

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:** office@lymbrockmil.org.uk

Website: www.nfwp.org.uk; **Parish Blog:** www.lymrcchurch.blogspot.com.

Our parishes are part of & belong to the: **Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Registered Charity No: 1199568**

School: Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School, Ramley Rd, Pennington, 01590 672711. Exec. Head: Gerida Montague

Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils: Magdalen Chadborn, Lymington; Ian Holden, Brockenhurst; Roger Maughan, Milford on Sea

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vanessa Dugdale (Lym); Henrietta Reynolds (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:
Good Friday
5pm - 6pm**

The Week: 1st April 2023 - 9th April 2023

| DAY | DATE | CHURCH | TIME | SERVICE | LITURGY/CELEBRATION | INTENTION | P |
|------|-----------------|------------|----------|----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| SAT | 1 st | OLMSJ | 6.00pm | Mass | Palm Sunday Yr A | Hanora Teresa Dunne RIP F/M | DMA |
| SUN | 2 nd | St Francis | 9.00am | Mass | Palm Sunday Yr A | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 2 nd | OLMSJ | 10.30am | Mass | Palm Sunday Yr A | Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M | DMA |
| SUN | 2 nd | St Anne | 6.00pm | Mass | Palm Sunday Yr A | Josie Greenhalgh F/M (Int) | DMA |
| MON | 3 rd | St Anne | 10.00am | Mass | Holy Week | as per celebrant | DQ |
| TUE | 4 th | Cathedral | 11.00am | Mass | Chrim Mass | Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M | DMA |
| WED | 5 th | St Francis | 10.00am | Mass | 5 th week of Lent | Carol French RIP | DMA |
| THUR | 6 th | OLMSJ | 7.30pm | Mass | Mass of the Lord's Supper | Macey McCormack (Thanksgiving) | DMA |
| FRI | 7 th | OLMSJ | 10.00am | Stations | Stations of the Cross | N/A | DMA |
| FRI | 7 th | OLMSJ | 3.00pm | | Comm. of the Lord's Passion | N/A | DMA |
| FRI | 7 th | OLMSJ | 5-6.00pm | | Sacrament of Reconciliation | N/A | DMA |
| SAT | 8 th | OLMSJ | 10.00am | | Blessing of Easter Food (Polish) | N/A | DMA |
| SAT | 8 th | OLMSJ | 8.00pm | Mass | Easter Vigil Mass | People of the Parishes | DMA |
| SUN | 9 th | St Francis | 9.00am | Mass | Easter Sunday Yr A | Michael John Peter Halle RIP Anniv | DMA |
| SUN | 9 th | OLMSJ | 10.30am | Mass | Easter Sunday Yr A | Mary Margaret Ash RIP Anniv F/M | DMA |
| SUN | 9 th | St Anne | 12 noon | Mass | Easter Sunday Yr A | Canon John Hally RIP F/M | DMA |

HOW DOES THE CROSS OF CHRIST SAVE US?

Long before the time of Jesus the prophets of the Jewish religion, especially Jeremiah, Ezekiel & Isaiah, had recognised that the Covenant with Moses was not working. They had reached an impasse. They had fallen into a deep pit and there was no way out. Basically they had broken their side of the Covenant and there was now no remedy. A new beginning was needed but only God could do that.

The problem with the first covenant is that it created sin & guilt. By sin I don't mean wrong or destructive behaviour but behaviour that is deemed to separate us from God and from God's love. By guilt I do not mean personal or collective responsibility but self & social hatred & rejection. Personal responsibility is just a fact that we must come to terms with. Immoral & destructive behaviour has to be recognised, confronted and ultimately changed. Neither of these human experiences can negate God's love for us. If you only read half a story you are liable to get it completely wrong. The Jewish people got it completely wrong when they accepted accusation, judgement & condemnation as the last word. Jesus came to bring the true light to this situation.

When the Christian Bible refers to the death of Jesus it relies heavily on metaphors of ransom, payment and blood sacrifice. This is because the first believers in Jesus had to understand the death and resurrection of Jesus in terms of what went before in their own religion. What preceded it, of course, was the Law and the Prophets and all the ritual of animal sacrifice associated with the Jewish religion before the destruction of the Jerusalem temple. While this provided a rich, interpretative framework for the first Christians it is not so important for us now.

And in some ways it has become a barrier to the proclamation of the Good News precisely because of its richness, complexity and historical remoteness. We really need to leave behind all these metaphors which if interpreted logically end up completely distorting the image of God. Unfortunately many Christians are still unaware of the implications of these crude metaphors which if used unthinkingly without qualification can make God appear as an angry monster demanding a blood sacrifice in order to be appeased.

Abandoning the biblical imagery may appear dangerously presumptuous if it wasn't for the biblical writing itself attributed to John the Evangelist. The text is: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life" (John 3:16). And in another place we are told quite emphatically "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Jesus remained faithful to his Father, refusing to deny his goodness and compassion even when it cost him his life. Jesus' love for the Father is the expression of God's love for us. Jesus' forgiveness of his enemies is God's forgiveness of us. This is the light, the truth of love and this love takes our sins away. They are taken away not by ceasing to be, for what was and what is will always be. They are taken away in the sense that our behaviour no longer has the power to separate us from God. (See Apocalypse 12:10). This power of condemnation was given by the Law but the Law has been abolished as the sole arbiter of our relationship with God. It is replaced by God's invincible graciousness. "Now the sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. (but now the law is abolished so) thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 15:56). God sacrifices God's self for us to bring us the revelation of the love that reconciles and unites all things in heaven and all things on earth (Eph 1:10; Col 1:20). (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Samuel Randle (7th)

Sick & Housebound: Di Mussert, Martine Mercy, Hilary Sendall, Rita Ford, Canon Peter Wilkie, June Gow, Norah Sweeney, Sarah Bell.

GOOD FRIDAY 7th April: There will be Stations of the Cross in St Francis church at 11.00am on Good Friday. This service will finish in plenty of time for parishioners to join the **Christians Together Service** on the **Village Green** at 12.00 noon followed by Hot Cross Buns.

BANDAGES FOR UKRAINE: The Milford Bandage Brigade thought that the parish would be interested to know that we have so far sent off 8,000 rolled bandages to the front line in Ukraine.

EASTER OFFERING FOR YOUR PARISH PRIEST: Here is the link to the Easter Collection fundraising page for your parish: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/milford-on-sea-st-francis-of-assis-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2023>

TEA/COFFEE TODAY: after Mass in the Maryland Room. All welcome.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Cecelia McFadden, Clement Simon Brand (1st), Joseph Benjamin Weeks, Fr Joseph Connolly, Edmund Francis Deprez, Luzia Maria Bumphrey (2nd), Mary Ann Foley, Christian John Manley, Christina Mann (3rd), Anthony Richard Thorpe (4th), Michael George Lane (6th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Paddy Lark, Canon Peter Wilkie, Susan McCabe. Also prayers please for Suzanne Jones who is very poorly, niece of Michael & Edelweiss.

FR QUARMBY'S MASSES For the week commencing 2nd Apr: Masses at 10 a.m. Monday & Wednesday only.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: There will be Stations of the Cross at St Anne's during Holy Week on Wednesday, 5th April at 7.0pm. An invitation to join this service is extended to our friends from St Saviour's CoE Church and all other parishes. There will be tea & coffee in the parish rooms afterwards.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS: There will be tea/coffee after the Palm Sunday Mass but there will NOT be any refreshments after the Easter Sunday 12 noon Mass.

EASTER OFFERING: If you would like to make a Gift Aided offertory to Father David using the plate at church would you please make the cheque payable to "CDP Brockenhurst St Anne". If you want to give cash please put it in an envelope marked Easter Offertory and include your name which we need to claim back the tax. If you have any queries please ring Bill Pignatelli 01590 623360.

EASTER OFFERING FOR YOUR PARISH PRIEST: Here is the link to the Easter Collection fundraising page for your parish: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/brockenhurst-st-anne-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2023>

All Parishes

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL! To see any photos go to the school website <https://olsjschool.co.uk/>; Then click on **SCHOOL LIFE & LEARNING BLOG**; Then scroll down to the individual blogs.

HOLY WEEK: This week Years 4 and 5 of Our Lady & St Joseph school, Lymington transported parents, grandparents and the rest of the school community back to 'AD33. Palestine.' The crowds filled the air with singing of 'Hosanna Lord', while waving palms and welcoming Jesus with great enthusiasm. The Narrators announced in a crisp manner that it was now "Maundy Thursday: The Last Supper". The crowds faded back as we now found ourselves in the Upper Room with the confrontation between Jesus and Judas which left the disciples shocked and angry at the betrayal. We felt the mood change as Jesus humbly washed the feet of the disciples and prepared for the last supper. The Narrators snapped out "Good Friday" and moved us in to the promenade performance of the Stations of the Cross with prayers and music as the cross, carried by Jesus, moved slowly and heavily through each Station to its final destination. The silence from the crowd observing was deafening as Jesus was crucified and then taken to the tomb. Spirits were lifted as the tomb was found to be empty, and joyful music filled the air as the cross stood upright in the centre of the hall as pupils carried symbols from the performance and laid them at the foot of the cross. The crowd, now back in the 21st century, heard Fr David give the blessing and left full of hope in the Risen Lord.

GO PURPLE FOR EPILEPSY DAY: Today at OLSJ we all wore purple in support of **World Epilepsy Day!** Year 6 prepared a special assembly to teach everyone about epilepsy, which impacts 1 in 100 people and how you can support anyone who is having a seizure. With the support of Zach at CARITAS, we also planted lavender and purple flowers on the school grounds, so that we have a permanent 'purple' presence in support of epilepsy awareness. Thank you Zach for all of your help! We also raised £140.50 for **Support Dogs**, the only organisation in the UK to provide and train seizure alert dogs for those with epilepsy. Thank you for your generosity. A big thank you to Shallowmead Nurseries, Stewarts Garden Centre, Everton Nurseries, Folium & Flos and Setley Ridge Garden Centre who all donated purple plants or vouchers to support us today. A big thank you to Kinga's mum who crocheted some beautiful purple flowers for children to wear. We are so grateful for the support of our local community.

CAFOD VISIT: Thank you to Steve from CAFOD who came to deliver a workshop to Year 5 today, focusing on 'Global Trade', to support their learning in Geography. Steve worked with the children to teach them about fair trade, drawing on examples from all over the world. Steve taught the children a "trading game", using the production of shoes as an example with fictional currency, to show the different roles of money lenders, workers and business owners and how the distribution of profits is unfair. We used this workshop to reinforce our learning about 'Fair Trade' and about the "Fair Trade" mark on products. You can download resources and games to support learning about Fair Trade with your child at home here: <https://cafod.org.uk/education/education-resources/fairtrade-school-resources>

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Margaret Monica Light, (2nd), Charles Cull, Doris Smith (3rd), Joan Felicity Martine Hoyle, John Bodell, Anthony Bonett (4th), Bishop Anthony Emery (5th), John Horan, Brian Webb, Mary Flood (6th), Bernard Turnbull, Lilian Cole, Martin James Gourlay (7th)

Sick and Housebound: Canon Peter Wilkie, John & Nicki Collins, Den Walker, Sean Dunn, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Simone Cluett

JUDITH GILES RIP: her Requiem Mass will be at 2pm on Tuesday, 18th April, followed by a gathering in Joseph's Place. The committal will be unattended at a crematorium. Our condolences are with her family. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

AUDREY SALMON RIP: We have not, as yet, received any details regarding her funeral arrangements Our condolences are with her family. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

RED BOX COLLECTION: We will be having a collection point for **MISSIO Red Boxes** at the back of the church at Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses next weekend (25th & 26th March) and the following weekend (1st/April & 2nd April). If you have a Red Box and are able to bring it along, it would be much appreciated. Please make sure that your box has your name on it before handing it in so that we can identify your donation. Any queries please contact Jenny on 01590-610413.

FUND-RAISING: many thanks to the team who worked so hard last Saturday in Joseph's Place to enable the parish to send £500 to **SCARF**. This worthwhile charity supports children, their relatives and friends throughout the region. Our next coffee morning on Saturday 29th April will be to raise funds for the **Minstead Trust**.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: meets on Monday 3rd April from 2-4pm in the parish rooms. Usual program of quiz, raffle and afternoon tea at 3pm. The Straight Banana singers will be performing for us at 2.15pm. We also have a display of Easter bonnets made by Friendship Club members. Come along for a very enjoyable, fun afternoon. Everyone most welcome, free admission. Call 01590 678525 for details.

EASTER OFFERING FOR YOUR PARISH PRIEST: Here is the link to the Easter Collection fundraising page for your parish: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/lymington-our-lady-of-mercy-and-st-joseph-catholic-church-easter-collection-2023>

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Total in bank as at: 31/03/23: £254,577.58 This includes GAYL contributions.

All Parishes

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The fourth session will be on **Saturday, 15th April from 4.30pm-5.30pm**. In Joseph's Place. There will be 2 groups: (1) up to & including 8yrs old; (2) 9yrs old & above. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult for the whole session.

CONFIRMATION GROUP: The next meeting is this Wednesday, 19th April at 7pm in Joseph's Place.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR HOLY PLACES: approximately 150,000 Christians live in the Holy Land, struggling to survive in a volatile political environment, this appeal helps providing education, housing and humanitarian support, thus safeguarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land. The online link to be used (**between 2nd and 16th April**) is: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/holy-land-second-collection-2023>

THE HOLY / WEEK EASTER SERVICES: Please note the Easter services are open to parishioners from Lymington, Brockenhurst & Milford on sea and to all visitors. Therefore, space will be at a premium. Please arrive early to get a seat. The Welcomers on duty have to adhere to Health & Safety and Fire Regulations. If they see that the Church is full they will direct you to Joseph's place where you can take part in the Mass via the screen. Communion will be taken to you in Joseph's place and the Welcomer will direct you. When both buildings are full the Welcomer will not be able to breach regulations and I apologise in advance as they will not be able to let you in. **CAR PARK AT OLSJ:** To avoid congestion please park in a public car park unless you, or your passenger, have mobility issues.

On EASTER SUNDAY less congested Masses will be at:

9am St Francis of Assisi, Milford on Sea

10am Our Lady of Lourdes, New Milton

11am St Michael's, Hythe

12noon St Anne's, Brockenhurst.

There WILL NOT be an evening Mass at any of the churches in the New Forest on Easter Sunday.

FROM SR. VERONICA: Today We begin Holy Week. As we draw closer to Holy Week let's take a moment to stop and reflect upon our Lenten journeys. The crowd symbolizes both praise and denial. This is because, the same crowd singing "hosanna" today, soon will shout, "crucify him!" The events of Holy Week invite us to reflect on our own commitment to following Jesus' example of love, humility, and selflessness. God bless. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQGomAybk0s&t=155s>

LIGHT OF TRUTH NEWSLETTER: From the Dominican Sisters at Sway: the newsletter containing information on their catechetical courses and lay formation can be accessed with this link: [Light of Truth: March 2023 \(mailchi.mp\)](https://www.dominican.org.uk/light-of-truth/march-2023)