

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 –



29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR “A” 18TH OCTOBER 2020

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2020

Here am I, send me (Is 6:8)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish to express my gratitude to God for the commitment with which the Church throughout the world carried out the Extraordinary Missionary Month last October. I am convinced that it stimulated missionary conversion in many communities on the path indicated by the theme: “Baptized and Sent: the Church of Christ on Mission in the World”.

In this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: “Here am I, send me” (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord’s question: “Whom shall I send?” (ibid.). This invitation from God’s merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. “Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying ‘We are perishing’ (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this” (*Meditation in Saint Peter’s Square*, 27 March 2020). We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others.

In the sacrifice of the cross, where the mission of Jesus is fully accomplished (cf. *Jn* 19:28-30), God shows us that his love is for each and every one of us (cf. *Jn* 19:26-27). He asks us to be personally willing to be sent, because he himself is Love, love that is always “on mission”, always reaching out in order to give life. Out of his love for us, God the Father sent his Son Jesus (cf. *Jn* 3:16). Jesus is the Father’s Missionary: his life and ministry reveal his total obedience to the Father’s will (cf. *Jn* 4:34; 6:38; 8:12-30; *Heb* 10:5-10). Jesus, crucified and risen for us, draws us in turn into his mission of love, and with his Spirit which enlivens the Church, he makes us his disciples and sends us on a mission to the world and to its peoples.

“The mission, the ‘Church on the move’, is not a programme, an enterprise to be carried out by sheer force of will. It is Christ who makes the Church go out of herself. In the mission of evangelization, you move because the Holy Spirit pushes you, and carries you” (*Senza di Lui non possiamo fare nulla: Essere missionari oggi nel mondo. Una conversazione con Gianni Valente*, Libreria Editrice Vaticana: San Paolo, 2019, 16-17). God always loves us first and with this love comes to us and calls us. Our personal

vocation comes from the fact that we are sons and daughters of God in the Church, his family, brothers and sisters in that love that Jesus has shown us. All, however, have a human dignity founded on the divine invitation to be children of God and to become, in the sacrament of Baptism and in the freedom of faith, what they have always been in the heart of God.

Life itself, as a gift freely received, is implicitly an invitation to this gift of self: it is a seed which, in the baptized, will blossom as a response of love in marriage or in virginity for the kingdom of God. Human life is born of the love of God, grows in love and tends towards love. No one is excluded from the love of God, and in the holy sacrifice of Jesus his Son on the cross, God conquered sin and death (cf. *Rom* 8:31-39). For God, evil – even sin – becomes a challenge to respond with even greater love (cf. *Mt* 5:38-48; *Lk* 22:33-34). In the Paschal Mystery, divine mercy heals our wounded humanity and is poured out upon the whole universe. The Church, the universal sacrament of God’s love for the world, continues the mission of Jesus in history and sends us everywhere so that, through our witness of faith and the proclamation of the Gospel, God may continue to manifest his love and in this way touch and transform hearts, minds, bodies, societies and cultures in every place and time.

Mission is a free and conscious response to God’s call. Yet we discern this call only when we have a personal relationship of love with Jesus present in his Church. Let us ask ourselves: are we prepared to welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to listen to the call to mission, whether in our life as married couples or as consecrated persons or those called to the ordained ministry, and in all the everyday events of life? Are we willing to be sent forth at any time or place to witness to our faith in God the merciful Father, to proclaim the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ, to share the divine life of the Holy Spirit by building up the Church? Are we, like Mary, the Mother of Jesus, ready to be completely at the service of God’s will (cf. *Lk* 1:38)? This interior openness is essential if we are to say to God: “Here am I, Lord, send me” (cf. *Is* 6:8). And this, not in the abstract, but in this chapter of the life of the Church and of history.

Understanding what God is saying to us at this time of pandemic also represents a challenge for the Church’s mission. Illness, suffering, fear and isolation challenge us. The poverty of those who die alone, the abandoned, those who have lost their jobs and income, the homeless and those who lack food challenge us. Being forced to observe social distancing and to stay at home invites us to rediscover that we need social relationships as well as our communal relationship with God. Far from increasing mistrust and indifference, this situation should make us even more attentive to our way of relating to others. And prayer, in which God touches and moves our hearts, should make us ever more open to the need of our brothers and sisters for dignity and freedom, as well as our responsibility to care for all creation. The impossibility of gathering as a Church to celebrate the Eucharist has led us to share the experience of the many Christian communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. In all of this, God’s question: “Whom shall I send?” is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: “Here am I, send me!” (*Is* 6:8). God continues to look for those whom he can send forth into the world and to the nations to bear witness to his love, his deliverance from sin and death, his liberation from evil (cf. *Mt* 9:35-38; *Lk* 10:1-12).

The celebration of World Mission Day is also an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of your offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church. The charity expressed in the collections that take place during the liturgical celebrations of the third Sunday of October is aimed at supporting the missionary work carried out in my name by the Pontifical Mission Societies, in order to meet the spiritual and material needs of peoples and Churches throughout the world, for the salvation of all.

May the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelization and Comforter of the Afflicted, missionary disciple of her Son Jesus, continue to intercede for us and sustain us.

*Rome, Saint John Lateran, 31 May 2020, Solemnity of Pentecost**

Franciscus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 NHS Track and Trace System - In line with Government recommendations, we have created a venue specific poster for the Church, which will enable anyone who has downloaded the NHS Track & Trace App on their mobile phone to scan the barcode on the poster. You will find a poster with the barcode details at both the main Church door and the door to the Sacristy. However, as not all parishioners have a mobile, it will be necessary to check your name and contact details against the Attendance List held by the stewards on duty before entering the Church. We regret that it is mandatory to restrict the numbers in Church to 30 maximum. **Safety Measures** -With the escalation of Covid-19 cases nationwide, please keep to all the social and Church norms governing our safety during this period of Covid-19. As a Government regulation wear your masks and check your details for Track and Trace.

Outdoor Rules - In the grounds of a place of Worship. More than 30 people can pray in a place of worship or its grounds. The law allows for multiple groups of 6 people to participate, provided that these groups do not mingle. Therefore, we are hoping to extend our 4.00 p.m. Masses on a Sunday for as long as the weather permits!

BAPTISM - The government have now updated their guidance for Baptism to restrict the number to 6 people, unless the Baptism takes place during the Mass. If the Baptism takes place during the Mass, the limit should be decided on the basis of the capacity of the place of worship following a risk assessment. Anyone 'working,' including the celebrant, are not included as part of the limit on those attending. (There has been no change to rules regarding First Holy Communion, as this Sacrament takes place during the Mass, so the limit should be decided on the basis of the capacity of the place of worship reflecting your risk assessment.)

COMMUNION TO HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS: - It has been a while now since we have been able to take Holy Communion to our Housebound Parishioners due to the lockdown and safeguarding measures to control the coronavirus. I would like to ask those who wish to receive Holy Communion to inform me and we can do this in the garden of your home without Fr. George coming into the house. All this will be done under the strictest measures of Mask, hand sanitization, no contact (except in a situation where anointing with oil celebrating the sacrament of the sick is requested for) and as brief as possible.

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.

MISSIO World Mission Sunday – 18th October 2020 Every Catholic community, in every country, sends a powerful message of faith, hope and love on World Mission Sunday.

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!

29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR "A" 18TH OCTOBER 2020

Sunday Vigil	17	Oct	Vigil 29 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	6.00 p.m. Holy Mass – <i>John Williams (health & wellbeing)</i>	
Sunday	18	Oct	29 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	8:00 a.m. – <i>Maisie Lane (32nd Anniversary RIP)</i> 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Isabella Maynard (birthday blessings)</i> 4:00 p.m. –	4.00 p.m Mass at Grotto – weather permitting
Monday	19	Oct	Ss John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues & Compns		NO MASS AND BENEDICTION
Tuesday	20	Oct	Tuesday of the 29 th Week in Ordinary Time	18:00 Exposition, 18.30 Rosary, 18.50 Benediction 19.00 Holy Mass – <i>Nick Louca (RIP) who leaves a wife, 2 sons & 4 grandchildren</i>	6.00-7.00 p.m. Rosary & Benediction
Wednesday	21	Oct	Wednesday of the 29 th Week in Ordinary Time	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Augustian & Helen (RIP)</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Thursday	22	Oct.	St. John Paul II	10.00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Ed Sirani (RIP)</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Friday	23	Oct.	St. John of Capestrano	10:00 a.m.- Holy Mass – <i>Harry & Doris Tanner (for the repose of their souls)</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Saturday	24	Oct.	Our Lady of Saturday	09:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Devotion 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass – <i>Divine Mercy</i>	
Saturday Vigil			Vigil 30 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	6.00 p.m. Holy Mass – <i>Soni Kochuvilayil (18th Wedding Anniversary blessings)</i>	
Sunday	25		30 th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A	8:00 a.m. 10.00 Holy Mass – <i>Bernard Delair (RIP)</i> 4:00 p.m. -	4.00 p.m Mass at Grotto – weather permitting

NB: This Weekend: Collection (Obligatory) for Foreign Missions
Next Weekend: Collection (Obligatory) for Bamenda

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

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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