

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 & Newsletter Items:** lymbrock@sky.com.

Website: www.nfwp.org.uk; **Parish Blog:** www.lymrcchurch.blogspot.com. **Registered Charity No:** 246871/2

School: Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School, Ramley Rd, Pennington, 01590 672711. **Head of School:** Nanette Allies

Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils: Mike Reynolds, Lymington; Henry Mellor, Brockenhurst; Anthony Kirke, Milford on Sea

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Cathy Pickles (Lym); Susan McCabe (Brock); Liz White (Mil).

PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Health & Safety Co ordinator : Linda Guilding; **Health & Safety Reps St Francis:** Colin Stack & John

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

From 10 - 10.30am after Mass on Saturday morning or by request anytime

Masses & Services for the Week: 30th December - 7th January

DAY	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SAT	30 th	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	The Holy Family	People of the Parish	DMA
SUN	31 st	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	The Holy Family	Fr Barry Farmer - Intentions	DMA
SUN	31 st	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	The Holy Family	as per celebrant	PWR
SUN	31 st	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	The Holy Family	Kieran Holland RIP	DMA
MON	1 st	10.00am	Mass	Our Lady	Mary, Mother of God, Solemnity, (W)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	2 nd	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Ss Basil & Gregory, Mem, (W)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
WED	3 rd	10.00am	Mass	St Francis	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	People of the Parish	DMA
WED	3 rd	10.00am	Mass	St Anne	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	as per celebrant	DQ
WED	3 rd	9.30am	Word & H C	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	N/A	
THU	4 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	The Baker Family F/M	DMA
FRI	5 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	Mary Aylward RIP	DMA
FRI	5 th	3.15pm	Funeral	Romsey	Funeral Service - Mary Aylward RIP	at Romsey Crematorium	DMA
SAT	6 th	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	Liturgy of the Day, (W)	Those who are unwell	DMA
SAT	6 th	6.00pm	Mass	Our Lady	The Epiphany of the Lord	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	7 th	9.00am	Mass	St Francis	The Epiphany of the Lord	People of the Parish	DMA
SUN	7 th	10.30am	Mass	Our Lady	The Epiphany of the Lord	Marcia Greenwood RIP	DMA
SUN	7 th	12.30pm	Baptism	Our Lady	Baptism of baby Emilia McGinnes	N/A	DMA
SUN	7 th	6.00pm	Mass	St Anne	The Epiphany of the Lord	Tess Pearson & cousins Mollie & Rosie	PWR

THE CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION: This year the crib offerings will go to "Friends of the Holy Land" who support over 2,000 needy Christians in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel & Jordan.

CHRISTMASTIDE QUESTIONS

Can God really become one of us? And if God was among us would that person be what we were expecting or would they completely surprise us? Are the fullness of Divinity and the fullness of humanity aspects of the same mystery? Is the fullness of our humanity its capacity to image the Divine in both strength and weakness?

The prologue of John's gospel tells us that the reality that gives life and expression to all things is the same reality that gives life and expression to Jesus. This reality is the Word, the Mind, the Intelligence of God. God becomes flesh in Jesus. God becomes bread and wine in the Eucharist. God becomes you and me in this moment.

Here we are on some little planet, in a little solar system on the edge of a little galaxy, in a vast universe of countless galaxies and stars.

There was Jesus, a baby, born in an obscure region of the Roman empire in a far off time. Here are bread and wine, simple everyday things. Here we are with our ordinary lives, our ordinary virtues and our ordinary sins. Just because we are physically insignificant doesn't mean we aren't greatly loved and valued.

We are a little part of a great mystery but because we are a part we also share the greatness and the glory of the whole reality, the whole mystery of God.

God in Jesus, God in Eucharist, God in you and me - its all part of the same awe inspiring, mind boggling mystery. It just seems to be the way, that we have to see it out there, in Jesus, out there in the Eucharist, before we can believe it and see it in ourselves and in others too.

Do we want to see this? What is it that makes us hesitant, slow to believe that this is true? Why would we not want it to be true? How can we receive this gift if we won't accept it? If not now, when? If not here, where? If not in these circumstances, then in what? If we want God to act we must let God act through us. If we want things to change we must be the change. (DMA)

FAMILY: Jesus didn't idolise the tribal family. He didn't despise it either. Jesus gathered a family of those in harmony with the Father's will. This "will" is love of one another and the whole human race. It sees the Divine in each person and thing, beyond gender, race or worldly status. The "father-mother-child(ren)" relationship is the majority human experience & must be honoured and protected. Secure, happy & loving families provide an ideal context nurturing children. At the same time we must respect and love those who can't relate in this way or who choose other models of community, both natural & spiritual. Jesus indicated that gender is for this life only & that it won't be part of our experience later on (Luke 20:30). However encouraging gender confusion at an early age will only do harm. (DMA).

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Mary Elizabeth Woolgar (3rd), Mary Charlotte Bushnell (6th)

Sick & Housebound: Sarah Bell, Audrey Heneghan, Margaret Langford, Hannah McArthur, Sean McVeigh & Hilary Sendall.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA: Please see the item below for all the Churches.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Sheila Dot Thatcher (31st), Joseph Williams (2nd), Maria Wingate, Rosamund Biltcliffe (3rd), Mary Syrett (4th), Winifred Chainey, Mary Olney (5th)

For all our activities, travels and organisation, our prayer life continues, as we remember our friends who are house-bound and unwell. We keep in our minds Anna Hubbard and Eileen Dunn.

KIERAN HOLLAND RIP: You'll be sad to hear that Kieran passed over on Christmas Day at 2pm. Kieran was a gentle man of faith, much loved by all who knew him. His Requiem Mass will take place at St Anne's on Wednesday, 17th January at 1pm followed by burial at St Nicholas's cemetery. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Fr Quarmby will celebrate Mass this week at 10am only on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.

To our Young People: This beautiful season must not pass us by without our expressing our thanks to Madeleine and to each of you for the care and attention you gave for us all to appreciate the Jesse Tree that you began in Advent. It is a beautiful way of presenting the story of God's promise of the Messiah, through the Family Tree of David's ancestors and the Old testament symbols of hope and promise.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, we need to remember so many families who struggle for some happiness in their lives, but also, we can surely celebrate each member of our own families too, as we give thanks for that little Family in the stable.

First Holy Communions NEXT SUNDAY: As well as celebrating the Epiphany next Sunday, we will also be celebrating Tess Pearson's 1st Holy Communion. Also making their 1st Holy Communion will be Tess's cousins from California, Mollie & Rosie. So it will be a very happy celebration

Choir Questionnaires: Keep 'em rolling. Keep 'em honest. Keep 'em helpful.

Fr Charlie. Don't forget to read his interesting letter and see his photos, all in the Parish Room.

Christmas Day Newsheet. Did you read Fr David's quite long article on the 'Light IN the World'? It's well worth your time in a quiet corner at home! At a different time, there is also a lovely long quotation from Fr Ron Rolheiser on the Incarnation. Don't throw those sheets away too soon!

Please remember your sub-editor and keep the sheet alive and up to date. Just tell me the item and I'll write up the rest. Send it to greenoaks@waitrose.com before Thursday lunch time. Thank you!

All Parishes

FROM FR DAVID: a very **big thank you** to everyone for the generous Christmas offering & for many prayers, cards and gifts.

A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM THE BISHOP! a copy of Matthew Kelly's best-selling book, *Rediscover Jesus*. **THERE ARE STILL PLENTY LEFT & THEY COULD BE HELPFUL TO FRIENDS OR RELATIVES**

PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE: The next edition of Portsmouth People has arrived. Please pick up a copy from the back of the church. It's free!

TOGETHER IN HARMONY: A new community music group, for people with dementia and their carers. Beginning 24th January 2018, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays every month, 10.00-11.30 a.m. Boldre Memorial Hall SO41 5QT £5 per couple. For further information contact Frances Attwood n 01590 718749 or 07500 117814

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Henry Hunter, Martha Lally (30th), Sydney Teague (1st), Daniel Walsh, Mollie Hayles (4th)

Sick and Housebound: Terry Iles, Mai Wilson, Cathy Pickles, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Celine McCay, Mary Norton, Patricia Mate.

MARCIA GREENWOOD RIP: Marcia's Requiem Mass will be at Holy Redeemer Church, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 1EB on Fri 12th Jan at 9.30am. There will also be a Memorial Service at OLSJ, Lymington on Wednesday, 24th Jan at 11am, with a gathering afterwards in Joseph's Place.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen

MARY AYLWARD RIP: You'll be sad to hear that Mary has died aged 96yrs. In the last months of her life she was being cared for in a nursing home in Totton. Mary was in Lymington for many, many years and was a faithful member of this church. Her funeral Service will take place at Romsey Crematorium on Friday, January 5th at 3.25pm. This will be followed at a later date by a Memorial Mass in OLSJ. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY – (18th – 28th Jan): The Lymington annual joint service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place on Sunday 28th January 2018. All the church congregations will join at St Thomas Church at 10.30am. The service will be led by the Baptists with other churches' involvement, and the Salvation Army band will take part. Please do feel free to show our support and solidarity with our fellow Christians.

PARISH LUNCH 2018: Gerry Heneghan and Mike Reynolds are planning a Parish Lunch to take place in the **first week of February**. It will be in a local restaurant & hopefully those who would not otherwise venture out at night will be encouraged to come along. More details to follow soon.

THANKS TO THE SUNDAY COFFEE TEAM: - the Parish extends grateful thanks and appreciation to the team who provide refreshments in Joseph's Place after Mass every Sunday. The consistent service and welcome received by parishioners and visitors alike is a credit to us all. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join the team.

LEGACY LEFT TO OUR CHURCH: We are very grateful to the late Monica Hay who recently bequeathed £5000 to our parish. Please do consider whether you can support the church by a legacy gift.

All Parishes

MESSAGE FROM FATHER PETER: Thanks to all those who so kindly gave me a Christmas card - in some cases together with a gift - your thoughtfulness is much appreciated. One of the problems of being retired is that as one has little direct pastoral contact with people it is very difficult to pick up people's names - and this can make the business of directly thanking people a real difficulty!

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA TEAM MEETING: for Lymington, Milford on sea and Brockenhurst. This will take place on Thursday 11th January 7pm in Joseph's place. We shall be putting together a new rota and discussing how the project is going. If you would like to join the team please come along to this meeting. The day allocated to us for the Apostleship of the sea at Holbury is Wednesday 6pm-10pm- sometimes we finish earlier. We try to allocate each team one Wednesday a month. (Fr David) **Apostleship of the Sea:** The seafarers were extremely grateful for their Christmas goodie bags containing hats, scarves, gloves and chocolate etc. Thank you for contributing to it. Many thanks to Claire Bassett and her team for putting the Christmas goodie bags together.

The **seafarers** are always grateful **for warm clothing**. If you have any outdoor clothing you no longer use please contact the parish office. (So far the seafarers have all been men.)