

# 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: 8/9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021*

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME		LITURGY/CELEBRATION	INTENTION	P
SAT	8 <sup>th</sup>	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Jim Holder RIP Anniv	DMA
MON	10 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	N/A	Mass	6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	11 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	N/A	Mass	6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	Lily Pearce RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
WED	12 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	N/A	Mass	6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	Special Intention (JC)	DMA
THU	13 <sup>th</sup>	OLMSJ	10.00am	Mass	Ascension of the Lord	Confirmation candidates	DMA
FRI	14 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	N/A	Mass	St Matthias, Feast	Bert Cooper RIP F/M	DMA
SAT	15 <sup>th</sup>	N/A	N/A	Mass	6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	For those who are unwell	DMA
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Josephine Pope RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	16 <sup>th</sup>	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Henrietta Montague-Munson	DMA

### PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED FOR ALL MASSES

#### GOD'S LOVE IMAGED THROUGH THE FEMININE & MASCULINE:

The treasures of wisdom in Christ are, as St Paul wrote, "infinitely rich". That is why, like St Peter, we are always **coming to realise new dimensions of truth** or recovering lost pearls of God's wisdom. God & God-is-love are the greatest truths. So how we imagine God-is-love or present God-is-love to others is crucially important, not only for ourselves but also for the work of sharing the Good News with others. We have to receive the Good News before we can share the Good News. We must know, both conceptually and emotionally (mind & heart knowledge), that it is "not our love for God" that has priority but "God's love for us".

We are in danger of diminishing or even distorting God's love if we present it only in terms of our own limited understanding, feelings or experience. God's love can only be revealed by the whole creation. For us humans that means all of humanity, male and female and anyone who doesn't fit neatly into those gender categories. The relational God of creation ("Let us make...Gen. 1:26) is imaged in male & female & the whole of humanity.

It is not a coincidence that in the two millennia of Christianity, experienced generally through the mediation of patriarchal institutional structures, Mary the Mother of the Lord and wife of Joseph has had such an important role. Mary bore and gave us not just the Christ child but also the maternal face and heart of God. When Jesus's humanity got obscured by his Divinity it was Mary who communicated the tenderness, gentleness and indulgence of God. She anchored the Word in the flesh. When St Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787, founder of the Redemptorists) declared that "Mary represented the hand of God's mercy and Jesus represented the hand of God's justice", he was voicing the common theological presumptions of his time. In retrospect, thanks to Vatican II and our greater familiarity with the Scriptures, we can see that these presumptions were warped.

The limitations, distortions and impoverishments that inevitably result from a heavily patriarchal institution and culture mean that the situation is essentially unhealthy. Patriarchy is inherently pathological. Unfortunately, virtually everything we do and say in our Church is affected by it.

Our current English translation of the Liturgy is one of the most blatant examples, notwithstanding many important theological and spiritual gems. Already patriarchal in its Latin form it has been given an added twist by a very small, exclusively male, celibate, clerical and generally European group with an explicit brief to avoid inclusive language and cultural intelligibility and keep slavishly to a Latinised form of English.

Phrases like the following reflect perhaps the human experience of a distant, insecure relationship between a son & his father: (the Father) who "summons" his children (EP 3), the ubiquitous use of "Almighty" (although it must be admitted this is preferable to "All powerful"), hoping God will look upon "these offerings, with a serene and kindly countenance", those who were "pleasing to you at their passing from this life".

We also have the presentation of an unhealthy dualistic conflict between body and soul, inherited not from Christ but from strands of pagan philosophy. This ignores the words of Scripture in Colossians 2:23: "human commands and teachings - (that) have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-imposed piety, humility and severe treatment of the body, but they are of no value in checking self-indulgence".

Then there is the paradoxical "dance" between what we "merit" by our efforts and the undeserved grace we hope to receive. And this is just the tip of the iceberg when one considers how female representation and input in the whole area of marital relationships, child-bearing and nurturing has been excluded. So, to fully experience "God's love for us" as distinct from "our love for God" we need the witness of the whole of humanity, feminine and masculine and indeed of the whole of creation. (DMA)

## *St Francis, Milford-on-Sea*

**Anniversaries this week:** Andy Gage (10<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick & Housebound:** Sarah Bell, Louise Layne, Daphne Jones.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** Thanks to Roger Maughan for arranging the distribution of the envelopes to those who have signed up for them.

## *St Anne, Brockenhurst*

**Anniversaries this week:** Mary Ann Hurt, James Emery (9<sup>th</sup>), Laura Bartram, Patrick Whelan (10<sup>th</sup>), Helen Beatrice Margaret Mary Parsons (11<sup>th</sup>), Percy Edward Charles (13<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick and Housebound:** Please keep in your prayers: Susan McCabe, Sarah McCann, Rosemary Sheldon, Sr Rosaleen, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon.

**FR CHARLIE - PRAYERS REQUESTED:** Fr Charlie has recently contracted COVID and is hopefully on the road to recovery. However please keep him and his parish in Malawi in your prayers. They face many challenges including food shortages & of course the pandemic.

**WALK FOR CREATION** join us for this walk taking place on Saturday, 22 May, starting at 10 am at Whitefield Moor Car Park (off Rhinefield Road). Registration essential. Please see the attached flyer for details.

Any items for the newsletter to [anna@boylemellor.co.uk](mailto:anna@boylemellor.co.uk) to arrive EARLIER PLEASE - WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

## *All Parishes*

### **WEEKEND MASSES GOING FORWARD:**

**The Ascension of the Lord:** There will be a Mass on Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am at OLMSJ. pre-booking is required.

**ST FRANCIS SUNDAY MASS:** fortnightly at 9.00am on the following Sundays: 16th May, 30th May.

**ST ANNE'S SUNDAY MASS:** fortnightly at 6.00pm on the following Sundays: 16th May, 30th May.

**OLMSJ SATURDAY EVENING MASS** fortnightly at 6pm on the following Saturdays: 22nd May, 5th June.

**OLMSJ SUNDAY MASS:** fortnightly at 10.30am on the following Sundays: 16th May, 30th May.

**PRE-BOOKING IS REQUIRED. PLEASE BOOK JUST ONE MASS AT A TIME TO GIVE OTHERS A CHANCE.**

### **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS ON ZOOM: STARTING 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY FOR 7 WEEKS AT 7PM**

This seminar series runs from Pentecost for seven weeks on Thursday evenings. It is online using Zoom; each session is 1½ hrs. For part of the meeting we will be in small groups of 8 people including two group leaders. The groups will be the same week by week and geographically based when possible. **Please register to receive the link.** <https://forms.gle/cagKWDKXu6xyXxsU7>

**SR VERONICA'S LATEST REFLECTION:** You can find this at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bS6UAh2pGCM>. She hopes you will enjoy it.

**FUNDRAISING FOR PAX CHRISTI:** In the week from 15 to 21 May, Pax Christi, the Catholic Peace organisation, will be trying to raise funds to make up for lost income due to Covid19. Fausta is having a dance-a-thon, Bruce is delivering a peace message to foreign embassies in London, Matt is cycling 50 miles visiting peace sites, Pat is going on a walk from Victoria to the Peace Pagoda in Battersea Park, Rachel will be cycling for 75 miles, to celebrate Pax Christi's 75th anniversary. More fundraisers are joining the fun.

Please go to their website [www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/) for details on how you can sponsor them.

## *Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington*

**Anniversaries this week:** Vera West (10<sup>th</sup>), Antonio Di Maria (12<sup>th</sup>), Rev. Abraham Jacob, Eila Farie (13<sup>th</sup>), John Slater, Richard Mark Uniacke (14<sup>th</sup>), Edith (Edie) Manghan, Alice Elizabeth Marsh (15<sup>th</sup>)

**Sick and Housebound:** Pat Choules, Den Walker, Suzanna Wright, Rita Barrett, Caite Healy, Beatrice Tucker, Sr Margarita, Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Len Harley, Marie Smith.

**REQUEST FOR PRAYERS PLEASE:** Please pray for Pat Choules who is having a long overdue knee operation on Monday. We wish Pat a speedy recovery.

Den Walker is now gaining strength and improving slowly.

Norah Holder's daughter, Susie, continues to have difficulties recovering, so keep Susie, Norah and all the family in our prayers.

**GIFT AID:** If you are giving money to the parish and claiming Gift Aid you may need a Gift Aid statement for your tax return. If so, please contact the parish office by email. And if you are no longer paying tax and therefore not eligible to claim Gift Aid, please let us know by email at the parish office. Thank you.

**BUILDING FUND UPDATE:** Total in bank as at: 07/05/21: £65,096.08. This includes donations raised from Everyclick of £479.55

## *All Parishes*

**NEXT DIOCESAN COLLECTION: 15th/16th May, for the Catholic Communications Network. Facilities for online donations on the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan website**

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE:** [www.nfwp.org.uk](http://www.nfwp.org.uk) for resources to support us in our faith and in our care of one another.

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

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** If you think your child is ready to make their 1st Holy Communion, please contact Fr David at the parish office via email. Thank you.

**COVID-19 IN INDIA CAFOD APPEAL:** India is facing a devastating second wave of coronavirus. The country has confirmed more than 20 million cases and more than 200,000 deaths, with some reports concerned that the number of deaths is just the tip of the iceberg, because of under reporting. The pandemic has put a strain on the medical infrastructure of the country, with hospitals unable to cope with the influx of patients. Our Catholic aid agencies will be distributing medical kits and setting up temporary treatment centres as well as providing PPE to frontline health workers. You can help by donating online at [www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/India-coronavirus-response](http://www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/India-coronavirus-response)

**POPE FRANCIS – A CALL for a global prayer marathon for the entire month of May, praying for the end to the pandemic.** He encourages all individuals, families and communities to take part in prayer. There are many ways to pray and the rosary is particularly appropriate for the month of May. The theme, taken from the Acts of the Apostles is: 'from the entire church an unceasing prayer rises to God.'

**THE CHAIN ACROSS THE PRESBYTERY DOOR.** Please don't be offended if you sometimes see the 'Private' notice and the chain outside the Presbytery door (& sometimes bunting as well!). It's not to put parishioners off from ringing the doorbell, but is there to deter the 'Step Dwellers' who tend to sit on our doorstep to eat their lunch and have a chat! This is not to be encouraged particularly in a pandemic. It can be quite difficult trying to leave the house as often they don't move out the way. If you do need to call just lean over to ring the bell. But do take care. I don't want any accidents!