

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.nfwf.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 Ministers:** Dr Wanda Fojt (safeguarding@lymbrockmil.org.uk); Henrietta Reynolds (safeguarding@brock.org.uk); Liz Price (safeguarding@sfmil.org.uk). **PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Dean & Health & Safety Co ordinator:** Linda Guilding; **For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound; & for the Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Contact the parish office.

The Week: 9th December 2023 - 17th December 2023

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	LITURGY	MASS INTENTION	
SAT	9 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	2 nd Sunday of Advent Yr B	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	10 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	2 nd Sunday of Advent Yr B	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	10 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	2 nd Sunday of Advent Yr B	Nick Connolly RIP	DMA
SUN	10 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	2 nd Sunday of Advent Yr B	People of the Parishes	DMA
TUE	12 th	OLMSJ	10.00am	Mass	of the 2 nd Week of Advent	For those who are unwell	DMA
WED	13 th	St Francis	10.00am	Mass	St Lucy, Mem	For Peace in Ukraine & Palestine	DMA
THU	14 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	St John of the Cross, Mem	For expectant parents	DMA
THU	14 th	OLMSJ	12 noon	Requiem	Requiem Mass	Nick Connolly RIP	DMA
SAT	16 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	3 rd Sunday of Advent Yr B	For those in need	DMA
SUN	17 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	3 rd Sunday of Advent Yr B	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	17 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	3 rd Sunday of Advent Yr B	For those who are unwell	DMA
SUN	17 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	3 rd Sunday of Advent Yr B	People of the Parishes	DMA

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: - SATURDAY MORNINGS 10AM - 10.30AM - 16th / 23rd Dec in OLMSJ Church

THE COMING KINGDOM: Healing the past; Awake to the present; Preparing for the future.

Things are moving very quickly these days – communications, politics, technology, social attitudes, commercial initiatives. There are good things happening and developments that are not so good. We value our freedom, yet our choices are limited. And many people in the world do not have the freedoms that we enjoy. We can take responsibility for our personal lives and change them to some extent but as individuals we have little control over the big movements and changes taking place in the world. However, when we get together with other people who share our values, at least some of our beliefs and our concerns then we can begin to make a real impact. We are reminded that evil triumphs when good people do nothing.

Life, the Christ Mystery, is unfolding and as creatures called to grow in freedom and relationship we have our part to play. The Kingdom that is coming is partly the fruit of what was sown before. We truly reap what we sow. If we use our freedom, personally and together with others, for what is good, working for peace, harmony, fairness and compassion then joy and happiness will grow. If we allow the negative currents to grow stronger and do not challenge them then we will suffer the consequences.

There are big issues that need to be addressed today: reducing greenhouse gases to halt climate change, addressing poverty & inequality, providing employment and housing, finding a way through the broad spectrum of relationship and gender issues, awareness of the effects of our consumer culture & materialism. We have to find ways to manage the growing use of automated technologies replacing the need for human labour, heal the culture clashes between secular, liberal, democratic societies and those that are autocratic, patriarchal and politically, ethnically and religiously intolerant or even violent, handle the potential of AI which carries both huge potential & threat.

The church, as an institution, and particularly in the West, has lost a lot of credibility and respect. Clericalism has covered a multitude of sins which have now been uncovered often by people outside the Church! Women are desperately needed in positions of authority and oversight to provide wise and healthy balance and innovative perspectives. The loss of credibility is particularly acute when it comes to relationship and gender issues. Things are openly discussed on the radio, the internet, social media and TV that cannot be satisfactorily addressed in a church where people of all ages and backgrounds are gathered for prayer and worship. But conversations are urgently needed between parents and their children, between parents, teachers and children, among young people themselves and more broadly within the church community. To do nothing is to risk our young people being a prey to whatever is “out there” and sadly it’s not all good. Doing nothing is the cyber equivalent to “throwing them to the wolves”.

Our Christian, Catholic vision and faith has valuable wisdom to share, wisdom that is vital to human happiness in personal, family and social life. It is about respect and gratitude for life; true love and care for the other person, respect for animals and the environment. It is about the amazing possibility of a free, conscious and loving relationship with the Divine. It is about how our human relationships can receive the fullness of God’s love and joy. These issues must be addressed respectfully and responsibly, calmly and compassionately. The condemnations, anxieties, guilts, embarrassments and negativities of the past must be left there. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Elisabeth Plympton (10th), A Lyons, Vera May Slocombe, Paul Walter Edward Murphy, David Wearne (14th), Lawrence Fee (15th), Mary Fugett, A Slade (16th)

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

SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE: for Di Mussert who is seriously ill.

VIVIEN PARRY RIP: Our thoughts and prayers are with John at this time and may Vivien rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

COFFEE/TEA MORNING next Sunday 17th after Mass.

HOT WATER BOTTLES for Ukraine. people there are desperate. Please remember the box in the porch. Thank you very much to those who have contributed already. - Judith.

A CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS IN MILFORD: .Nativity Scene: There will be a full size Nativity Scene on the Village Green throughout the Festive Season as we try to preserve the traditional spirit of Christmas.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Laura Bartram, Patrick Whelan (10th), Helen Beatrice Margaret Mary Parsons (11th), Percy Edward Charles (13th)

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

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY: If you would like to make a Gift Aided offertory to Fr 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 Christmas Offertory and include your name which we need to claim back the tax. If you have any queries please ring Bill Pignatelli 01590 623360.

All Parishes

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

OLSJ SCHOOL Christmas Carol Service: Fr David and Linda attended our school's Carol Service on Wednesday in our church. The weather was atrocious, but it didn't dampen their spirits! The children sang with great enthusiasm and read the Christmas story with great reverence. The highlight of the Carol Service was a solo by Elizabeth Rothwell whose voice touched all our hearts. She sang about the true meaning of Christmas with great maturity and love. There wasn't a dry eye in the house. The school term ends next week and we wish all our staff, pupils and parents a blessed and Holy Christmas.

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE : THANK YOU "A massive THANK YOU to you all from the Ampress Park Ukraine Hub for all the wonderful knitted items we received today and for the box of 40 hot water bottles which will be winding their way to Ukraine on the next lorry load going out before Christmas. Your continued support is much appreciated."

ADVENT CAFOD APPEAL 2023: During Advent, as we wait for Christmas and the joy of Jesus' birth, it's important to remember that some things can't wait. For families around the world, time is running out to get the vital supplies they need to survive the winter. £15 could help a parent buy a blanket to keep their child warm. £30 could allow a family to buy a winter survival kit. £151 could allow a family to repair their home.

SR VERONICA'S WEEKLY REFLECTION: Welcome to the 2nd Sunday of Advent. Our reflection this week helps us to focus on John the Baptist. Can we, like John, prepare the way for Jesus in our families and places of work and parish communities? Are we growing as missionary disciples? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgaMagjp22w&t=35s>
Reminder : our carol service will take place on 17th December 3pm You can come in person or watch us online. (It will be recorded). <https://www.churchservices.tv/lymington> God Bless Sr Veronica OP

CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR YOUR PARISH PRIEST: The Christmas Offering is one of the ways the Church tries to ensure that clergy have a sufficient income. If you wish to contribute, there are 3 ways:

1) a personal gift given or sent directly to your parish priest; this is not eligible for Gift Aid.

2) an amount paid to the parish by cash or cheque. (CDP Lyminster Our Lady or CDP Brockenhurst St Anne or CDP Milford-on-Sea St Francis)
To add the benefit of Gift Aid to your donation you must be registered with the parish for Gift Aid and state your name & the purpose of the donation.

3) You can use the Diocesan Give-As-You-Live (GAYL) facility. The links are below:

For Lyminster:
<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/lymington-our-lady-of-mercy-and-st-joseph-catholic-church-christmas-collection-2023>

For Milford:
<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/milford-on-sea-st-francis-of-assis-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2023>

For Brockenhurst:
<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/brockenhurst-st-anne-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2023>

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lyminster

Anniversaries this week: Ernest James Batsan, David Philip Jeffcock (9th), Eunice Kelleher (10th), Madeleine Garth (11th), Marianne Winifred (Mary) Aylward (12th), John Lloyd, Pamela Joan Hoey (13th), Anthony John Leahy (14th), Mary O'Callaghan (15th)

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

SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE: for Frances Walker who is very seriously ill.

NICK CONNOLLY RIP: The Requiem Mass for Nick is on this Thursday, 14th Dec at 12 noon in OLMSJ. May Nick rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

AUDREY GOURLAY RIP: The Funeral Service for Audrey will be at St Anne's on Tues, 19th Dec at 2pm followed by Committal at the New Forest crematorium at 4pm. May Audrey rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

LEO PEARSON RIP: The Requiem Mass for Leo will take place at St Anne's on Thurs, 21st Dec at 11.30am followed by Committal at the New Forest Crematorium at 1pm. May Leo rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: The Friendship Club Tree (decorated by Cathryn, Lisa & Marie) sold for £60 and the proceeds went to the St Thomas's charity. Well done everyone.

MISSIO 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 (9th & 10th December) and the following weekend (16th & 17th December). 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.

BOOKS! IN JOSEPH'S PLACE: we have a selection of books available for you to browse and borrow or even take home and keep for a small donation. Please come along and take a look! Something for yourself to enjoy or possibly a gift for someone for Christmas!

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH AT ST THOMAS'S: It is in the Church Hall again this year. We have sent a letter to nursing homes etc. We hope to give a small gift to all our guests (max.value £5) and would be grateful to receive any wrapped gifts labelled lady or gentleman. If anyone would like to help on the day before or Christmas Day, please let us know. The deadline for names of anyone wishing to come to the lunch is Friday 15th December. Kind regards, Suzie and Daphne. St.Thomas and All Saints, Lyminster, 01590 676194

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Total in bank as at: 08/12/23: £260,855.08 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.

Sunday 10th December: 2.30pm OLMSJ Back by popular request 'Carols, mince pies and Linda's delicious Mulled wine'! Just what you need to get in the mood for Christmas! **This is open to all 3 parishes.**

Dear All, Our final service in Advent is **Facing Christmas**. *Those who leave everything in God's hand will eventually see God's hand in everything.* Sometimes we need a quiet space, a time to reflect, to recharge our batteries before everyone descends on us at Christmas time. A place where we can forget about the presents we still need to buy, the beds we have to make up for guests, the cake still to be made, the cards to send and the other endless chores on our 'To Do' lists. Somewhere we can be calm with the Lord.

For others, the bereaved, the sick and the lonely, Christmas is a difficult time and the excitement of Christmas, and even the Christmas services, can be too jolly.

And so, we have the service '**Facing Christmas**'. A candle lit service for all the above and everyone else.

For those who wish it, at the end of the service I will bless them with the Oil of Gladness on their hands or forehead. It is NOT a sacramental anointing. It is a blessing that signifies healing and joyful oneness with God. **Facing Christmas** is for all of our 3 parishes: at OLMSJ at 7pm on Wednesday 13th December (next Wednesday).

CHRISTMAS - PLEASE NOTE :

This year the 4th Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve, so that Sunday falls into 2 halves: the 4th Sunday of Advent in the morning. Christmas Eve in the evening.

SATURDAY 23rd DECEMBER

Vigil Mass, 4th Sunday of Advent 6pm OLMSJ

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER 4th Sunday of Advent

9am Mass ST FRANCIS

****THERE WON'T BE A 10.30am MASS AT OLMSJ ON THIS DAY****

10.30am Mass ST ANNE'S

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm First Mass of Christmas OLMSJ

MONDAY 25th DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY

9am Mass ST FRANCIS

10.30am Mass OLMSJ

12 noon Mass ST ANNE'S