

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:

If needed urgently
contact Fr David at the
parish office.

The Week: 19th April 2020 - 26th April 2020 - ALL PUBLIC MASSES SUSPENDED

DAY	DATE	SERVICE	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SUN	19 th	Mass	Second Sunday of Easter Yr A (W)	For the People of the Parish	DMA
MON	20 th	Mass	of the 2 nd Week of Easter (W)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	21 st	Mass	of the 2 nd Week of Easter (W)	Kathleen Josephine England RIP Anniv	DMA
WED	22 nd	Mass	of the 2 nd Week of Easter (W)	For those suffering loss or bereavement	DMA
THU	23 rd	Mass	St George, Solemnity, (R)	For the Queen, Government & Civil Service	DMA
FRI	24 th	Mass	of the 2 nd Week of Easter (W)	For those suffering economic distress	DMA
SAT	25 th	Mass	St Mark, Feast, (R)	For NHS & Social Care Staff	DMA
SUN	26 th	Mass	Third Sunday of Easter Yr A (W)	For the People of the Parish	DMA

SEEING AND BELIEVING: THOMAS

After the death of Jesus the identity of the disciples and the direction of their lives changes dramatically. Now they are a group of men whose shared fear keeps the company together, and whose only direction in life is to lock themselves into their own no-go area. After the death of Jesus their lives are rooted in fear.

It is into that desperation that the risen Christ comes: not to disown his disciples for abandoning him but to reclaim them with his peace. He shows himself to them. The resurrection doesn't make the marks of cruelty and suffering disappear: the risen Christ is *the wounded Christ*. He is Jesus who was crucified: the same. In his gift of peace the disciples experience great joy, and they are commissioned to share that joy when they release others from sin through the power of forgiveness. Again because of Christ, they have a new-found identity and a new direction to their lives. Now they have his Spirit.

Being absent from the community means that Thomas missed meeting the Lord, and when he returns he cannot bring himself to believe in the disciples' story. His doubt is that of a man who is committed to the truth. There is a sparkling authenticity about Thomas: he refuses to say that he can understand or believe when he can manage neither understanding nor belief. Thomas is brave enough to have the conviction of his doubts.

Later, the risen Christ appears again to his disciples and the purpose of the visit is clearly to pay attention to the doubt of Thomas – not to scorn it. Thomas is invited to inspect a wounded Jesus to discover the reality of the resurrection. But seeing Jesus is enough for Thomas, and he is the one who proclaims the basic Christian Credo: "My Lord and My God." As Thomas is fearless in voicing his doubts, he is quick to proclaim his faith, and in John's Gospel it is he who makes the most important affirmation about who Jesus is – that he is Lord and God.

In coming to believe in the risen Jesus the disciples experience a profound change: they become spirited followers of their Lord. They have seen the Lord, they have met him, they have eaten with him. They can testify to others from the authority of their own experience. As John says: "What we have seen and heard we are telling you so that you too may have fellowship with us as we have fellowship with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." (1 Jn. 1:3) The apostles have a unique place in the Church: they experienced Jesus at first hand and were authorised to be his witnesses.

But what about all those people who never met Jesus or heard him or touched him? Can we believe without seeing the Lord for ourselves? And *that* is why the story of Thomas is so important because it tells us that *it is possible to believe in Christ without having seen him*. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" is the teaching of the Gospel. And it is in the Lord that we have our identity as his followers and follow his direction in our lives. Like the apostles, because we believe in him, we know now *who* we are and *what* we must do.

(From Fr Denis McBride, Redemptorist Scripture scholar & writer; in his book *Seasons of the Word*).

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Patrick Joseph Lang (19th), A. Chamberlain (20th), Fr Leonard Shaw SJ, Phyllis Mary Meldon, John Adair Langford (21st)

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.

ST FRANCIS WHATSAPP GROUP: Join on your smartphone or tablet. 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/Gz27ZrWk8f9BWPoRbOuiro> Keep well in your isolations! Anthony

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Susan Kathleen King (19th), Mary Emily Pinn (20th), Patrick Joseph Maher, Basil Francis Thatcher (22nd), Gary Michael Plumbly, Ellie Mary Tenestine Honniball (24th), William John Rhodes Walsh (25th)

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

BROCKCARE: 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 EARLIER PLEASE - WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

All Parishes

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

PRAYER REQUESTS: - phone or email the parish office & we will put them on our website. A parishioner has asked us to pray for a dear friend, Wilma Dulan, in ICU with covid-19. She is in her later years and her sister in the Philippines is very anxious for her. We pray for her and all those suffering at this time.

NEW FOREST VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS: see the separate attached file, or visit the Pastoral Area website, or ring the parish office for specific information on voluntary organisations providing help and support at this time.

REDEMPTORIST PUBLICATIONS: They have many resources for spiritual & human well-being while isolated at home. You can purchase these online at: www.rpbooks.co.uk

HELPLINE FOR THE FRAIL OR VULNERABLE:

The Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline - **Hantshelp4vulnerable** - is **0333 370 4000**.

The helpline is available seven days a week, from 9am to 5pm, and is for vulnerable people who do not have support from families, friends or their local community, and who need urgent assistance with practical issues.

NEW FOREST BASICS BANK: this is now located in their new building – The Granary – which is situated at the bottom right hand corner of the Cannon Street car park (behind Tesco Metro) in Lymington. There is a gate in the extreme right-hand corner which leads down a ramp to the front of the building. Access is **NOT** available via the RC Church High Street entrance. Short Term Car parking permits are available from the NFBB office and free short-term parking is available on the yellow hatched areas in front of the boundary fence. Please return your parking permits before you leave! The new address is: New Forest Basics Bank, Rear of 132 High Street, Lymington, SO41 9AQ Tel: 01590 610008

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Declan James Good, Brian Edward Griffiths (19th), Bridie Jarratt, Kathleen Josephine England (21st), Gerald Carroll, Daniel Broomfield, John McGuirk, Marjorie Fay Filbee (22nd), Susan Mary Holmes-Siedle (24th), William Conroy, Paul John Stephenson, Peter James Foot (25th)

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.

EASTER EGGS UPDATE: Who knows after three weeks or more, you lucky winners may be able to get your eggs! So far we have managed to hide them from Olly the dog, who has a great nose for things edible. But chocolate is BAD for dogs so he mustn't find them!!

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: so far we have 41 5yr pledges yielding £88K incl. Gift Aid; Total in Bank as at 17/04/20: £36,199.59. Thank you to all of you who are continuing to donate in different ways. Contact the parish office if you need help with this.

All Parishes

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBERS IS ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL:

Please would you share this information with all Catholics that you know. It is important when a Catholic is admitted to hospital, the family ensure that the Catholic Chaplaincy is contacted so that appropriate support can be given. As access to the hospital may be restricted, it is suggested that the patient have a note to give to hospital staff on admission notifying staff that they are Catholic and would appreciate the Catholic chaplaincy service. This could be followed up by a telephone call from the family to the ward making the request.

HOSPITAL LAUNDRY BAGS: Henrietta Reynolds from Sway is making laundry bags for the nurses and doctors to put their dirty scrubs in to be washed. She has managed to make 8 of these bags from one duvet cover. If you have any spare duvet covers, sheets or pillow cases which can be used for this purpose, or you have some and would like to make your own, please ring Henrietta on 01590 682347 to discuss. The fabric has to be washable at 60 degrees. Also, if you have any cord or piping which can be used for the draw string for these bags please let Henrietta know.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PARISHES: For many of you this crisis will involve financial hardship and I do understand that. But, this crisis will also significantly affect the upkeep of our parishes. I'd like to **thank those who are continuing to contribute** by Standing Order or Direct debit. For those who use the envelope scheme or give cash each Sunday, perhaps you will consider setting aside an amount each week that you can afford. You could put the contribution in a marked envelope and keep it until such a time when it can be handed in. If you wish to contribute by Standing Order or Direct Debit instead please contact the parish office.

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

THE PRAYER AND LISTENING SERVICE: Prayer and listening to God is a vital part of our everyday life, but sometimes it is difficult to pray when we are exhausted or in stressful situations or by ourselves. The diocese has created a team with experience in both praying with others and in spiritual listening. All of the volunteers are trained in this service and have been through the essential safeguarding training and other requirements. We are offering a service where people fill in a short form on the diocese website requesting a phone call, of 10 - 15 minutes usually. Additionally, we are asking key workers if they would like to give us their name and work place and we will pray for them by name each day. Please go to the home page of the diocese website and under "Coronavirus" you can click on a box called "Prayer Support."