daily Masses from different Catholic parishes available on the internet. Go to www.churchestv.com; www.churchservices.tv; www.mcnmedia.tv

Also here: <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online>. For Sunday Mass with Fr Denis McBride, Redemptorist scholar