

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.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. 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:

By appointment only -
contact Fr David at the
parish office.

The Week: 13th September 2020 - 20th September 2020

SUN	13 th	10.30am	Our Lady	Mass	24 th Sunday of the Year A (G)	For the People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	14 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Feast, (R)	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	15 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	Our Lady of Sorrows, Mem, (W)	David Peter Stephenson RIP	DMA
WED	16 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian, Mem, (R)	Kevin Kennedy (Blessings)	DMA
THU	17 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	St Hildegard of Bingen, Mem, (W)	Kathleen Dorothy Haywood RIP F/M	DMA
FRI	18 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	24 th Week of the Year (G)	Canon A.G.McDonald RIP F/M	DMA
SAT	19 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	24 th Week of the Year (G)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	20 th	9.00am	St Francis	Mass	25 th Sunday of the Year A (G)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	20 th	10.30am	Our Lady	Mass	25 th Sunday of the Year A (G)	Harry Newenham RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	20 th	6.00pm	St Anne	Mass	25 th Sunday of the Year A (G)	For the People of the Parishes	DMA

NUMBERS ARE VERY RESTRICTED FOR SUNDAY MASS

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL - PLEASE RING 01590-676696

THE SCANDAL OF FORGIVENESS

It is strange that the Good News is sometimes also disturbing news. But this disturbance is only the discomfort of moving from a small spiritual place to a much bigger spiritual place. Jesus is always connecting us to the mystery of God who is always greater, always fresh and new.

We have our own ideas about forgiveness, our own limits and conditions. The Scripture begins by softening us up somewhat. The reading from Ecclesiasticus takes the approach of reason. If we seek forgiveness from God how can we refuse forgiveness to another human being? What right have we to seek vengeance when that right belongs to God?

The Gospel takes things further. Peter wants to set a reasonable limit to forgiveness – seven times – surely that is enough? Jesus completely blows that one away. Not seven times but seventy-seven times – Jesus effectively says that there is no limit to forgiveness. The reason is clear from the parable. God's forgiveness is prodigal, lavish, unlimited. In fact it is scandalous and shocking. In the parable the servant owes the master a ridiculous amount of money – equivalent to millions of pounds at today's values. The master feels sorry for the servant and cancels all the debt. But this servant has lent a few pennies to another and he demands repayment. When this is not forthcoming he has the other servant put into prison.

The message of the parable is clear. Our debt to God is far greater than we could ever imagine. By comparison our debts to each other are almost insignificant. If God has forgiven us then we should forgive each other.

But the Gospel is more disturbing still. And this is the really worrying part. The master in the parable imprisons the ungrateful and pitiless servant who refused to forgive and hands *him over to the torturers*. Jesus says this is how his heavenly Father will deal with us unless we forgive from the heart. Now clearly Matthew cannot believe God has a band of torturers just waiting to inflict pain. Surely, Jesus cannot be saying his heavenly Father is a sadistic torturer?

No, of course not, rather Jesus is using strong language to wake us up to the damage that unforgiveness and resentment can do to our own hearts, souls and bodies! Refusing to forgive is like locking ourselves into a prison and torturing ourselves with our own pain. It is like holding thorns tightly to the breast afraid to let go. In effect we end up torturing ourselves. The only way out is to ask God for the grace to forgive. (DMA)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Ursula Marie Edwarde (13th), William George Rickman (15th), Cyril Ffield, Enid Lilah Aylard (16th), Rosemary June Young (18th)

Sick & Housebound: Sr Rosaleen, Louise Layne, Daphne Jones, Colin Stack, Joan Lloyd, Marjorie Horton, Sarah Bell, Alison Doubleday.

SEAN McVEIGH RIP: You'll be very sad to hear that Sean died last Sunday. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Francis on Tuesday, 22nd September at 11am. There will only be enough space for family and relatives. Sean's body is to be buried at Milford Road Cemetery, New Milton. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Our thoughts and prayers are with Margaret and the family.

SUNDAY MASS AT ST FRANCIS: Going forward Mass will be on alternate Sundays because of the limited number of stewards available. The next Sunday Mass will be on 20th September at 9am. Numbers are very limited so pre-booking is essential. Please ring 01590-676696.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS: If you are attending Sunday Mass at St Francis please remember to bring any collection envelopes. There will be a basket at the back of church for collection contributions or donations.

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING SO ALREADY:

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY WITH A REGULAR STANDING ORDER:

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - MIL-ON-SEA - ST FRANCIS ASS"

A/C NUMBER: 00882772

SORT CODE: 30-93-04

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Joseph Ambrose Coughlan, Florence May Thorne (18th), Michael Raoul Laloi (19th)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Rosemary Sheldon, Sr Rosaleen, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon and Mary Byrne.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please for Mary Byrne who remains very poorly on SGH, and for Sarah who is understandably very concerned for her; also for Rosemary Sheldon who is having respite care.

SUNDAY MASS AT ST ANNE'S: All being well we will celebrate Mass again here on Sunday, 20th September. We are grateful to the stewards who make this possible. If you wish to come to Mass at that time please book in via the Parish Office. Numbers are very restricted.

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING SO ALREADY:

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY WITH A REGULAR STANDING ORDER:

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - BROCKENHURST - ST ANNE"

A/C NUMBER: 00875962

SORT CODE: 30-93-04

New Home Warmest best wishes from everyone at St Anne's to Anne and John Woolhouse who have moved into their new home in Brockenhurst.

New telephone number Michael and Edelweiss wish you to know that their new telephone number is 01590 615572.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - WALK FOR CREATION on Saturday, 10th October starting at 10 o'clock. Our Care for Creation group has joined with Eco Church at St Saviour's in organising a local prayer walk along forest paths for our combined Parishes to reflect on the gifts of creation and the mission given us by God to care for our planet and respond to its needs and crises today. Details will follow. All welcome, including dogs.

BIBLES AVAILABLE: Fr David Quarmby has a few spare Bibles if anyone would like one please contact the parish office.

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

All Parishes

BISHOP PHILIP'S PASTORAL LETTER FOR 13TH SEPT IS BEING DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY BY EMAIL

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Reverend Hendrick Van Doorne, Florrie Manghan, Betty Lang, Pauline Goudaillier (13th), Eileen Leggatt (14th), Canon Archibald McDonald, Agnes Beggs, Diana Elizabeth Dent, Rita Wren (17th), Maureen Ellen Risbridger (19th)

Sick and Housebound: Cathy Pickles, Cate Healy, Beatrice Tucker, Sr Rosaleen, Gerry Heneghan, Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Concetta Losanno, Den Walker, Len Harley, Marie Smith.

NICK FILBEE RIP: Many will be very sad to hear that Nick has died. The funeral service will take place at Test Valley Crematorium on Tuesday, 15th September at 2.30pm. All being well there will be a Memorial Service and a Celebration of Nick's life when all the restrictions have been lifted

Our prayers and condolences are with all our bereaved families and with the departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: so far we have 43 5yr pledges yielding £90.3K incl. Gift Aid; Total in Bank as at 11/09/20: £49,928.46. Included in this is a total £343.93 raised from "Give as you live". Thank you to all of you who are continuing to donate in different ways. Contact the parish office if you need help with this.

IF YOU ARE NOT DOING SO ALREADY:

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE PARISH FINANCIALLY WITH A REGULAR STANDING ORDER:

A/C NAME: "PRCDTR - LYMINGTON - OUR LADY"

A/C NUMBER: 00882225

SORT CODE: 30-93-04

All Parishes

Upcoming Special Collections: Next weekend, 20th Sept, Home Missions; CAFOD Autumn Fast Day, 2nd October

BOOKING A PLACE FOR MASS: Could I ask you to book your place for Mass for OLMSJ each week rather than making a 'block booking' for several Sundays in one go. As we have limited seating available it is the fairest way of doing it and gives everyone a chance.

There's nothing more disheartening than ringing on a Monday to find all the seats for the following Sunday are already booked. The same applies to St Francis, although their Mass is every other week. Sunday 20th September is their next Mass. The next Sunday Mass at St Anne's will be on Sunday, 20th Sept at 6pm. Please ring the parish office if you want to book a place.

The Season of Creation is an ecumenical liturgical season dedicated to prayer, reflection and celebration of God the Creator running from 1st September to 4th October. This year the theme is Jubilee for the Earth. There is a lovely Liturgy Guide which can be found at <https://ourcommonhome.org/media/docs/2020-Season-of-Creation-Liturgy-Guide-LISTEN.pdf>

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

SVP AWARENESS WEBINAR SESSIONS: 17 September "Suicide prevention in a Covid world" – due to the nature of this topic the session will run slightly longer than the usual 1 hour – Ben Bano from Welcome Me as I Am. **24 September** "The impact of Covid on those already suffering from poverty" – Matt Padley from the Centre for Research in Social Policy in Loughborough University. **1 October** "How the Vincentian spirit is alive in these times" – Fr Paul Roche, Spiritual Advisor to the SVP. Follow this link: <https://www.svp.org.uk/sites/all/modules/civicrm/extern/url.php?u=6521&qid=603099> to attend any and all of these sessions, and if you would like to join the mailing list for future events and to get recordings and resources of those you have enjoyed, then please email: membership@svp.org.uk.