

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:** lymbrockmil@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Website: www.nfwf.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. Exec. Head: Gerida Montague
Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils: Mike Reynolds, Lymington; Ian Holden, Brockenhurst; Anthony Kirke, Milford on Sea
Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vanessa Dugdale (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:

If needed urgently contact Fr David at the parish office.

The Week: 26th April 2020 - 3rd May 2020 - ALL PUBLIC MASSES SUSPENDED

DAY	DATE	SERVICE	LITURGY	INTENTION	P
SUN	26 th	Mass	Third Sunday of Easter Yr A (W)	For the People of the Parish	DMA
MON	27 th	Mass	of the 3 rd Week of Easter (W)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	28 th	Mass	of the 3 rd Week of Easter (W)	Joseph Kitching RIP	DMA
WED	29 th	Mass	of the 3 rd Week of Easter (W)	June Litton RIP	DMA
THU	30 th	Mass	of the 3 rd Week of Easter (W)	Charles J. & Una M. Weld RIP F/M	DMA
FRI	1 st	Mass	St Joseph the Worker, Mem, (W)	Luke Kelly RIP Anniv	DMA
SAT	2 nd	Mass	St Athanasius, Mem, (W)	For NHS & Social Care Staff	DMA
SUN	3 rd	Mass	Fourth Sunday of Easter Yr A (W)	For the People of the Parish	DMA

KEEP CALM: KEEP TAKING THE MEDICINE OF THE PRESENT MOMENT AND TRUST IN GOD (Part One)

One of the glaringly obvious things from the Gospels is that Jesus's relationship with his Father (and our Father) was nourished overwhelmingly by his connection with creation and with people. Jesus's words and parables spring from nature, domestic life, and the simple, predominantly rural economy: lilies of the field, birds of the air, sheep and shepherds, seed and sower, a woman sweeping the floor, builders laying foundations etc. He attended the synagogue of course but invariably the Gospels record only the conflicts that ensued. Jesus taught in the temple but there is not a single mention of Jesus participating in official temple worship. In fact, he caused a major disturbance by driving out the money changers and the merchants with a whip of chords! When Jesus prays, he often goes off to the hills by himself. And he teaches us, literally or metaphorically to "go to our private room and pray to our Father in that secret place." (Matt 6:6)

The Church rightly encourages us to read the Scriptures, especially the Gospels. Indeed, as the Second Vatican Council (1962-5) declared: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ". However, the truth is that the simplicity and power of the Gospel witness has been overlaid by centuries of "churchianity" with its unavoidable entanglement of both "nourishing wheat and poisonous weeds" (Matt 13:24). We have had an overdose of outer authority but little nurturing of inner experience and the personal authority that it gives. We've become dependent on middle management (clerics like myself) who mostly haven't had the natural training and experience that ordinary life affords. Again, the witness of Scripture has been ignored. For St Paul wrote of a church leader: *(he must be) a man who manages his own household well and brings up his children obedient and well behaved: how can a man who does not understand how to manage his own household take care of the Church of God?* (1 Tim. 3:4)

So, despite all the best intentions our relationship with God has to some extent become second-hand. It has been conditioned, controlled, and perhaps reduced to our passive reception of Sacraments, our attendance, or more hopefully, our participation in worship and our following of instructions. Of course, genuine trust in God and love of God has always been able to grow in these circumstances, no doubt. But the consequence has been that most of the positive feelings and associations of God's presence, peace & acceptance have been formed around physical attendance at church. And for many of us this fusion has been welded together since early childhood and so is deeply embedded. This has been largely positive and helpful for people.

However there have been downsides. We feel lost and spiritually disorientated when we can no longer get to church! It has also nurtured an unhealthy "co-dependency" between clergy and laity. Clergy get recognition, respect, authority, and power, and of course a living! Laity don't have the burden of responsibility and the relationship with God can be made safe and manageable. This very subtly nurtures our sense of self-righteousness and reinforces the illusion that we are in some way in control. We can more easily satisfy ourselves that we have done the works that God wants (John 6:28). And there is something more that I've noticed over the years. The strong link between our relationship with God and attending church that is presumed and encouraged by the Church, hasn't worked for everyone. Many people don't meet the requirements, can't jump the hurdles or don't feel listened to or accepted. And if they are still coming to church it is because of the community, the love, friendship and support that is offered. The archaic and clumsy language of the Liturgy is suffered rather than enjoyed and the implicit medieval worldview is perceived as quaint but largely irrelevant.

(Part Two continues on the separate sheet)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Heinz Johann Mair (26th), Bernard Leo Harrington, Mildred Elizabeth Kilvert (29th), Maud Elizabeth McNeill (1st)

Sick & Housebound: Sr Rosaleen, Josie Warren, Richard Blacklock, Daphne Jones, Colin Stack, Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday & Sean McVeigh.

JUNE LITTON RIP: Kathryn Fox's mother died peacefully this week aged 101 yrs. Please keep Kathryn and the family in your prayers. And may June rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

NEW FOREST BASICS BANK: Hollands of Milford have kindly put a crate in their shop to receive gifts of goods and food for NFBB to distribute to the hungry. We invite you to give generously, please.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Charles Eric Nunes (26th), Canon Robert Scantlebury, Peter Lupton, Margaret Mildred Wilkins, Rosario Scrope (29th), William Raymond Ryan, Olive Eva Maud Milton (30th), Canon James Walsh, Marie Josephine Hermalle Sister Dominic (1st), Capt. William John Lamb C.V.O., O.B.E. (2nd)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Sr Rosaleen, Helen Pignatelli, Edelweiss James, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon and Mary Byrne.

RECITING THE ROSARY: We thought it would be nice if, during the month of May, anyone who would like to could say the Rosary from our own homes at the usual time of 9.30 am on a Wednesday. This could bring us closer together in prayer with each other and with Our Blessed Lady.

BROCKCARE: Here are the relevant contact details:

St Anne's: Ian and Aude – 623408; Madeleine and Paul - 622360

Brockcare: St Saviour's Church Office - 624584

(Open 10.00 - 12.00 Mon to Friday. At other times please leave a message and your phone number and someone will get back to you ASAP)
Joyce Kolaczowski (Brockcare) - 623329

Any items for the newsletter to anna@boylemellor.co.uk to arrive EARLIER PLEASE - WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

All Parishes

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

FOOD BANK UPDATE: The Food Bank is now working five days a week 9.00 to 2.00 to keep up with the demand. We recently prepared 760 parcels for New Milton families through local schools where the parents had been furloughed or were self employed without any means of support yet. We are investigating doing a similar exercise for Lymington families. This is in addition to the deliveries we normally do for families referred to us by our local agencies.

Also **Hollands of Milford** have kindly put a crate in their shop to receive gifts of goods and food for NFBB to distribute to the hungry. We invite you to give generously, please. I can send you photos of our new purpose-built home if you would like to see. Anthony Kirke, treasurer@basicsbank.org.uk. The new address is: New Forest Basics Bank, Rear of 132 High Street, Lymington, SO41 9AQ Tel: 01590 610008

AN INTRODUCTION TO CARMELITE CONTEMPLATIVE

SPIRITUALITY: *Transformed by the Beloved* will be presented by Fr. Matt Blake OCD (Oxford, UK) and will be live-streamed on

Saturday 2nd May at 3pm. This presentation will explore key themes on the art of contemplation in the Carmelite tradition, highlighting how the transformative power of God's love which is experienced in contemplative prayer and living can be celebrated in a constant spirit of gratefulness. For more information go to: <https://www.oxcacs.org/product/transformed-by-the-beloved-live-stream/>

ARUNDEL CATHEDRAL CARPET OF FLOWERS: As we probably could have predicted, this event has been cancelled for 2020. Many thanks to all those who took and interest earlier in the year. However, the **Mass for Corpus Christi** will still go ahead and will be live streamed. Details available on Arundel Cathedral website. Let's pray for a better outcome in 2021.

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Ellie Agnes Webb, Joyce Irene Meek (26th), Matthew McCarthy, Emily Gertrude Jones (27th), John Walsh (28th), Michael John Heneghan (29th), Gerard Manghan, Michael Booth (30th), Thomas Scanlon, Diana Begg, Margaret Annie Topp (1st), Peter Goffart, Mary Ann Gillespie (2nd)

Sick and Housebound: Jane Rayner, Sr Rosaleen, Gerry Heneghan, Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Concetta Losanno, Mai Wilson, Den Walker, Brian Choules, Len Harley, Marie Smith, Patricia Mate.

EASTER EGGS UPDATE: Who knows after three weeks or more, you lucky winners may be able to get your eggs! So far we have managed to hide them from Olly the dog, who has a great nose for things edible. But chocolate is BAD for dogs so he mustn't find them!!

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: so far we have 41 5yr pledges yielding £88K incl. Gift Aid; Total in Bank as at 23/04/20: £36,274.59. Thank you to all of you who are continuing to donate in different ways. Contact the parish office if you need help with this.

DO YOU ORDER GOODS FROM THE INTERNET? If so, you could earn some free money for our building fund! It is very simple: go to giveasyoulive.com to register. Sign up for free. Choose the charity: **Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph church**, Click -support us. Enter your details to create an account. Each time you shop online a box will appear in the right hand corner asking if you would like to earn money on that transaction. Follow the instruction. Bingo! Free money! It does not cost you anything. **The money earned for each transaction goes straight to our building fund account.**

GIFT AID & YOUR TAX RETURN: If anyone needs to know how much they have donated via Gift Aid during the last tax year, the figures are now available on application. Please email your request to the parish office. Thank you.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS, STITCHERS, CROCHETERS, CRAFTS PEOPLE. The Knit & Stitch group still hope to hold a sale of work in October for the Building Fund. While we are all in lockdown, could you get busy with your needles & hooks & make something for this sale? Whichever craft you prefer. Wool & yarn are readily available from online sites & YouTube has many tutorials. I use Pinterest for lots of free patterns. Please hold on to your work till we can all meet again. Many thanks keep safe & well, Jill Heneghan 07503682669

All Parishes

NEXT WEEK: SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE CLERGY TRAINING FUND (3rd May)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PARISHES: For many of you this crisis will involve financial hardship and I do understand that. But, this crisis will also significantly affect the upkeep of our parishes. I'd like to **thank those who are continuing to contribute** by Standing Order or Direct debit. For those who use the envelope scheme or give cash each Sunday, perhaps you will consider setting aside an amount each week that you can afford. You could put the contribution in a marked envelope and keep it until such a time when it can be handed in. If you wish to contribute by Standing Order or Direct Debit instead please contact the parish office.

MASSES ON THE INTERNET: You can find many daily Masses from different Catholic parishes available on the internet. Go to www.churchestv.com; www.churchservices.tv; www.mcnmedia.tv

Also here: <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online>. For Sunday Mass with Fr Denis McBride, Redemptorist scholar

THANKS FROM HENRIETTA: to everyone who responded to her request for material. She says she now has enough material for the time being.

DO YOU WANT TO READ OR STUDY: You don't need a Kindle to read Kindle books. You can download the free Kindle app onto any device. Better still, lots of Kindle e-books are free to Kindle Unlimited subscribers. *For instance, at the time of writing there are three or four free books on the topic of today's Gospel reading.* **IF YOU ARE SITTING AT HOME WONDERING** how you can increase your knowledge, consider doing one of the **Open University's 800 free short courses.**

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