

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 OPT

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 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: 27th January 2024 - 4th February 2024

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	LITURGY	MASS INTENTION	
SAT	27 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	4 th Sunday of the Year	Fr Andrew McMahon OFM RIP	DMA
SUN	28 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	4 th Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	28 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	4 th Sunday of the Year	Kathleen Dorothy Haywood RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	28 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	4 th Sunday of the Year	Canon Timothy (Ted) Dwyer RIP F/M	DMA
TUE	30 th	OLMSJ	9.00am	Mass	4 th Week of the Year (2)	Dec'd of the Tumbull family	DMA
WED	31 st	St Francis	10.00am	Mass	St John Bosco, Mem	Kathleen Mary Davies RIP Anniv	DMA
THUR	1 st	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	4 th Week of the Year (2)	The Baker Family F/M	DMA
SAT	3 rd	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	5 th Sunday of the Year	Frances Walker Ints (FC)	DMA
SUN	4 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	5 th Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	4 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	5 th Sunday of the Year	Frances & Den Walker Ints (LH)	DMA
SUN	4 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	5 th Sunday of the Year	People of the Parishes	DMA

WHAT IS GOING ON? If this Sunday's Gospel story had been about a person who slipped and fell and broke their leg and who then was miraculously healed by Jesus we would have immediately understood the situation even if we had to take the miracle on faith. The problem for us about stories of exorcisms, deliverances and the driving out of unclean spirits is that there is little or no connection with our own experience. We ask ourselves just what is going on here?

We are more aware these days of how cultural beliefs can, on the one hand, shape the imaginative expressions of human experience and on the other hand, to some extent, create those experiences. We are also more aware of different types of emotional, psychological and mental disabilities, conditions and pathologies. The vast majority of secular psychiatrists would totally reject any notion of independent spirit entities. The Church's official exorcists themselves have to do a very complex work of discernment before concluding that spirit entities are the cause of any psychic disturbance.

So, can we get any grasp on this story or is it impossible to unravel the complex cultural cocktail within which it is framed and which alone can reveal its meaning? If we leave aside mental problems caused by chemical deficiencies in the brain or by structural abnormalities in the brain and the more obvious conditions which are recognisable by today's categories, e.g. epilepsy, there remains a lot of mental torment & emotional suffering caused by dissociated experience or repression. This happens when we disconnect from painful experiences and keep them out of conscious memory. This is largely an unconscious process that can begin from the earliest years.

There is no question of guilt in these reactions but finding healing does require taking responsibility for one's life in the here and now. Powerful forces within culture such as institutions, family, religion, state, popular prejudices, taboos etc can become oppressive and then they often deform, disfigure and undermine healthy emotional and psychic development (e.g. anorexia). It is curious that Jesus usually encounters these "demons" in the synagogue – a "holy" place; but then the greatest evil arises from the corruption of the greatest good. And how often did Jesus criticise the "chief priests, the scribes and the Pharisees" for denying God's mercy and compassion to ordinary people.

Rejection, hatred and abuse by family, society or religion can cause such pain that the experience is repressed and becomes a dissociated (i.e. disconnected from conscious association) nucleus of negative energy. The destructive power may be turned inwards or outwards. The deeper the repression the more uncontrollable are the symptoms and the more alien these experiences seem to be. It is then just a short step away from being seen as the victim of external forces beyond one's control.

"What do you want with us? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are; the holy one of God". Perhaps today Jesus would have heard: "Why are you bothering with me? I suppose you hate me like everyone else? I know you're a good person, but that just makes me feel worse". It is the pure, unconditional love of God in Jesus that communicates the total acceptance that allows the person to accept and reconnect with the rejected part of themselves and so experience healing which is the return of wholeness. Only divine love has the power and authority to set free and we are called to give that quality of love and so help others find healing. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Kathleen Mary Davies (31st), Edward Harry Farr, Mary Agnes Margaret Langford (1st)

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

HILARY SENDALL RIP: The Requiem Mass for Hilary will on Friday, 16th Feb at 2.30pm, followed by Committal at New Forest Crematorium. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alan and the family. And may Hilary rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

COFFEE MORNING: next Sunday, 4th Feb. Our thanks to the team.

UKRAINE: Donations for generators still needed. Please put in envelope marked 'generators' in collection. Many thanks!

LYMINGTON COFFEE MORNING SAT 27th JANUARY: A HUGE thank you to all those who made today's Coffee morning at OLMSJ such a success. £200 was raised and will be going to our local charity -Oakhaven. Special thanks to all the wonderful cake makers from OLMSJ, St Anne's and St Francis of Assisi who produced a terrific array of cakes. A great 3 parish combined effort. Brilliant!

The next Coffee Morning will be Saturday 24th February and it will be in aid of Ukraine. All funds raised will go to NFFU at Ampress Park, to help buy generators which are badly needed in Ukraine right now.

BIG LENT WALK – See item in All Parishes section. If anyone is interested in a local walk please contact Rosalie: rosaliamans@hotmail.com.

DATE FOR THE DIARY: Milford Choralia Choir have been invited to sing evensong at Salisbury Cathedral on Thurs, 20th June at 5.30pm. If you are interested in going please contact Rosalie as above.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Irene Dolores Ledsham, Dorothy Green (31st), Fr Austin Hurlley, William (Ted) Joseph Hayward (1st), Ernest Spencer, Kathleen Hally (2nd), Margaret Gates, Thomas Letchworth (3rd)

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

EVA MARY BISHOP RIP: aka "Joy", the Funeral Service will take place on Friday, 9th February at 11am in St Anne's church, followed by burial at St Nicholas's cemetery. May Eva rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

PAX CHRISTI: Many thanks to everyone who donated to Pax Christi on Peace Sunday. We sent £114 to the charity which will contribute to their much-needed justice and peace work.

NEW FOREST FOR UKRAINE: The box for donations will remain at the back of the church. Warm clothing items are still very welcome and we are also being asked for tinned soup and bars of soap.

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All Parishes

SR VERONICA'S REFLECTION: Welcome to this week's reflection (Apologies in advance for the sound quality) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeXmBMOeDJA&t=11s>

This week we are asked to consider the authority that Jesus carries in his Mission. He speaks in the name of his Father who has called him into this mission. God Bless Sr Veronica OP.

MISSION DIRECT: This is a Christian offering two week mission placements abroad with the chance to make a long term positive impact for some of the world's most deprived people. It comes recommended by Roger Maughan (St Francis parish) who has worked with them in Africa. If you are interested in helping abroad their contact details are <https://@missiondirect.org>

CAFOD BIG LENT WALK: We are so excited to tell you that the **Big Lent Walk** is coming back for 2024! Will you take on the challenge to walk 200km over 40 days to help fight global poverty? That's right – that's 5km a day, and you're in good time to get in plenty of training! You can walk, run, skip, or stroll your 200km, when and where you choose, alone or with friends. You'll be among thousands of people up and down England, Wales and Scotland conquering your 200km targets in time for Easter. This Lent, CAFOD is joining forces with SCIAF, our Scottish sister agency, to bring the Big Lent Walk to the whole of Great Britain! From John O'Groats to Land's End, Dundee to Dover or Cardiff to Coventry, people will be tying up their purple laces to give poverty its marching orders. **Join us for the Big Lent Walk.** The money you raise will help people as they overcome poverty. Remember, every step you take is a step closer to a fairer world. Let's tell poverty to jog on! Neil Roper, CAFOD Events

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: William Moppett, Mary Elizabeth Wilkins (27th), Kathleen Hayward, Violet (Vicky) Chell, Tyler Dean (28th), Arthur Smith, Roy (Maura) Grainger McHale (29th), Kathleen Davies, William Leon, Juan Nunez, John Paul Rutter (31st), Michael Bingham (1st), James Noel Ormiston (2nd)

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

PRAYERS PLEASE FOR: Den Walker who is in hospital after a fall. Frances has begun her treatment and we pray everything will go as well as can be hoped.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE (CWL): The next meeting of the CWL is on Tuesday 13th February 2024, at 2.15 pm. This meeting is our AGM but new members/observers are welcome.

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GENERATORS FOR UKRAINE: If you would like to donate any amount, however small, towards a portable generator for Ukraine – a small capacity generator is £275 and a large capacity generator is £500-please put your donations in an envelope marked 'Generator' and put in with the parish collection. Thank you for your continued support.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Sr Hyacinthe OP at the Dominican Priory who successfully defended her Doctoral thesis. We hope she will be able to relax a bit now that all the hard work is over and the pressure off.

CALLING ALL WELCOMERS, FIRE WARDENS AND ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A FIRE WARDEN AT OLMSJ: There will be a Fire Wardens/Welcomers Training meeting on Wednesday 31st January at 7pm in OLMSJ. We have to have a Fire Drill by Law. The Fire Wardens and Welcomers who are also Fire Wardens have to have a Training session at least once a year. Thank you to all those who meet, greet and keep you safe.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: On 15/01/24 Church Building Fund was £261,440.08.

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: Calling parents who have children in Yr 3 and who want them to make their 1st Holy Communion. Please make email contact with Fr David to enrol them for this year's programme. You will then receive details about dates and requirements.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL: It'll soon be Spring and the children from our Catholic primary school want to be ready! Can you help? Have you any small plastic plant pots so the children can start growing their plants? Or would you like to contribute to a pair of waterproof gardening gloves for our young people? We are trying to buy a set of 20 so a whole class can get gardening. Or maybe you'd like to donate the money for a trowel...or 2. Have you any spare vegetable or flower seeds, or spare bulbs or plants which they could have? Did you know that they grow vegetables and the school kitchen cook what is grown to go with the school meals. Vegetables are also taken to the Foodbank to share with those less fortunate than themselves. The children are really enjoying gardening so if you can help in any way, however small, please let Linda or Fr David know. Thank you.

FANTASTIC RESULTS FOR OUR SCHOOL: The National League Tables for KS2 have been released this week. We are delighted to report that our exam results at Key Stage 2 are "top of the class," - ranking in first place within Hampshire for pupils attaining the "higher standard". 42% of pupils at our school achieved the 'Greater Depth' standard last year in reading, writing and maths, in comparison to just 8% of children nationally. There are more than 500 schools in Hampshire, so this is quite some achievement! The OLSJ team work tirelessly to focus on the whole child and provide nurture, challenge and an enriching curriculum. We are extremely proud of our children and their results. Our Southampton schools also all rank within the Top 10 for their performance in their respective Local Authority table. These excellent results are testament to the hard work and dedication of the whole partnership team, our children, families and wider partnership community. Success and hard work is shared by all. Nothing hard won is ever easily gained. You can view the league tables below at: https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=850&geographic=la&for=pri mary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_HIGH&orderdir=asc