

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 –



25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR "A" 20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Overcoming Jealousy In The Life Of a Christian

In today's modern world of riches and successes and even in the Church it's so easy to become jealous of other people. You have been in Church for years and suddenly a new convert who recently joined in fellowship in wretchedness and poverty miraculously got promoted in his work, new car, house and nice dress outfit. And when he/she passes by, numerous thoughts erupt in your heart which eventually prompt into internal bewitchment in your heart paving way to jealousy.

Sometimes while in church or in your neighbourhood it might seem like everyone is super happy, everyone has the perfect lighting, the perfect husband, the perfect clothes, the most well-behaved children, the perfect home-cooked meals every night, the perfect job, house or whatever else! It may seem like everyone has the perfect life and meanwhile, you are over there, struggling with your portion.

Our Gospel reading challenges us today to look at this attitude and urges us to look inwardly and see if there are any seeds of jealousy and bitterness towards anyone.

Being jealous starts with a small seed being planted and then it grows into a harvest that accuses and becomes jealous of others. You know when you're jealous of someone because every single thing that they do becomes irritating to you. You try to pick them apart and find something not to like about that person. You go from tolerating them, to accusing them and becoming suspicious of that person. You rationalize your thoughts because "**you know that something just ain't right.**" Then, you are convinced that your opinion of that person is what God really thinks about that person.

Do you know that God has "**nothing**" to do with your negative thoughts and accusations towards that person? The Devil himself is coming to kill, steal and to destroy your life. If he can cause more confusion and division between you and a sister in Christ - He has succeeded.

THE DANGER OF JEALOUSY IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN

- ✓ Jealousy robs you from relationships and it keeps you from being content with what God has called you to do. Jealousy says, "I don't look like that and I cannot do it like her so I measure myself against her and I deem myself as not enough."
- ✓ Jealousy ruins your confidence because you place your hope in what you can see and not who God called you to be.
- ✓ Jealousy is a sin. And if God hates it, we should too.
- ✓ Jealousy makes you feel discontent with your portion which means that you will never be satisfied with who you are.
- ✓ Jealousy is dangerous because the more you compare your life to others, the more you will focus on what you are not and you will stay in that place for the rest of your life.

The eternal reward of jealousy is Hell punishment; because it's sinful and Hell bound. The most dangerous aspect of inhabiting the spirit of jealousy is that it will deprive your joy and free mind of serving God. And be rest assure that no jealous person or Christian shall inherit the kingdom of God. So, instead of celebrating others and being happy of their success you rather seek ways to tear them down. Instead of bringing peace, you create drama and confusion in the church and neighbourhood and in your own life to make you feel better about your hate.

The devil himself became jealous and envious of God and wanted to be Him. He no longer was satisfied in being the beautiful angel that God created him to be. Pride slipped into his heart as it's outlined here in ***Isaiah 14:12–14 "I will make myself like the Most High"***

Do you see all of those I's. I WILL be like this. I will do that. I, I, I. Selfishness and bitterness is all wrapped up in "I." And Life becomes all about YOU and how YOU feel. Meanwhile, the Holy Spirit is saying in ***1 Corinthians 13:4 "Love is patient. It's kind. It's not boastful, proud or rude. It's not JEALOUS"***. We know that jealousy is not from God - it's clearly from the devil and his selfish ways.

THE ETERNAL REWARD OF A JEALOUS CHRISTIAN

The fire of hell is a hundred times hotter than the domestic fire we often experience on earth. Sometimes it turns black completely, at another time it's as red as an oven. The Lost or damned souls in hell can't die and neither can they be in a good or happier place. In Hell, its fire doesn't quench as we read in ***"Mark 9:43 And if your hand offend you, cut it off: it is better for you to enter into life maimed, than having two hands and to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched"***

HOW TO OVERCOME JEALOUSY IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN:

- Pray for whoever you're jealous of. Yes. Pray. This will soften your heart towards them and help you to see them the way that God see's them.
- Cast down bad jealous thoughts that attack you throughout the day. Remind yourself that you are a new creation through Christ Jesus and that your old man is GONE.
- Do not follow people that cause you to stumble until you're strong enough to be around them and follow them.
- Spend time sitting at the feet of the Father. The more time you spend with God, the less you will blame others for your portion.
- Refuse to gossip, spread gossip or hang out with people that are intentional about drama and confusion.

Only the grace of Jesus can cleanse our envious hearts.

When we are envious of what others have, when we desire something that doesn't belong to us, it's because our hearts have turned from our one true love. We think that if we just had the success, opportunities, experiences, or fortune of another, we'd be happy. In our envy, we are chasing after the inferior pleasures of his world instead of looking to Jesus. In effect, we've forgotten whose we are.

The only cure for our envy is the love and grace of our Lord and saviour as found in the gospel. Only the righteous jealousy of Jesus, seen in the redeeming grace of the cross, can cleanse our envious hearts. Time and again, he forgives our wandering ways. No matter how far our hearts might go, his grace can go farther. While our love for him ebbs and flows and is often fickle, his love is constant and unwavering. When we find our heart wandering in envy, we need to remember and return to him, the One who is always full of love for his Children.

Fr. George Ngwa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Holy Communion Classes will start at the end of October on Monday evenings from 5 till 6.15 pm. You have a month to register your child if eligible. Proof of a valid Baptism is required and your child should be 7 or over. Please phone or email the office to give your contact details.

Candidates from last year who were unable to complete the course and make their First Holy Communion will have to join in with this year's new candidates. We will discuss with each family which classes they need to attend. Please can you also contact the office with your contact details and let us know if there is any change in your situation. Thank you and God bless.

Confirmation Classes will also start at the end of October on a day to be agreed upon with parents. You have a month to register with our Parish office. Proof of a valid Baptism and first Holy Communion document is required. Please phone or email the office to give your contact details.

Live-in Carer/ Companion. Please call Helen - 07867978558

BEFORE ENTERING AND IN CHURCH

Please wait for the Stewards to admit you into the Church before Mass, and observe social distancing in the queue

Sanitise your hands as you enter the Church.

Keep at least 1 metre from other people at all times.

Wear a facemask at all times (except when you have received communion)

Do not give the sign of peace, or make any other physical contact.

DO NOT Queue for communion – the Priest will come to you. Please take communion in the hand and avoid touching the hand of the Priest.

Observing the one metre distance Follow the way system in and out of the Church.

Face Coverings: Government has advised that cloth face coverings (and not surgical masks) should be worn for reassurance by people in enclosed areas. Churches do not need to supply face coverings for visitors. Clergy to wear face mask for distribution of communion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MASS ATTENDANCE - BOOKING & TRACK & TRACE SHEET

Our Church is open, but due to government guidelines we have a limit to the number of people for Mass by the social distancing rule we have to keep. Therefore following our Mass times we **MUST NOW** have to book for the Masses we wish to attend. Please book through Lizzie on a Wednesday or Friday or via email.

It is mandatory for us to take names and contact details for every person attending Mass, in case the information is required by **the Track and Trace policy put in place**. The easiest way of doing this is to complete the form as shown below. All Parishioners and Visitors alike must write down their names & contact details on attending Mass. This form will be kept for 21 days, in case we have to track and trace. Thank you for your co-operation during this unprecedented time!

YOUR NAME AND NAMES OF PERSONS ATTENDING THIS MASS	CONTACT DETAILS	NUMBER ON PEW SAT ON	SUNDAY 8:00 A.M. MASS	SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. MASS	NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING THIS MASS

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: 008831 16, Account Name – PRC DTR New Milton. Or you may prefer to give your donation directly to Fr. George. Thank you!

AUTUMN FAST DAY – Please note that the Autumn Fast Day is on Friday 2nd October.

25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR "A" 20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Sunday Vigil		19	Sept	Vigil 25 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	6.00 p.m. Holy Mass – <i>Mary Davies Thanksgiving for recovery after operation</i>	
Sunday		20	Sept	25 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	8:00 a.m. – <i>Lesser Family God's Blessing</i> 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>for the repose of William & Mary Fox</i> 4:00 p.m. –	4.00 p.m Mass at Grotto – weather permitting
Monday		21	Sept	ST. MATTHEW		NO MASS AND BENEDICTION
Tuesday		22	Sept	Tuesday 25 th Week in Ordinary time Year A	18.00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass –	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Wednesday		23	Sept	Wednesday 25 th Week - Year A - St. Pio of Pietrelcina	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass - <i>Thomas Merifield – God's blessing on his birthday</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Thursday		24	Sept	Thursday 25 th Week Year A – Our Lady of Walsingham	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Brian Hitchens - RIP</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Friday		25	Sept	Friday 25 th Week - Year A	10:00 a.m.- Holy Mass – <i>Eric Wale - RIP</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Bene.
Saturday		26	Sept	Saturday 25 th Week - Year A - Our Lady of Saturday	09:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Devotion 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Holy Souls</i>	
Saturday Vigil				Vigil 26 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	6.00 p.m. Holy Mass –	
Sunday		27	Sept	26 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	8:00 a.m. <i>Padre Pio for prayers answered for loved ones</i> 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Living Rosary</i> 4:00 p.m. -	4.00 p.m Mass at Grotto – weather permitting

NB: Next Weekend - Optional Collection for CAFOD

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– Office Hours 12.00h to 15.00h Wednesday & 10.00h to 13.00h Friday

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