

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; 16th March 2024 - 24th March 2024

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	LITURGY	MASS INTENTION (when applicable)	
SAT	16 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent	Jimmy & Kathleen Swinden RIP Anniv F/M	DMA
SUN	17 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	17 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent	Denville Cameron Walker RIP	DMA
SUN	17 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	5 th Sunday of Lent	Sylvia Miles RIP	DMA
MON	18 th	OLSJ School	9.00am	Session	Stations of the Cross Rehearsal	N/A	LMG/DMA
TUE	19 th	OLMSJ	10.00am	Mass	St Joseph, Solemnity	For our parish & school communities	DMA
TUE	19 th	Milford Cem	2.00pm	Service	Burial of Ashes - Norah R. Davey	N/A	DMA
WED	20 th	St Francis	10.00am	Mass	5 th Week of Lent	For our bereaved families	DMA
THUR	21 st	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	5 th Week of Lent	as per celebrant	DQ
FRI	22 nd	St Francis	11.30am	Service	Funeral Service - Peter Larke RIP	N/A	DMA
FRI	22 nd	N.F. Crem	3.00pm	Service	Funeral Service - William Myers RIP	N/A	DMA
SAT	23 rd	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	Palm Sunday	Joan Cunningham RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	24 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	Palm Sunday	Michael Halle RIP Anniv	DMA
SUN	24 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	Palm Sunday	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	24 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	Palm Sunday	Florence Esme Morrison RIP F/M	DMA

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

We are used to hearing phrases like: Jesus died to save us; Jesus died for our sins etc. Yet it is difficult to understand why this had to be so and how Jesus' death actually saves us.

Like everything we have to be cautious and humble before the Divine mystery of God's love. However we can receive with confidence whatever light God gives us through Scripture and the Church.

First of all we need to recognise the different levels involved. At a physical, biological level Jesus probably died from blood loss, shock and congestion of the lungs. He suffered judicial murder because of the hatred and jealousy of the religious authorities and the moral weakness of the Roman governor, Pilate. Jesus became a victim of their malice because his fearless proclamation of the Reign of God brought him into direct conflict with them. It was a collision of opposites. Jesus did not run away from this conflict because he had an overriding conviction that he had to speak and do the truth of God's love regardless of the consequences. To take any other course would be to violate the relationship of love, faith and trust that existed between him and his Father.

It is clear that Jesus had a pretty good idea of the probable outcome of his conflict with the authorities. It is also reasonable to assume that Jesus himself had already begun to interpret the *rejection, suffering and death* in terms of the great spiritual lessons, events and teachings of the past – Passover meal, sufferings of the prophets and the teaching of the prophets – especially Isaiah and the so-called “Suffering Servant” passages. His faith was that somehow his Father would use his death to bring salvation to the human race. Even though in the garden it was the last thing he wanted he was able to trust to the Father's purpose (*Not my will, but yours be done*).

But this still doesn't answer our question –How does Jesus' death save us? Jesus deals with sin and forgiveness at the same time. Sin is exposed for what it is – the hatred and evil that leads us to make victims and kill the rejected ones.

This sin is the dark origin of human groups. All groups form by distinguishing between those who are in and those who are out. It begins with rejection, it becomes persecution (suffering) and it ends in elimination, i.e. death. Jesus reveals this “scapegoating” as the fundamental evil and that God is there with the victim. We see this dark dynamic at work all the time on the world stage & among all kinds of competing groups.

Yet because Jesus accepts death in love and refuses to hit back, refuses to take revenge, his death becomes the expression of God's inexhaustible forgiveness and love. The judgement of sin calls us to change our behaviour. The expression of unquenchable, loving forgiveness is the assurance of mercy and reconciliation. This is received by trust and faith in thanksgiving.

John's Gospel gives us the mature reflection on this mystery. Jesus's death was not a price that had to be paid to God or to the devil. It was not an appeasement of God's anger. It was purely an expression of love: *no greater love has anyone than to lay down their life for their friends. God so loved the world!* This is how we are saved. Of course, death is the only way back to God and God is the source of new life and resurrection. Faith and trust in God is the personal openness, the personal connection that enables us to receive the gift of new life and resurrection. In this context both Jesus and all of us have to die. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: James Boyd Smith (18th), Patrick Joseph Lang (19th), A Chamberlain (20th), Fr Leonard Shaw SJ, Phyllis Mary Meldon, John Adair Langford, Cecilia June Litton (21st)

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

COFFEE MORNING: this Sunday, 17th Mar. Our thanks to the Team!

PETER LARKE RIP: The Funeral Service for Peter will be on Friday, 22nd March at 11.30am followed by Committal at New Forest Crematorium at 1pm. Our thoughts and prayers are with Maeve and all the family. May Peter rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen. Everyone is welcome to the gathering at South Lawns Hotel after the service. Details on donations & the Committal Service webcast have been emailed to parishioners.

GOOD FRIDAY 29TH MARCH: Stations of the Cross in St Francis church at 11.00am This should finish in plenty of time for those who wish to join Christians Together for the service on the village green at 12.00pm (in All Saints Church in the event of bad weather)

LENTEN SERVICE OF REFLECTION: an intriguing and illuminating reflection on the **Veil of the Temple**, given by Mary Dunn, 7.00 pm Wednesday 20th March in OLMSJ. If anyone would like a lift please contact the Kirkes 645521.

THANK YOU for a good response to the request for sachets of baby food and containers of baby dried milk. Box still in porch, the collection goes on!

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Mary Morse (20th), Violet Teresa Patience, Ronald George Aiano (23rd)

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

WEEKDAY MASS - THURSDAY: I am grateful again to Fr David Quarmbly for celebrating Mass this coming Thursday. I have to attend an all day meeting for Co-ordinating Pastors in Basingstoke.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: here at St Anne's on Wednesday of Holy Week, 27th March, at 7pm. As in previous years, parishioners from St Saviour's will be joining us.

QUINQUENNIAL BUILDING INSPECTION: This taking place on Tues, 19th Mar and includes both the church and the presbytery. Our thanks to Cedric & the Finance & property committee for organising this.

All Parishes

SCHOOL NEWS: World Book Day - We had an absolute ball on World Book Day! Princesses, princes, fairy tale characters, dragons, minibeasts, animals, astronauts, superheroes, mythical creatures and more adorned the school as part of our World Book Day celebrations! The air was buzzing with excitement as each class entered through an 'imagination door', created by their teachers, linked to the day's story! Each class partook in a plethora of activities that brought the magic of their chosen book to life. Teachers captivated their students with tales of adventure, mystery, and imagination. This culminated with each child creating a piece of 'beautiful work' to show off their learning about their book. World Book Day was not just a celebration of literature; it was a reaffirmation of the magic that unfolds when words come alive on the pages of a book. A highlight of the day was the school assembly and 'fashion show', with a burst of colour and creativity as students and teachers alike donned costumes inspired by their favourite literary characters and showed them off to the rest of the school. We were thrilled to be joined by governors Fr David and Linda Guilding who came as The Mad Hatter and as The White Rabbit - what good sports! All photographs of the children (and governors) as characters from their favourite books can be found by going to the school website <https://olsjschool.co.uk/schoolblog/world-book-day>

The winners of our partnership **Extreme Reading competition** and **Pip and Pap 'design a front cover' competition** were also announced - thank you to everyone that entered, it was very hard to pick the winners! Our pupil Reading Ambassadors created a 'Book Bistro' for pupils to try new stories at lunchtime- they did a splendid job! All students have received a £1 voucher to purchase a 'World Book Day Book' or to put towards a book of their choice. All good local bookstores stock World Book Day books or accept vouchers. **OLSJ's library bus** was also featured on BBC Live Lessons, as part of their World Book Day special!

We extend our gratitude to all the teachers, students, and parents who contributed to making this day a resounding success. Together, we celebrated the beauty of stories, the joy of reading, and the endless possibilities that unfold when we open the cover of a book. Until next year's literary extravaganza, happy reading!

Duckling Blog Year 2 Science/Maths

A very special delivery arrived in the year 2 classroom on Monday morning, an incubator containing 4 duck eggs, plus a special surprise... a beautiful, fluffy duckling which had already hatched! We have decided to name it Phoenix! We are now keeping a close eye on the eggs, looking for any signs that some more little ducklings will be joining our OLSJ family. This week during Maths, we have been thinking about mass and comparing the weight of different objects. Today, we thought about how much the duckling weighed and found objects which were heavier and lighter.

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Ellen Leech, Bernard Finn, John F J P O'Connell (17th), Margaret Clement (18th), Agnes Panniah, Vera Martin M.B.E. (19th), Kathleen Harper (20th), Judith Giles (21st), Charles Desmond Waring (22nd)

Sick and Housebound: Fr Shaun Budden, Pat Leahy, Clare Bearcroft, Susie Wright, Joan McCafferty, Frances Riches, Ron & Rita Barrett, Canon Peter Wilkie, John & Nicki Collins, Frances Walker, Sean Dunn, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Simone Cluett.

WILLIAM MYERS RIP: The Funeral Service for William will take place at the New Forest Crematorium on Friday, 22nd March at 3pm. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Claire, and their children, and Gillian, William's sister. May William rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Patricia Emmett representing Church Readers, will be leading the Stations of the Cross at 10am on Friday 22nd March in OLMSJ church.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION DURING LENT: Saturday mornings from 10am – 10.30am in OLMSJ church. Nearer Holy Week additional opportunities will be available also.

LENTEN SERVICE OF REFLECTION: this will be led by Mary Dunn. It entitled – **The Veil of the Temple**, on Wed, 20th March at 7pm

CWL FUND-RAISING: On Sat, 9th Mar the CWL Coffee Morning raised £151.50p for the NF Basics Bank. On Tues, 12th Mar they donated £200 to the Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance. They have also donated £50 towards Easter eggs for seafarers to be distributed by Stella Maris.

RUMMIKUB AND SCRABBLE CLUB: will meet in Joseph's Place on Monday 18 March January at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for a game or two, good company and refreshments. Do you know anyone who would like to join us? If so, please pass on these details.

NFFU KNITTING APPEAL UPDATE: "Sincere thanks to all knitters for helping to support the people of Ukraine during this very cold winter. The latest and on-going appeal we have received is for baby clothes including mittens, socks and hats, knitted soft toys and baby blankets from pram/cot size upto bed size. Thankfully temperatures are improving and for now, the need for more scarves, hats and gloves for toddlers and young children has been taken off our appeal list". Hot Water Bottles NFFU have been able to secure more hot water bottles to send out on the next lorry but need covers for them. Could you help by knitting covers for standard size hot water bottles? You can use any colour or pattern you like and if you don't have a pattern there are copies available at the back of church. **THERE IS A DROP BOX IN THE PORCH OF OLMSJ** for all knitted items.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: On 23/02/24 Church Building Fund was £261,885.08.

All Parishes

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

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP PHILIP: It is on regular Confession. The text will be emailed out with the newsletter and can be found on the Diocesan website. Some printed copies will be available in church.

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025: Pope Francis has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee Year, entitled '*Pilgrims of Hope*'. The Jubilee year only comes around every 25 years. More information to come as the year goes on. In preparation for the Jubilee Year, the Pope has proclaimed 2024 to be 'A Year of Prayer.' It will focus on all prayer but particularly the prayer Jesus gave to his disciples, the 'Our Father.' The Lord's Prayer.

THE PROJECT:

OLSJ and our 3 parishes of Milford on Sea, Lymington and Brockenhurst are trying to find which languages are spoken among our families, relations and friends in our communities. This includes dialects for example Yorkshire. So just let us know what your chosen language is.

SR VERONICA'S WEEKLY REFLECTION: Welcome, Today we move into exploring the New Covenant that comes with the saving actions of Jesus. We begin the final weeks of Lent known as Passiontide which bring us ever closer to the fulfillment of this covenant. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDHLofLrwik&t=146s>. God Bless Sr Veronica OP.