

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

In NEW MILTON

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

15 Mount Ave, New Milton. BH25 6NT.

Parish priest: *Father George Ngwa*



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR "B" 7TH MARCH 2021

GOD AND HIS TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR US

The liturgy of the Third Sunday of Lent begins with acknowledging God's holiness and his claim on us that we belong to him. It recognizes the fact that we are his own people, and must live in a way that reflects his holiness. God offers us the gift of faith as our path towards holiness. At the same time we all want and desire to live a peaceful life in accordance with God's will. We all want to make sense of our existence. We all desire to live a life where we can make a positive contribution to ourselves, to our families and to those around us. Challenges are always with us, difficulties surround us. However the more we long, desire and develop a personal and ultimate relationship with Jesus Christ as our best friend, there is absolutely nothing that we cannot face and overcome. Indeed we become the "power and the wisdom of God".

Our first reading tells about the covenant God made with Israel by giving them Ten Commandments to live by. God gave them to Moses so that his chosen people will live by the norms given by him. They had to observe them faithfully in order to live the covenant fully. In this first reading we have Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from God at Mount Sinai, which became the foundation of Israel's new relationship with God. These commands were the basis of the religious life of the chosen people of the Old Testament. Already God had protected the people in the desert by nourishing them with food and protecting them from enemies. Now he gives them these commandments to protect and build up their spiritual bond with God. Therefore he makes a demand on them that God must come first in their lives before anything else.

It is not the unknown God but the one who has revealed his name to them and whom they have promised to hold in total reverence. This is the God who brought them out of Egypt and his love for them was described as Jealous Love. They were not to replace his love with anything else. The created world is God's gift for them and they were to use it for their wellbeing. The people have six days to work and the seventh day was to be kept aside for God. The remaining commandments flow from a right relationship with God. Fittingly this list begins with a commandment securing honour for Mother and Father, whose love by God's gracious design, brings the next generation into the world. Failure to adhere to this fundamental commandment, so closely associated with God's image and likeness, will jeopardize the people's presence in the Promised Land. The remaining commandments secure respect for all others created in God's image and likeness.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- 1. I AM THE LORD THY GOD: THOU SHALT NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.**

COMMANDS: faith, hope, love, and worship of God; reverence for holy things; prayer.

FORBIDS: idolatry; superstition; spiritism; tempting God; sacrilege; attendance at false worship.

2. THOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN.

COMMANDS: reverence in speaking about God and holy things; the keeping of oaths and vows.

FORBIDS: blasphemy; the irreverent use of God's name; speaking disrespectfully of holy things; false oaths and the breaking of vows.

3. KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.

COMMANDS: going to church on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

FORBIDS: missing church through one's own fault; unnecessary servile work on Sunday and holy days of obligation.

4. HONOUR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER.

COMMANDS: love; respect; obedience on the part of children; care on the part of parents for the spiritual and temporal welfare of their children; obedience to civil and religious superiors.

FORBIDS: hatred of parents and superiors; disrespect; disobedience.

5. THOU SHALT NOT KILL.

COMMANDS: safeguarding of one's own life and bodily welfare and that of others.

FORBIDS: unjust killing; suicide; abortion; sterilization; dueling; endangering life and limb of self or others.

6. THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

COMMANDS: chastity in word and deed.

FORBIDS: obscene speech; impure actions alone or with others.

7. THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.

COMMANDS: respect for the property of rights and others; the paying of just debts; paying just wages to employees; integrity in public office.

FORBIDS: theft; damage to the property of others; not paying just debts; not returning found or borrowed articles; giving unjust measure or weight in selling; not paying just wages; bribery; graft; cheating; fraud; accepting stolen property; not giving an honest day's work for wages received; breach of contract.

8. THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOUR.

COMMANDS: truthfulness; respect for the good name of others; the observance of secrecy when required.

FORBIDS: lying; injury to the good name of others; slander; tale bearing; rash judgment; contemptuous speech and the violation of secrecy.

9. THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHOUR'S WIFE.

COMMANDS: purity in thought.

FORBIDS: wilful impure thought and desires.

10. THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHOUR'S GOODS.

COMMANDS: respect for the rights of others.

FORBIDS: the desire to take, to keep, or damage the property of others.

Fr. George Ngwa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY MASS BOOKING ON LINE DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

As we are still in Lock Down it will be necessary to continue restricting the number of parishioners in Church for each Mass to approximately 45, which means that you will need to book your place in advance. We now have an “on-line” booking system in place, which you can find by going onto our website at

<https://www.nfwp.org.uk> - (scroll down left-hand column to CORONAVIRUS: Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes, New Milton and click on CORONAVIRUS: How to book a seat for Mass). Alternatively the Links for Sundays in March are as follows:-

14th March - <https://forms.gle/72BeVS45GeZhZzA49>

21st March - <https://forms.gle/ZFq9W9Jgj3DUmYFZA>

28th March - <https://forms.gle/XRb7xtUwMyfCc5Gc9>

FINANCIAL SUPPORT during the COVID PANDEMIC. Whether or not you are a Gift Aider and you 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 – PRC DTR New Milton. Or you may prefer to give your donation directly to the Office. Thank you! If you do decide to pay money directly into our Bank Account, it would be very helpful for our Treasurer if you could write what it is for in the Reference Box when paying on line, i.e. Church donation, Intention, Cafod etc.

COMMEMORATION OF ST. JOHN OF GOD – 8th March

Monday 8th March is the Commemoration of St. John of God, the Patron Saint of Hospitals and the Sick, and Patron Saint of Nurses. During this Pandemic our prayers go out especially to all the workers in the NHS who have worked so hard and with such dedication and loving care to look after the sick and the dying.

MONTH OF MARCH – ST. JOSEPH

The month of March by custom is devoted to St. Joseph and we look forward to his great feast day on **19th March**. The Holy Father Pope Francis has dedicated this year to him in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Saint’s proclamation as the Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on 8th December, 1870. We thus have every reason to invoke him in our prayers. One traditional prayer that you may or may not be familiar with is the Litany of St. Joseph. It was approved for public use by Pope St. Pius X in 1909, although its origins go back further. It contains twenty-five invocations expressing the virtues and dignity of St. Joseph.

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS – We celebrate Fr. George’s Birthday on Friday 12th March and I think we would all like to wish him well and thank him for carrying us through this very challenging Pandemic, keeping our Church open as often as possible for Masses and offering Masses on live-streaming for those of us who have been sheltering at home. His words of encouragement and hope have helped us through both spiritually and physically. Thank you Fr, George, may God bless you and protect you. Happy Birthday!

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B 7TH MARCH 2021

Sunday Vigil	06	2021 Mar.	Vigil Mass of the 3 rd Sunday of Lent Year B	18:00 Holy Mass - <i>John Williams (RIP)</i>	
Sunday	07	Mar.	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Year B	08:00 Holy Mass – <i>Jeanette Patching (9th Anniversary RIP)</i> 10:00 Holy Mass – <i>For Control of the Covid-19 Virus</i>	
Monday	08	Mar.	Monday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B		
Tuesday	09	Mar.	Tuesday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B	18:00 Exposition 18:30 Rosary 18:50 Benediction 19:00 Holy Mass – <i>Lisbet Hamon (health & wellbeing)</i>	6:00-7:00 p.m. Rosary, Benediction
Wednesday	10	Mar.	Wednesday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B	09:25 Stations of the Cross 10:00 a.m. Holy Mass –	6:00-7:00 p.m. Rosary, Benediction
Thursday	11	Mar.	Thursday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B	10:00 a.m. Holy Mass - <i>Mary Davies (Health & Wellbeing)</i>	6:00-7:00 p.m. Rosary, Benediction
Friday	12	Mar.	Friday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B	09:25 Stations of the Cross 10:00 Holy Mass – <i>Fr. George (Birthday Blessings)</i>	6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Rosary and Benediction
Saturday	13	Mar.	Saturday of the 3 rd Week of Lent Year B	09:30 Divine Mercy Devotion 10:00 Holy Mass -	
Saturday Vigil			Vigil Mass of the 4 th Sunday of Lent Year B	18:00 Holy Mass – <i>Joan & John Miller (Health & Wellbeing)</i>	
Sunday	14	Mar.	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B	8:00 - Holy Mass – <i>Irene Pilnick (RIP)</i> 10:00 – Holy Mass -	

Next Weekend – 13/14th March – 2nd Collection (obligatory) for Clergy Assistance Fund

Your continued financial support during these very 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