

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; **For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound:** Contact the parish office.

The Week: 22nd July 2023 - 30th July 2023

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	LITURGY/CELEBRATION	INTENTION	P
SAT	22 nd	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	16 th Sunday of the Year A	Peter Cooper RIP	DMA
SUN	23 rd	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	16 th Sunday of the Year A	Anthony James Boddington RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	23 rd	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	16 th Sunday of the Year A	Esther Margaret Walsh RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
SUN	23 rd	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	16 th Sunday of the Year A	People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	24 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	choice of celebrant	as per celebrant	DQ
TUE	25 th	OLMSJ	10.00am	Mass	St James, Apostle, Feast	Ellen Turnbull RIP (CWL)	DMA
WED	26 th	St Francis	10.00am	Mass	Ss Joachim & Anne, Mem	For those who are unwell	DMA
THU	27 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	16 th Week of the Year (1)	Mary Margaret Ash RIP F/M	DMA
THU	27 th	St Anne	11.00am	Rehearsal	Rehearsal for Wedding	N/A	AP/DMA
FRI	28 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	choice of celebrant	as per celebrant	DQ
SAT	29 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus, Mem	as per celebrant	DQ
SAT	29 th	St Anne	12.30pm	Wedding	Wedding Service	N/A	AP/DMA
SAT	29 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	17 th Sunday of the Year A	Fr Abraham Jacob RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
SUN	30 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	17 th Sunday of the Year A	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	30 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	17 th Sunday of the Year A	Seymour Ernest C. P. England RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	30 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	17 th Sunday of the Year A	Andrew Cole RIP Anniv	DMA

LEAVING THE FINAL JUDGEMENT TO GOD

That demand for instant judgement, for rooting out those who have done harm in the community, for bringing the last judgement into the present tense, is something that is seriously challenged in today's scripture.

The author of Wisdom tries to answer the pressing question: why does God allow the bad to flourish? Why is God so patient and moderate with Israel's enemies? He argues that God's moderation is not a result of weakness: his justice, after all, has its source in strength. But how does God actually use this sovereign strength? The answer is that he disposes of it in favour of governing with "great lenience". So God's mercy is heaped on everyone in sight, even on traditional enemies. And in this there is a purpose:

*By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons and daughters the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.*

The people are asked to share in the same spirit of God and act with kindness to their fellow human beings. The argument is that God's leniency will give the people of Israel the good hope that when they wrong God, they too will surely benefit from his forgiveness. This same hope is enshrined in the Our Father: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." The scandal of God's patience and forbearance with wrong-doers appears again in the Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to a farmer who is confronted with a serious problem: his field is alive with wheat and a poisonous weed, darnel, which can only be distinguished from the wheat when the growth is advanced.

The farmer's servants want to weed out the darnel, but the farmer tells them to leave it alone; he is worried that uprooting the weeds will endanger the wheat. He orders that no premature attempt be made to separate them. Thus both the wheat and the darnel are allowed to grow, and only at the final harvest are they separated.

The message of the parable is something that Jesus lived throughout his ministry. He reached out to all sorts of people, mixing with prostitutes, priests, crooks, scribes, politicians, children, tax-collectors. Religious separatism was something Jesus refused to advocate, making it his business to seek out and save the lost. The Pharisees, those whose very name means "the separated ones", criticised him for associating with the wrong crowd. But Jesus knew that all communities are a mixture of the good and bad, the crooked and the cracked. And further that it isn't always easy to tell which is which. In the end Jesus is the one weeded out by the authorities and thrown onto the killing fields.

The message of the parable still challenges the Church today. It is not the place of the Church to set up inquisitions, support witch hunts, organise purges to free the field for its own approved supporters. The Church is not God. As Christians we have no authority to pronounce the final judgement on anyone. The last word cannot be said about anyone until death, and then it is God's part, not ours, to say it. (From *Seasons of the Word* by Denis McBride)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Anthony James Boddington (25th), Leonard Harding, Margaret Anne Croll (27th)

Sick & Housebound: Gretchen Nagle, Helen Lister, Lorraine Muir, Barbara Mills, Kath Randle, Di Mussert, Rita Ford, Canon Peter Wilkie, June Gow, Norah Sweeney, Sarah Bell.

SUNDAY 23RD JULY 10.00AM: The organisers of the Milford Music Festival have asked that the Sunday should begin with a Christian service of prayer and worship. Please do try to support this on the village green on Sunday morning after the 9.00am Mass at St Francis.

Next Tea & Coffee morning will be on Sunday 6th August thanks to our great team!

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE: Many sincere thanks for a wonderful response for Pot Noodles and energy bars! New Forest for Ukraine are also very grateful for the generous donation of an invaluable generator.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Canon Timothy Dwyer, Teresa Magdalen Smith (24th), Anthony James Boddington, Stefan Josef Kizny (25th), Mary Elena Taylor (27th), David Arthur Groombridge (28th), Andrew Cole (29th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Paddy Lark, Canon Peter Wilkie, Susan McCabe.

WEEKDAY MASS: thanks to Fr David Quarmbly Mass is celebrated each day at St Anne's at 10am. And every Wednesday there is Eucharistic Adoration at 9am, Rosary at 9.30 and Mass at 10 am. This Wednesday, 26th July, is the feast of Ss Joachim & Anne, parents of Mary. St Anne is the patron of our church in Brockenhurst.

FR CHARLIE: Fr Charlie, of the de Montfort missionaries, has written to thank us for the Donation of over £300 for his work in Malawi. He is on leave in this country at the moment and he will come and say the Mass at St Anne's on Sunday, 3rd September. He is looking forward to meeting everyone and wants to thank us for all the support we have given him.

FOR THOSE WHO USE THE PARISH ROOMS: Please remember to lock the front door when you leave. If you are unable to do so, please let Fr David Quarmbly know.

WEDDING AT ST ANNE'S: Rosanah Crowther & Shane Brennan, a couple from Southampton, are getting married at St Anne's on Saturday, 29th July at 12.30pm. The service will be conducted by Deacon Andrew Philpott. The rehearsal will be after Mass on Thursday, 27th July. We wish them every happiness in their married life together.

THE HOUSE MASS on Thursday 10th August at 6pm, will be held at Yew Tree Cottage, Waters Green, Brockenhurst. The house is the last but one going towards Meerut Road. It is the third of the white cob cottages and has a Yew Tree in the front garden. Parking is limited on the Green. So please walk if you can, if not, try parking around the corner by the old Cloud Hotel or Butts Lawn.

All Parishes

GRANDPARENTS DAY THIS SUNDAY: Aba Shields, Marriage and Family Life Project Co-ordinator writes... The MFL team would like to draw attention to this very important celebration of grandparents in homes, parishes and communities. We have also suggested a couple of activities but feel free to be creative and send us photos after the event to: marriagefamilylife@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk 'His Mercy is from age to age' (Luke 1:50) is the banner the Holy Father is flying for World Youth Day and for **Grandparents' Day** this year which falls on **Sunday 23rd July**. In parishes the teenagers could bake something special for the grandparents in the parish and serve it to them. Some could abandon their phones after Mass and sit with their grandparent(s) to learn something about their rich lives. God bless all our grandparents all over the world. To enquire about the Grandparents' Rosary group please contact us on: marriagefamilylife@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

FROM SR VERONICA: Welcome to This Sunday's Gospel reflection. Today we explore some more parables! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7d9hicaPTs&t=7s> God Bless Sr Veronica OP

RETREATS 2023: The Retreats Handbook 2023 gives Information and programmes for over 150 Christian retreat centres in the UK and beyond. It contains details of courses, networks and associations that promote spirituality and spiritual direction. It also contains details of retreats with a theme, eg walking or painting. To find out more, or to buy online visit www.retreats.org.uk/retreatshandbook.

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Teresa Mary Pauline Rumsey, Deirdre Ann Hooker, Elizabeth de Warrenne Waller (22nd), Esther Margaret 'Peggy' Walsh (23rd), Patrick Kavanagh, Mary West, Kathleen Cook (27th)

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

DIARY DATE - Coffee morning in Joseph's Place next Saturday 29th July from 9.30-1pm. Great selection of cakes (coffee and cake £2) and also books for sale. Proceeds are for funding a disadvantaged youngster to attend Fanning the Flame summer camp organised by the Dominican sisters at Sway. We can fund two youngsters if we raise £280 so please come along and support us.

ANNUAL RNLI SERVICE: This is an ecumenical service. It will be held at 5.00pm this coming Sunday, 23rd July, at the Bath Road Recreation Ground in Lymington and will last about half an hour. The service will be conducted by the Vicar of Sway, the Rev. Jane Mitchell, and the Town Band will be playing the hymn tunes. The St Thomas' Church Choir will lead the singing. All are very welcome.

PETER COOPER RIP: The family of Peter would like to send since thanks to all of you who sent messages of condolence and/or attended his funeral on Friday at St Thomas. His Catholic faith was always extremely important to Peter and he loved welcoming everyone to Our Lady of Mercy and St Joseph's for the Saturday service and exchanging lively and jovial comments, something he had done for over five decades. You were all part of his church family. After Covid when he was instructed not to attend he felt very isolated and cast adrift. He would have been humbled and utterly amazed by the wonderful kindness you have shown towards him and our family.

SEEKING ACCOMMODATION IN LYMINGTON: Mr Libin Dominic, a Catholic from India came to the UK in June this year. He has a job lined up at Southlands Special Needs School in Boldre, Lymington and needs accommodation locally. Mr Dominic is 35yrs old. His wife and young son are still in India. He is currently living in Somerset. He can afford between £650 & £700 per month rent. Contact the parish office if you can offer a room to rent.

THANK YOU: - We've had a great response to the request for help at the The Warm Hub and Afternoon Meal programme. Thank you to those who have offered to help.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Total in bank as at: 21/07/23: £256,807.58 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.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS – 2 VACANCIES AT OLSJ SCHOOL: We are looking for one parent governor (appointed by the LEA) and two foundation governors (appointed by the Bishop) to join our great team at OLSJ school. Foundation governors will be keen to support the educational development of the pupils, the welfare both of pupils and staff and the Catholic ethos of the school. DBS safeguarding clearance will be required. Computer skills and access to the internet are also necessary.

HOLIDAY FOODBANKS: Foodbanks usually see an increase in demand for emergency food for children during the summer holidays. Over a third of all food distributed by the foodbank network throughout the year goes to children, but there is extra financial pressure during the school holidays for families who rely on free school meals during term time, amounting to between £30 and £40 a week per child. **To do:** If you regularly donate to foodbanks, consider donating more in the school holidays. If you have never donated to a foodbank, now is a good time to start.

DATE FOR THE DIARY: BRINGING PEOPLE CLOSER TO CHRIST: The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, in partnership with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, is delighted to release details of an **online seminar on Tuesday 21st November exploring strategies for all Catholics to fulfil their mission to bring people closer to Christ.** The keynote address will be given by internationally acclaimed and bestselling author Sherry Anne Weddell from the Catherine of Siena Institute. Sherry has developed numerous unique formation resources that are used around the world and trained and helps lead an international team who have worked directly with over 130,000 lay, religious, and ordained Catholics in hundreds of parishes in 150 (arch)dioceses on 5 continents. Her book *Forming Intentional Disciples* has sold more than 150,000 copies. Tickets are priced at £10 per person and can be purchased by clicking on the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/engaging-the-disengaged-how-to-accompany-1-non-religious-persons-tickets-646139539757>