

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.nfw.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; Roger Maughan, Milford on Sea
Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vanessa Dugdale (Lym); Susan McCabe (Brock); Liz Price (Mil).
PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Health & Safety Co ordinator : Linda Guilding; Health & Safety Rep St Francis: 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: 24th April 2021 - 2nd May 2021

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME		LITURGY/CELEBRATION	INTENTION	P
SAT	24 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	4 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parishes	DMA
MON	26 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	4 th Week of Easter	as per celebrant	PWR
TUE	27 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	4 th Week of Easter	Patrick Desmond O'Rourke RIP	DMA
WED	28 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	4 th Week of Easter	Una Mary Weld RIP F/M	DMA
THU	29 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	St Catherine of Sienna, Mem	Charles Joseph Weld RIP F/M	DMA
FRI	30 th	N/A	N/A	Mass	4 th Week of Easter	Pat Mate RIP Anniv	DMA
SAT	1 st	N/A	N/A	Mass	St Joseph the Worker, Mem	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	2 nd	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	5 th Sunday of Easter	Clare Barry-Ball RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	2 nd	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	5 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	2 nd	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	5 th Sunday of Easter	The Baker Family F/M	DMA

PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED FOR ALL MASSES

Jesus the Good Shepherd

The wandering figure of the good shepherd, anxiously tending his sheep to the point where he is willing to surrender his life for them, is the image Jesus uses about himself in today's Gospel. That mixture of tenderness and toughness, care and self-sacrifice, is one that summarizes his own practice of leadership. It is not a leadership of detachment and defensiveness; rather it is a leadership of physical involvement and self-sacrificial love. In the good shepherd's foolish extravagant love, his own life matters less than that of his sheep.

The good shepherd is not an image of religious authority that is eternally pleased with its own importance, blind to the useless pain it causes in those it leads. The authority of the shepherd costs the shepherd, not the sheep. The image of the shepherd cannot be separated from how the shepherd actually cares for his own sheep. His concern is not untroubled, his courage is not bloodless, his love is not detached. When we see how Jesus actually behaves as a leader, we see his tenderness and courage. Jesus tackles his opponents, face to face. He confronts those who steal the dignity of the little ones. He names the wolves in sheep's clothing. He is willing to leave his enemies looking sheepish. He warns his followers about the rough terrain ahead. He goes there before them. He is defensive when people attack his own followers.

He is realistic about people's wayward ways. He endures isolation and insult. He faces his own fear but stays loyal. He risks being slaughtered himself. He does lay down his life for his sheep. In his life and in his death Jesus sought out the lost and the least and the last. When he wanted to speak of a tender God he told the people about a shepherd who, when he loses one of his sheep, leaves the other sheep and goes off in search of the lost one. The shepherd refuses to accept the loss of one sheep as "just one of those things". He searches for the lost sheep until he finds it, and then taking it on his shoulders he returns to share his joy with all his neighbours.

That is Jesus' image of pastoral care, a search that continues until a find can be made. We know, of course, that a search is not automatic after a loss. Many losses are not even registered. Where there is no love, there is no loss. Some people are regarded as "no great loss". Other people are encouraged to "get lost". But all of us hope that when we are lost someone, somewhere, will be looking for us, like the good shepherd. The good shepherd challenges our own way of leaving people for lost: "I have come to seek out and save the lost." Probably all of us know two or three people who have wandered away (from the family, from the friendship group), from the Church, who have lost their sense of belonging, who feel they have no community to belong to. How will they know they are welcome back if no one tells them? How will they be helped back if no one offers to make the journey with them? (from *Seasons of the Word* by Denis McBride)

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: Sarah Bell, Louise Layne, Daphne Jones.

OUR THANKS: To Eva Gaskin, Parish Treasurer & Peter Larke, Chair of Finance & Roger Maughan, Gift Aid organiser, who have had to work extra hard to provide information for the independent financial auditors in these difficult circumstances of the pandemic

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: William John Rhodes Walsh (25th), 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)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Susan McCabe, Sarah McCann, Rosemary Sheldon, Sr Rosaleen, Sean Dunn, Linda Reardon.

OUR THANKS: To Bill Pignatelli, our Parish Treasurer & Gift Aid organiser, who has had to work extra hard to provide information for the independent financial auditors in these difficult circumstances of the pandemic.

COMMUNITY HUB: The Village Hall in Brockenhurst is demonstrating its commitment to caring for the environment and the community by supporting three new initiatives at its location: The Village Hall Charity Shop, full to the brim with bargains galore, Greener Brockenhurst Recycling Shed, collecting 12 different types of waste currently not collected by NFDC, and the Food Rescue Kitchen - Feed the Need, rescuing, redistributing and transforming surplus 'waste' food into simple meals to give to those struggling to put food on the table in these challenging times. Do visit or join one of the teams and keep in mind: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...to help care for our common home.

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

All Parishes

WEEKEND MASSES GOING FORWARD:

ST FRANCIS SUNDAY MASS: fortnightly at 9.00am on the following Sundays: 2nd May, 16th May, 30th May.

ST ANNE'S SUNDAY MASS: fortnightly at 6.00pm on the following Sundays: 2nd May, 16th May, 30th May.

OLMSJ SATURDAY EVENING MASS fortnightly at 6pm on the following Saturdays: 8th May, 22nd May, 5th June.

OLMSJ SUNDAY MASS: fortnightly at 10.30am on the following Sundays: 2nd May, 16th May, 30th May.
PRE-BOOKING IS REQUIRED. PLEASE BOOK JUST ONE MASS AT A TIME TO GIVE OTHERS A CHANCE.

FROM THE SISTERS AT ST DOMINIC'S: Here is Sr Veronica's latest webcast. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzN4EjYOM1o>, This is this week's contribution! Hope you enjoy it. God Bless Sr Veronica OP

CLERGY TRAINING FUND: This Sunday we pray for vocations. The special collection is to fund the training of deacons and priests for the Diocese. (Please use online giving to contribute. Go to the Diocesan website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk> & follow the links.). We also pray that not only will we all recognise our various vocations but that the Church will accept them too. This applies especially to role of women and young people in the Church. May the Church be imaginative and creative to enable many works of service in the Church.

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: William Conroy, Paul John Stephenson, Peter James Foot (25th), Ellie Agnes Webb, Joyce Irene Meek (26th), Matthew McCarthy, Emily Gertrude Jones (27th), John Walsh (28th), Michael John Heneghan (29th), Gerard Manghan, Michael Booth, Patricia (Pat) Mary Mate (30th), Thomas Scanlon, Diana Begg, Margaret Annie Topp (1st)

Sick and Housebound: Den Walker, Suzanna Wright, Rita Barrett, Cate Healy, Beatrice Tucker, Sr Margarita, Anne Nyland, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Johnny Flood, Simone Cluett, Ramona Heath-Saunders, Len Harley, Marie Smith.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS PLEASE: Please continue to pray for Den Walker & Susie Wright.

Frances's husband, Dens' health remains fragile & he has been in & out of hospital since recovering from COVID. He is back home now and we pray he will regain his strength. We keep Den, Frances and all the family in our prayers.

Norah Holder's daughter, Susie, has now had to have a second operation to rectify complications following the first operation to remove a non-malignant tumour. Susie is back home now so we keep Susie, Norah and all the family in our prayers.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: Total in bank as at: 8/04/21: £64,161.08. This includes donations raised from Everyclick of £479.55

All Parishes

NEXT DIOCESAN COLLECTION: this weekend, 24th/25th April, for the Clergy Training Fund. Facilities for online donations on the Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocesan website

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

FOR ONLINE DONATIONS TO BASICS BANK: follow the link below: <https://localgiving.org/appeal/BasicsBankChristmas/>

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: As you may appreciate, the sad death from COVID of our Lead Catechist, Cathy Pickles, and the effects of the pandemic itself, have severely disrupted the usual programme of preparation for First Holy Communion. But it also presents us with an opportunity to review the process. In the interim, I outline here how things will be done this year.

Parents eligible to contact Fr David: You (as a baptised Catholic) and your baptised child would normally participate in Sunday Mass with reasonable regularity. You intend to resume this practice once lockdown is fully lifted. You think your child is ready to receive Holy Communion with sufficient awareness and respect. (I am happy to be flexible on the age of your child). If your child has not been baptised please contact Fr David to arrange a Baptism.

Parental preparation over Zoom: When we have gathered the group of parents, preparation sessions for parents only will be set up over Zoom. Parents will then need to help their children appreciate and understand, according to their capacity, the meaning the Eucharistic celebration (i.e. Mass) and Holy Communion. The priority here will be on nurturing a trusting relationship with God who loves us all and shares God's life and love with us. The emphasis will be on "knowing" through shared experience and on faith acceptance of God-with-us.

First Holy Communion Celebrations: There will **not** be one, big group celebration. First Holy Communions will be arranged individually with Fr David. They may take place at any Sunday Mass through the year. The child and family will be prayed for and special provision will be made for the child and the family in receiving Holy Communion. It will be a celebration day for the child & family so smart clothing is appropriate and girls will **not** be expected to wear special white dresses.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: I am very grateful to Vicki Pent for taking the lead in the preparation for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Vicki had been working closely with Cathy Pickles and our young candidates. Vicki has already begun gathering our candidates together in preparation for the celebration which will take place on Sunday, 23rd May at 3pm in OLMSJ, Lymington.

HAVE YOU NOT YET RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION?: If you are a baptised adult but have not yet received this sacrament and wish to do so, please contact Fr David as soon as possible. Preparation can be arranged and you can receive this Sacrament at one of our Sunday Masses.