

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; Roger Maughan, Milford on Sea
Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vanessa Dugdale (Lym); Susan McCabe (Brock); Liz Price (Mil).
PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Health & Safety Co ordinator : Linda Guilding; **Health & Safety Rep St Francis:** John Parry.
For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound: Contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

By appointment only - contact Fr David at the parish office.

The Week: 13th December 2020 - 20th December 2020

SUN	13 th	St Francis	9am	Mass	Third Sunday of Advent Yr B (V)	For the People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	13 th	Our Lady	10.30am	Mass	Third Sunday of Advent Yr B (V)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	13 th	St Anne	6pm	Mass	Third Sunday of Advent Yr B (V)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
MON	14 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	St John of the Cross, Mem, (W)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	15 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	of the 3 rd week of Advent (V)	Ted Mercy RIP	DMA
WED	16 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	of the 3 rd week of Advent (V)	Helen May Burne RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
THU	17 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	Liturgy of the Day (V)	Pat Mate RIP B'day Anniv	DMA
FRI	18 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	Liturgy of the Day (V)	For those who are unwell	DMA
SAT/SUN	19 th /20 th	Our Lady	SAT 6pm	Mass	Fourth Sunday of Advent Yr B (V)	For the People of the Parishes	DMA

PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS WITH RESTRICTIONS - BOOKING REQUIRED

SHARING IN GOD'S JOY

(Joy is not a superficial happiness, contentment or satisfaction. It is not the result of, nor dependent upon, self-centred acquisition, possession or achievement. It is not to be identified with pleasure but it can co-exist with pleasure. Paradoxically, joy can be experienced (not necessarily felt) even in suffering. And while great sorrow obscures it, joy is not lost but remains hidden for a while as the sun behind the clouds. It is the natural state of God's gift of pure being in loving relationship with all.)

Mary tells us where the source of true joy is to be found. My spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. We are all seeking happiness but deep down, almost unknown even to ourselves we are seeking God's joy and blessedness. The good news is that we do not have to search very far. Jesus said: The kingdom is within you, it is among you.

The joy is not far no matter what clouds get in the way. The pearl of great price, the hidden treasure is already within us. We have only to discover it, to accept it and rejoice in it. When, like Mary, we realize our nothingness and realize at the same time that God looks upon us with love, then our joy will blossom.

Just like Mary, God has done great things for us and is still doing great things for us at this very moment. God has lavished love upon us. The Law with its record of debt has been abolished and sinful humanity is forever forgiven.

We have been made God's daughters and sons. God has shared the Holy Spirit with us and blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. All holiness, virtue, freedom is ours in Christ. It can never be lost. It is always there for us to receive, and to receive as often as we need to. As Paul wrote, our spiritual nature is being renewed every day. God's giving now is as fresh and as lavish as the first giving we experienced.

God is the secure rock of our faith. God is our temple. God is everything we need. When we realise this and accept it in trust then we are not dismayed by our nothingness. If we haven't got goodness it is okay – Jesus says: *No one is good except God alone.* If we feel undeserving, unworthy, useless, empty, and a failure, that is okay. It is our nothingness. Our nothingness and our emptiness is the space that God fills. It provides the room for God to work.

Once we begin to appreciate this then our joy arises from the deepest part of our souls because God is there! No disaster or misfortune can take this away from us because it is always secure in God. It is not a possession we can lose because it is not ours to lose. We must just do what we can to keep the space empty!

This joy can begin now but our experience is necessarily weak at first because our awareness of this grace has only just begun to penetrate into our hearts and minds and influence our lives. When sorrows come this joy cannot be felt near the surface of our souls so we have to rely on the anchor of hope. When God will be all in all, our joy will be complete. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: A. Lyons, Vera May Slocombe, Paul Walter Edward Murphy, David Wearne (14th) Lawrence Fee (15th), Mary Fugett, A Slade (16th), Blanche Gertrude Grantham-Hill (18th)

Sick & Housebound: Sr Rosaleen, Louise Layne, Daphne Jones, Joan Lloyd, Sarah Bell. (Note: Our Pastoral Council agreed that people should be taken off the sick list after they have been on it a month unless they or someone asks for them to stay on it.)

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING SO ALREADY:

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY WITH A REGULAR STANDING ORDER:

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - MIL-ON-SEA - ST FRANCIS ASS"

A/C NUMBER: 00882772

SORT CODE: 30-93-04

Contact Eva Gaskin on 01590-643199 if you need any help. (PRCDTR i.e. Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Reg'd)

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Phyllis Bailey (13th), Nancy Marjorie Last (14th), Violet Mary Sampson (16th), Joseph Claude Marshall (18th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Rosemary Sheldon, Sr Rosaleen, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon.

Thank you to Fr Quarmby: Heartfelt thanks to Fr Quarmby from the Parish for his constant loving presence in our church throughout the Covid restrictions this year and in particular for arranging the altar so beautifully with the Blessed Sacrament when our church has been open for Personal Prayer. This has been a comfort and reassurance to us.

The Rosary on Christmas Eve: While as a Parish we cannot all worship together this Christmas season, we thought it would be lovely if on Christmas Eve, those who would like to, could say the Joyful Mysteries in our own homes between 5pm and 6pm, and with our own intentions, thus bringing us closer together.

CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS: Things are happening in Brockenhurst so see the item below. In Brockenhurst we are asking people to consider making a donation to the New Forest Basics Bank if you are able. <https://basicsbank.org.uk/how-to-donate/>

BOOST TO PARISH FUNDS: We are very grateful to one of our parishioner couples (they want to remain anonymous) who have given a £1000 donation to parish funds in addition to their usual monthly standing order. Be assured of gratitude and our prayers.

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING SO ALREADY:

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY WITH A REGULAR STANDING ORDER:

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - BROCKENHURST - ST ANNE"

A/C NUMBER: 00875962

SORT CODE: 30-93-04

(PRCDTR i.e. Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Reg'd)

Any items for the newsletter to anna@boylemellor.co.uk to arrive EARLIER PLEASE - WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

All Parishes

FROM THE SISTERS AT SWAY: Our ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE will take place on line next Sunday 13th December 3pm. Come and join us and have a singalong with us (it will also be recorded). We look forward to welcoming our friends from across the Diocese and beyond to join us in this celebration - <https://www.churchservices.tv/lymington>.

At last the final episode of the evangelisation series! This one considers Youth Ministry very much from the point of view of our experience of our work with the the Fanning the Flame Catholic Mission. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbSXHAS1zDU>

If you have enjoyed this series of videos and they have been useful to you or your parish community please consider making a donation to help us with the new Apostolates which we have now started to undertake as a result of Covid restrictions. Hopefully we can continue the work on more series in the future. With every Blessing for Christmas and a more promising Covid free New Year! God Bless Sr Veronica OP.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH:- at the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS :-£22.00, or 12 Months:- £80.00

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: John Lloyd, Pamela Joan Hoey (13th), Anthony John Leahy (14th), Mary O'Callaghan, Katherine Brown (15th), Hazel Barrett (16th), Andre Mathey (17th), John Hooker, Marie O'Reirden (18th), John Bishorek, Albert Andrews, Ruth Helen Adams (19th)

Sick and Housebound: Cathy Pickles, Caite Healy, Beatrice Tucker, Sr Rosaleen, Gerry Heneghan, Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Concetta Losanno, Den Walker, Len Harley, Marie Smith.

SERVICES AT OLMSJ:) There will be a Saturday evening Mass at 6pm on 19th December.

CONGRATULATIONS to our final 100 Club winners of the year, who are as follows:- Star Prize £75 No.85 Antony Cunningham, No.12 £40 Wendy Gallagher, No.82 £30 Sinead Joyce, No.74 £20 Lisa Thurston, No.43 £15 Julia Lewcock, No.38 £10 Neville Lewcock. Many thanks to all our 100 Club members for their support. We look forward to re-starting the 100 Club in 2022.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Total in Bank as at 27/11/20: £56,858.06.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT: If you are not doing so already, please consider supporting the parish with a regular standing order. Parish Standing Order Forms are available from the Parish office.

Donations to the church can also be given by cash, cheque or bank transfer, details below:-

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - LYMINGTON - OUR LADY"

A/C NUMBER: 00882225 SORT CODE: 30-93-04

(Please reference: DONATION)

Pledge Forms are still available if you wish to support the **Building Fund**.

You may also **Gift Aid** your donations if you let us know.

Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions or would like to discuss how best to proceed.

All Parishes

CHECK OUR WEBSITE: www.nfwp.org.uk for resources to support us in our faith and in our care of one another.

NEW FOREST BASICS BANK CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL: Thank you to everyone who has supported the NFBB Christmas Gift Appeal; we have been able to provide gifts for almost 70 people. The box of gifts will be delivered to NFBB on 14 December so that they can be included in the food parcels which are being packed next week.

FOR ONLINE DONATIONS TO BASICS BANK: follow the link below: <https://localgiving.org/appeal/BasicsBankChristmas/>

CAROLS ON THE DOORSTEP: On 16 December at 6 pm, local BBC radio stations around the country are supporting carols on your doorstep. The idea is simple, you download the carol sheet (and music if you want to play an instrument too) from the website, tune into the BBC Radio Solent (103.8 fm or NOW Hampshire on DAB) on Wednesday 16 December at 6 pm and then open your door and sing along with your neighbours, from the socially distanced safety of your own doorsteps. Brockenhurst village are taking part and we hope you might join in. <https://www.doorstepcarols.co.uk/>

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: The seats have been allocated for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses and all 3 churches are now full. If you would like to be put on a reserve list in case anyone cannot attend, please let Linda know by emailing or ringing the parish office. We can't promise anything, but sometimes people drop out.

There are several seats still available in St Francis 9am St Anne's 6pm & for Mass on Sunday 27th December, which is still within the Christmas Octave. Ring or email the office if you would like a seat. Remember to say how many of you will be needing seats and a contact telephone number for Test & Trace.

There are still all the COVID restrictions in place this Christmas, and we may not be able to sing Carols in church, but we can still be joyous and celebrate the Saviour's birth! His birth gives us hope and, with the vaccine now being distributed among the population, we can now look forward with hope to celebrating Easter and all being together again. I have missed seeing all of you.

WORLD GIFTS CAFOD: We cannot leave any paper items in church as it is a means of transmitting the virus, so the CAFOD catalogue for World Gifts is not available. However, you can visit their catalogue on line cafod.org.uk/world_gifts then you can order on line or choose online and phone 0808 14 000 14 Monday to Friday, 9.30am-5.30pm to place an order. Last online order date to receive free delivery for Christmas is 16th December. Order by 12noon 21st December via telephone to receive express delivery at a cost of £5. E-gifts Order online and select a print-at-home certificate or e-card.