

The Catholic Church in Fordingbridge and Ringwood

The Sacred Heart
& St. Thérèse of Lisieux
The Close
Ringwood BH24 1LA

New Forest Pastoral Area
www.avonstour.co.uk
Parish Priest:
Rev Mgr Canon Paul Townsend

Our Lady of Sorrows
& St. Philip Benizi
15 Salisbury Road
Fordingbridge SP6 1EG

The Eleventh Sunday of the Year

Father Paul writes.....

We hear today from the prophet Ezekiel. Ezekiel was the third in line of the great writing prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel. He was a prophet and priest who was deported to Babylon along with the other inhabitants of Jerusalem and Judah. This was the time of the great exile when the people of Israel became refugees in a foreign land during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar II. The exile was seen as a punishment for Israel's infidelity, marked by idolatry and a terrible level of injustice. The exile began roughly in 597 BCE.

As for any refugee, times were hard for the people in Babylon. Ezekiel's task was to proclaim the presence and the love of God in the face of extreme hardship and low morale. Ezekiel assured the people of God's presence and his will eventually to deliver them from exile, which he did in 538 BCE.

Ezekiel used images to help people understand his message, rather like Jesus used parables, so that the listeners could catch the deeper meaning of the proclamation. The narrative today, from Chapter 17, envisages a cedar tree. A shoot is taken from the crown of the tree and planted in Jerusalem, from which the people were exiled, probably on Mount Moriah, the place of the Temple. The shoot grew into a mighty cedar in which the birds of the air found rest and shelter. Ezekiel was not famous for his horticultural accuracy, but the message is not about a cedar tree, it is about the power and will of God. The 'Kingdom' is wherever the action of God brings restoration, peace and healing. The 'Kingdom' happens when God is totally in charge of life.

Ezekiel and Jesus would want us to have persevering trust and faith in the face of every difficulty. And our world is full of difficulty at the moment. Like the seed planted in the soil, which grows invisibly without human intervention, so does the 'Kingdom' grow. We are invited to have 'full confidence' in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Eileen Pilling: Please remember in your prayer Eileen Pilling who died last Wednesday. Her funeral Mass will be in Ringwood at a date to be decided. May Eileen rest in peace.

Gardening at Ringwood: A big thank you to Catriona, Philip, Alex and Leah for tidying up the Ringwood grounds this week. If anyone sees a gardening job that needs doing, please feel free to apply your horticultural expertise.

Public and YouTube Celebrations of Mass

Both our churches are open daily for prayer

Sacred Heart, Ringwood

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFTmHlkg-4M7rTwOB-Wxysw> or search on YouTube for Catholic Parishes of Ringwood and Fordingbridge

(All masses livestreamed at this link unless otherwise noted)

Sunday	June	16th	11am	⊗	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	June	19th	10am	⊗	St. Romuald	⊗	
Friday	June	21st	10am	⊗	of the 11th Week in Ordinary Time	⊗	

Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFTmHlkg-4M7rTwOB-Wxysw> or search on YouTube for Catholic Parishes of Ringwood and Fordingbridge

Saturday	June	15th	6pm	⊗	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Betty Overill RIP
Sunday	June	16th	9am	⊗	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	June	18th	10am	⊗	Feria (11th Week in Ordinary Time)	⊗	Betty Overill RIP
Thursday	June	20th	10am	⊗	St. Alban	⊗	Liturgy of the Word

Confessions will be available on Saturdays at 5.30 in Fordingbridge. In Ringwood before and after the Wednesday Mass.

Monsignor Canon Paul's 40th Anniversary Celebration



Father Paul's garden party to celebrate 40 years of priesthood will take place on Sunday 23rd June at Our Lady of Sorrows from 2.00pm. If you have yet to reply to the invitation please do so by Wednesday 19th June to assist our catering plans. Alternatively, you can confirm your intentions via email to: lawrence@lawrencebartel.co.uk.

Preparing the Garden to Party!

To prepare the garden there will be a gardening morning on Saturday 22nd June from 9.00am. Please join the regular team if you can, bringing your own tools and expertise. If your gardening experience is limited please be assured there are always many accompanying jobs - lifting and sweeping immediately spring to mind (!) and as always there will be a mid-session brunch to boost energy levels.



If you wish to contribute to Father Paul's gift you can do so via the appropriate entry on the DONA machine or by making a cash donation. Welcomers at both churches will happily take possession of your contribution but please only give what you can and if you can.

We look forward to a very special celebration.



Ringwood - Wednesday 26th June after 10am Mass
Fordingbridge - Tuesday 2nd July after 10am Mass



One third of CAFOD's funds are raised through the gifts left in wills. It is a vital part of the work of CAFOD.

On 18th June, Portsmouth CAFOD Team is running a 'Legacy Event' and has chosen the Fordingbridge Hall as the venue from 10.45 until 12.45. The guest speaker will be the Director of CAFOD Christine Allen and there should be lots of information and advice available. People will be coming from a wide area but we have an opportunity to have it held on our doorstep. Do come along and find out more!

Caritas Portsmouth - Refugee Week

There are two online events for Refugee Week where we look to make our communities more welcoming to those arriving in our country. **13th June from 6-7pm** with Caritas Plymouth and **Tuesday 18th June from 12:30-1pm** to hear from a parish project. Everyone welcome. Registration links can be found on our website <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>

Second Collection Day for Life Sunday 16th June

This year's theme is "The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life", which allows us to reflect on end-of-life care in the midst of national debates on assisted suicide. In preparation for the Day for Life, we have been praying the Novena for Life with the two other episcopal conferences, in the days leading up to the Feast of the Visitation. To donate online—[Day For Life Second Collection 2024 | Give as you Live Donate](#)

Friendship Group Sacred Heart

We meet on Wednesdays after Mass in the house. We look forward to seeing you for coffee and a chat. Questions? Contact Barbara : bgeatrell@yahoo.co.uk



Forty Days and Forty Nights....

your parish magazine

Send contributions and feed back for future editions to: crisbasha@aol.com. The Forty Days deadline for the next edition is the 25th of June.

Standing Order information:

Please continue to support your parishes through your donations. The best way, is to set up a Standing Order via your bank. The parish bank details are:

Account Name: CPD Ringwood Sacred Heart or CPD Fordingbridge St. Mary and St. Philip
Ringwood: Sort Code: 30 93 04 Account Number: 00886336
Fordingbridge: Sort Code: 30 93 04 Account Number: 00878309

Fordingbridge and Ringwood Contact Details

Office hours: Fordingbridge Tues & Thurs 9-12 and Ringwood Fri 10-1
Parish Priest: Rev Mgr Canon Paul Townsend
 Tel: 01425 653131 Email: ptownsend@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Administrator: Melissa Hildreth
 Tel: 01425 653131 Email: shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Co-ordinator:

Fordingbridge: Helen Thomas email: safeguarding@olosfordingbridge.org.uk
 Ringwood: please contact Helen Thomas details above

Ringwood Gardening Angels



Thank you to Catronia, and Phill, who have been out again this week, trimming hedges and removing brambles! It looks fantastic!



Joint Parish Walks a Coming Back!

With a new hip, which is working well, I plan to resurrect the Joint Parish Walks starting on Saturday July 6. More details next week. –David S.

Marriage Preparation Courses

Course 2:

In addition, we also thought it would be helpful to highlight a course that we will provide at the beginning of September.

Starting Wednesday 11th September (18th&25th September)

This course is currently not on the Catholic Marriage Care website, as experience has shown us that, once launched, courses are fully booked up within 24 hours. We would like to be able to prioritise local couples, if you are requiring marriage preparation, please contact us directly, so that we can reserve places for you before this goes live on the website. (07948516854 or 07342818686)



STARF Week Charity Football Match— www.starf.uk

Sat 15th June @ 3pm
 Ringwood Town Football Club, Long Lane, BH24 3BX

On 3G Astro Turf pitch beyond the new Clubhouse
 Stronger Together Across Ringwood and Fordingbridge

See Facebook video here: <https://fb.watch/sGvEChjPHI/>

Free entry – make a voluntary donation at half time
 Bar open for soft drinks and snacks
 The site is no dogs, alcohol or glass

Thank you for your financial support: please, if you can, continue to support your parishes via standing orders. May offerings to Parish bank accounts

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2295	£ 3109
Cash/online	£ 456	£ 395

For an Urgent Matter —For an urgent call to a priest if Fr. Paul

cannot be contacted, please call a priest on one of the numbers below:
 Fr. Darryl Jordan: Iford St Thomas More
 Fr. Kevin Hoiles: Southbourne Our Lady Queen of Peace (01202424960)
 Fr. Paul Obada: Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph (01202483340)
 More details on the website: www.avonstour.co.uk

Hospital Chaplain (B'mouth & C'Church): Fr. Darryl Jordan contact at: 03000194221 (Chaplaincy Office)
 (Salisbury Chaplaincy Office) : 01722429271
 (Southampton Chaplaincy Office): 02380777222

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 1199568)

“Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church”

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk