

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 - **CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY - YEAR "A" 7TH JUNE 2020

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY PERFECT EXAMPLE FOR THE CHRISTIAN HOME

Family is the Cradle of Life and Love

The importance of the family cannot be overstressed. The Church considers the family as the first natural society and places it at the center of social life. John Paul II observed in *Christifideles Laici* that the family is presented, in the Creator's plan, as 'the primary place of 'humanization' for the person and society' and the 'cradle of life and love.'

Jesus Christ revealed to humankind what man could never know by the power of the human intellect alone; the mysterious and wondrous secret of the inner life of God: the Most Holy Trinity. Through the revelation of the Holy Trinity a new dimension of understanding is presented to man, which throws a divine and revealing light upon the reality of who the human person is, the purpose of his existence, and the life to which he is called. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches: ***"The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith"*** (CCC No. 234).

Errors of Our Age

Pope John Paul II stated in his apostolic letter *Mulieris Dignitatem* (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women) that "Man - whether man or woman - is the only being among the creatures of the visible world that God the Creator has willed for its own sake; that creature is thus a person. Being a person means striving towards self-realization, which can only be achieved through a sincere gift of self. The model for this interpretation of the person is God himself as Trinity, as a communion of Persons."

Since the model for interpreting ourselves "is God as Trinity, as a communion of Persons," we can easily extend this principle to include marriage and family. Thus we can understand why the errors of our age concerning the meaning and purpose of marriage are so completely at odds with what the reality of a true and correct interpretation is. For instance, since self-realization "can only be achieved through a sincere gift of self," what occurs through an insincere gift of self, such as in unmarried couples living together?

Secularist "wisdom" posits that it is "prudent" to first "try out" one's intended spouse before committing to marriage, thus it is assumed that couples should live together for a time. There is a long list of faulty "reasons" proponents of such a situation cite, which range from "checking compatibility" to "insuring there won't be any surprises" when and if a couple should decide to get married in the future. Yet in such an incomplete relationship there is no true and sincere gift of self; on the contrary, it is a forgery of a true gift, and often a selfish position in which one person uses another for his or her own advantage. Unmarried couples who live together yet engage in relations reserved only for marriage are not modeling their relationship on the inseparable unity of the Most Holy Trinity. Therefore such circumstances are set against the ultimate reality which Christ so lovingly revealed about his inner life, which is a complete and total gift of self.

John Paul II's apostolic exhortation *Familiaris Consortio* (On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World) reminds the faithful that "marriage and family constitute one of the most precious of human values." For this reason, the errors of moral relativism so prevalent in our age which labour against the family structure pose a serious threat to society. With penetrating urgency John Paul II reminds the faithful

of the many grave attacks which are occurring against the family and life itself. "Signs are not lacking of a disturbing degradation of some fundamental values:

- ✓ a mistaken theoretical and practical concept of the independence of the spouses in relation to each other;
- ✓ serious misconceptions regarding the relationship of authority between parents and children;
- ✓ the concrete difficulties that the family itself experiences in the transmission of values;
- ✓ the growing number of divorces;
- ✓ the scourge of abortion;
- ✓ the ever more frequent recourse to sterilization; the appearance of a truly contraceptive mentality."

How Does the Trinity Practically Apply to Your Life Today?

The Trinity is undoubtedly one of the most mysterious Christian doctrines. It can be intimidating to explain and we tip-toe carefully with our words so as not to slip into heresy. However, we would miss the point if we left the Trinity as a mere doctrinal discussion. How does the Trinity practically apply to our everyday life?

The practicality of the Trinity is clear in John 13–17. The disciples were deeply troubled at Jesus' words about leaving them, thinking it would bring a devastating break in their relationship with God. But Jesus spoke tenderly to them, giving them guidance for continuing their walk with God after his departure. In giving this instruction, Jesus spoke about God's Trinitarian nature. This passage of Scripture teaches that knowing God as three in one should be at the center of our daily relationship with him.

Responding to the Father's Love

In light of Christ's lessons on the nature of the Father . . .

- He is the fountain of divine love. He is the source of the encouragement we receive in the Scriptures, in answers to our prayers, in the grace of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and in all the other blessings we receive.
- As the source of all, He is to be served as the object of all. He is the One to whom we respond with love, prayers worship and adoration. We also worship the Son and the Holy Spirit, but because even the Son and the Spirit give glory to the Father and share in his glory (e.g., John 16:14-15; 17:4-5), we worship the Three-in-One with an understanding that the Father is the ultimate object of all.
- We should honour the Father with the fruits of our lives. Just as a vineyard owner plants his vines in order to receive a harvest, so the Father (the Vinedresser) rightly receives the fruits that Jesus (the Vine) brings to our lives (the branches). John 15:1-5.

Responding to the Son's Mediation

There are four main ways we are to respond to the Son's Mediation . . .

- We look to the Son to bring us into favour with God. It is only in the words and work of Jesus that favor with God is provided.
- We join ourselves with Christians and people of good will—specifically within a local church. Jesus instructed his disciples: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, your are also are to love one another. (John 13:34-35; cf. John 13:13-17; John 15:12)
- We pray to the Father in Jesus' name. (John 16:23)
- Jesus brings the Father's words to us, so we respond to his role within the Trinity by using the Scriptures as the standard for our faith and life.

Because of the promise of the Spirit . . .

- We listen to the Spirit to instruct our decisions through the Word. This doesn't mean the Spirit will produce new meanings from the Bible to our individual questions, but we expect the Spirit to help us understand the Sacred Scriptures as we bring our lives under the light of God's Word.
- We expect the Spirit to guide Christians as a community. It is important for us to study our Bibles with confidence that the Spirit will help us, and to do so with careful attention to the counsel of others who have studied the same Scripture.
- We trust that the Spirit empowers us to serve as witnesses. Wherever Christians live, the Spirit is with them to make them witnesses to their communities.
- We respond to the continual presence of the Spirit by welcoming his conviction. When we lack faith, the Spirit stirs our hearts to believe at the hearing of Scripture. When we sin, the Spirit brings the spirit of repentance and draws our hearts to remember and obey the words of Scripture.

After 'taking a knee,' border bishop gets a call from the Pope



Bishop Mark J. Seitz of the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, kneels at El Paso's Memorial Park holding a "Black Lives Matter" sign June 1, 2020. After "taking a knee" during that demonstration in solidarity with George Floyd -- an unarmed black man said to have spent several minutes under a Minnesota police officer's knee before becoming unconscious and later dying -- Bishop Seitz received a call from Pope Francis.

“The Holy Father said that he wanted to congratulate me“I told him I felt it was very important at this time to show our solidarity to those who are suffering. I told him I had just come from Mass at which I was praying for him and I always do. He thanked me and said that whenever we celebrate Mass, we are praying together, he where he is and me at the border. I told him that I am very honored to serve here.”

The phone calls to prelates in the U.S. shows “that the Holy Father is aware of what’s happening in this country and is anxious for the church to be responsive in a pastoral way to participate in the response, in solidarity with those who have experienced racial discrimination,”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH OFFICE COVER. Lizzie, our Parish Secretary, will be self-isolating at home for the next few weeks. If you need to contact her, she is available on 07484 110 940 or via email on lizziedavies@yahoo.com. Alternatively you can contact Fr. George direct. If you wish to have an intention for a Mass to be celebrated for you, or your loved one(s), please call the Parish office, or leave a voice mail – or better still drop your written intention through the Presbytery letterbox.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT during the enforced Coronavirus Church Closure. If you are not a Gift Aider and would like to continue supporting your Church through this difficult time, you may wish to organise a Standing Order arrangement with your bank to pay your collection directly into our Church bank account. Details as follows: - Lloyds Bank - Sort Code 30-93-04, Account No: 00883116, Account Name – PRCDTR New Milton. Or you may prefer to give your donation directly to Fr. George. Thank you!

MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS CHALLENGE. Fr. George will say Mass at 10.00 a.m. every day, including Mondays, plus a Vigil Mass at 6.00 p.m. on Saturdays. There will be no Evening Mass on a Tuesday for the time being. Unfortunately Masses will be closed to the public, in order to avoid virus cross contamination but you will be able to follow the Masses daily via Live Streaming. Just to remind you all, our Parish Live Streaming can be found at <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton>

MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY - YEAR "A" 7TH JUNE 2020

Saturday Vigil	6	June	VIGIL – THE MOST HOLY TRINITY Year A	6.00 p.m. For Fr. Marcin - Birthday prayerful wishes - God's blessings and protection.	
Sunday	7	June	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY Year A	10.00 Holy Mass - For Louis and Catherine d'Espagnac (48 th wedding Anniversary)	
Monday	8	June	MONDAY 10 th Week - Year A. St. Ephrem	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Bene.
Tuesday	9	June	TUESDAY 10 th Week – Year A. St. Ephrem	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benedic
Wednesday	10	June	WEDNESDAY 10 th Week Year A	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Thursday	11	June	THURSDAY 10 th Week Year A. St. Barnabas	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Friday	12	June	FRIDAY 10 th Week Year A	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Saturday	13	June	SATURDAY 10 th Week Year A. St. Anthony of Padua	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	
Saturday Vigil		June	VIGIL – THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST Year A	6:00 p.m. Holy Mass – For a special intention of the donor.	
Sunday	14	June	THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST Year	10.00 Holy Mass - For Anthony McCourt RIP	

IMPORTANT – MASS OFFERINGS/INTENTIONS. See notice above.

Your continued financial support during these challenging times would be very much appreciated

Parish priest: Father George Ngwa

email: gngwa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk emergency mobile: **07475753040**

Parish office: 01425 614968 lolnewmilton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hall Bookings suspended during the Pandemic.

Secretary: Lizzie Davies See Contact Details above.

Our Parish Live streaming: <http://churchservices.tv/newmilton> Website: www.nfwp.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: Tony Harwood Tel: **01425 511 952** or email hughharwood314@hotmail.co.uk

PRAYER FOR THE RENEWAL OF OUR DIOCESE – (to be said at home even with Church closure).

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, we beg you to change us, to convert us and to make us holy. Fill us with a deeper faith, hope and love for you. Send into our hearts the cleansing fire of the Holy Spirit and powerfully renew all the clergy, religious and laity of our Diocese. Unite us in love and respect for one another and unify us as your one, holy people. Grant us a new passion and zeal for the Catholic Faith, for Mission, Outreach and Service. Help us to proclaim your Gospel generously to the poor and needy that many more souls may be saved by finding their way to you in your Church. May Mary Immaculate help us. May St. Edmund of Abingdon and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati pray for us. Amen

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel - 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.