

Refreshments are available after 9am Sunday Mass in the St Bernard's hall. Thank you to the volunteers who facilitate this.



Office and Presbytery Tel. No: 02380 891866

Email: office@watersideparish.org.uk

www.nfwp.org.uk

Waterside Parish NEWSLETTER

Sunday 16th April 2023: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (YEAR A)

Sunday Masses: 9am at St Bernard's and 11am at St Michael's

**Weekday Masses: Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday - 9am at St Michael's
Wednesday – 9am at St Bernard's followed by Adoration and
Grandparents' Group**

Confessions: Saturday after 9am Mass (St Michael's) "Confession is an act of honesty and courage - an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God." Pope John Paul II

Thank you to everyone who contributed in all manner of ways to our Easter Triduum celebrations and, of course, to Father Paul without whom this pinnacle of our Liturgical calendar would be impossible.

Holy Places collection 7th April:

St Michael's £120.31

Envelopes: £119.60

Easter Gift Collections 9th April:

St Michael's £240.65

St Bernard's £446.65

Envelopes: £680.00

"All those souls who will glorify My Mercy and spread its worship encouraging others to trust in My Mercy, will not experience terror at the hour of death." (Diary of St Faustina, 1540)

"I, Sister Faustina Kowalska, by the order of God, have visited the Abysses of Hell ... I noticed one thing: That most of the souls there are those who disbelieved that there is a hell." (St Faustina, October 1936)

"Oh my Lord, inflame my heart with love for You, that my spirit may not grow weary amidst the storms, the sufferings and the trials." (St Faustina)

QUIZ NIGHT – SATURDAY 22nd APRIL

Tickets for our next parish quiz night are on sale today before and after both Masses. They will also be available for purchase on the night.

The quiz will begin at 7pm in the St Bernard's church hall and tickets are on sale for £6.00 each.

Raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated – please bring your donations on the night.



We keep in our prayers the sick and housebound members of the parish:

John Allen

Please note that a GDPR issue has been drawn to our attention. We must now have express permission from the sick person to name him or her in this section of the parish newsletter. If we don't have a signed Parish Registration Form, it will be very difficult to include the sick in this section of the newsletter.

We pray for the dear departed of the parish and for those whose anniversaries occur this week:

16th: Ethel Halliday (1968) Irma Swift (1974) Rose Drinkwater (2003)

17th: Betty Harmer (1979) Thomas Pollard (1985) Shirley Ravenscroft (1992) Patricia Coleman (2017)

18th: Desmond Mooney (1966) Elsie Campbell (1988) John Coffey (2000) George Farrelly (2014)

20th: Ronald Kelly (2020)

21st: Sheila Krzymuski (2021)

22nd: Ernest Morris (1968) Sean Gaspar (1983) Yvonne Doran (2003)

Pious tradition holds that Jesus promised St. Gertrude that a thousand souls would be released from purgatory each time the following prayer is said devoutly: "Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen."

SPUC PRAYER RELAY

Our SPUC representative, Keith Goode, is organising a local prayer relay on Thursday 27th April in support of a National Prayer Campaign for an end to the culture of death and for a flourishing of the culture of life in this country. Please either speak to Keith, or contact the office, if you wish to participate. Abortion, the modern-day slaughter of the innocents, is an abomination to which we can turn a blind eye or we can take such opportunities as this to join a nationwide community of pro-life advocates pleading to Our Father for mercy on the unborn.

MISSIO

Thank you to everyone who returned their Red Boxes last month for counting, and also those who contribute by making direct donations.

In 2022, Waterside parish raised **£803.21** through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here in Waterside parish is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of projects such as the Funding Mission station in Cameroon has enabled Fr Leon, a Mill Hill Missionary, to help children learn in a safe environment and instil values that empower them to turn away from conflict and towards faith in God. Visit missio.org.uk to find out about how your support changes lives for the better

S.D. Mechtilde of the Blessed

Sacrament

(1614 to 1698)

French nun and the founder of the order of Benedictine Nuns Of Perpetual Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament:

"Remain faithfully in the presence of God and do not regret that you cannot do anything. It is Jesus Christ who lives in us; we must only cling to Him with humility and simplicity of heart and spirit (. . .) Do not resist being in the presence of God without doing anything. He wants you silent and humble. You do so much already if you leave and surrender yourself to His might. Just be faithful! Do not be concerned too much about your distractions; let them pass by, and remain humbly at Jesus' feet, and count yourself unworthy to receive His graces."

Closer to Christ Campaign Update

The Diocesan promoter of the current fundraising campaign has produced an update which we are to circulate within the parish. Please do take a copy with you today; it can be found at the back of both churches with this newsletter.

On Easter Sunday Pope Francis said:

"May we allow ourselves to experience amazement at the joyful proclamation of Easter, at the light that illumines the darkness and the gloom in which, all too often, our world finds itself enveloped."

@Pontifex

IN BRIEF: SUMMARY OF FIVE SUBMISSIONS MADE REGARDING OUR PARISH FUTURE

- 1 More groups – First Holy Communion candidates; parents applying for Baptism of children; ALPHA; parish outreach (SVP); discussion groups during Lent and Advent; Young Men’s Group; catechesis; Parent and Toddler group; Prayer Groups (perhaps online as well as in person); Basic Cookery classes and Events Coordination.
- 2 Reaching out to the wider community eg Churches Together, Warm Café, Luncheon Club for the elderly.
- 3 An “A board” outside the churches on Sundays promoting our regular activities.
- 4 Would a sewing group like to add to the seasonal tapestries available?
- 5 Greater use of the church hall (flower arranging/instruction, bric a brac sales, parent & toddler groups). [*This will necessitate the appointment of a caretaker or similar role to manage access to the building.*]
- 6 A “job fayre” to summarise key roles which are currently vacant (e.g. Health & Safety manager/sacristan/caretaker) as well as other roles where more volunteers are needed (e.g. cleaning/flower arranging/linen washing). Many key jobs within the parish may seem dull, but our small number of volunteers are currently working to capacity just to keep the parish running.
- 7 A coordinator is needed for linking people and their ideas (your parish secretary is willing to do this, it naturally falls within her remit, but some help will be needed with the additional roles which she fulfils).
- 8 The Diocesan course on discerning charisms is recommended – or can we run an abbreviated form of this, free of charge, in house?
- 9 CaFE resources are available for a Belong & Believe course. Possibly other courses can follow.
- 10 A focus on reverence for the sacred liturgy – “If the sense of the sacred were to be completely lost, the soil, or the climate, in which the act of faith blossoms, would be missing for His people.” (Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa). This must be our focus, Christ must be our centre, not the individuals who are here now.

Specifically as regards preparation for a wider “parish” (we will be linked with Brockenhurst, Fordingbridge, Lymington, Lyndhurst, Milford-on-Sea, New Milton and Ringwood):

- 11 What do we currently do well, which we can promote within the new parish?
- 12 What do we lack?
- 13 How would we like what is lacking to be addressed?
- 14 What ideas do we have for engaging with young people and families (the future of the church)? [*Note - Only one family group has so far contributed to the request for ideas and suggestions for our parish future!*]
- 15 Are parishioners willing to provide transport for Mass to parishioners who don’t drive? The parish is prohibited from formally coordinating such arrangements for insurance reasons! When we are a one-church parish, we should consider local bus timetables in setting times for Mass and other services/groups.

MASS READINGS FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

First Reading:

Acts 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared

their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Second Reading: **1 Peter 1:3-9**

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time.

This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Sequence: Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended:
combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain,
yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary:
say what thou didst see
upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen:
he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen
from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation: **John 20:29** Alleluia, Alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia!

Gospel: **John 20:19-31**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.'

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.'

Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.