

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:** office@lymbrockmil.org.uk. **Website:** www.nfwf.org.uk; **Parish Blog:** www.lymrcchurch.blogspot.com. Our parishes are part of & belong to the: **Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, Registered Charity No: 1199568. School:** Our Lady & St Joseph Catholic Primary School, Ramley Rd, Pennington, 01590 672711. **Exec. Head:** Gerida Montague. **Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils:** Magdalen Chadborn, Lymington; Ian Holden, Brockenhurst; Roger Maughan, Milford on Sea. **Parish Safeguarding Ministers:** Dr Wanda Fojt (safeguarding@lymbrockmil.org.uk); Henrietta Reynolds (safeguarding@brock.org.uk); Liz Price (safeguarding@sfmil.org.uk). **PA to Pastoral Co Ordinator & Dean & Health & Safety Co ordinator:** Linda Guilding; **For the Sacrament of the Sick or Holy Communion to the Sick or housebound; & for the Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Contact the parish office.

The Week: 15th June 2024 - 23rd June 2024

DAY	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	SERVICE	LITURGY	MASS INTENTION <i>(when applicable)</i>	
SAT	15 th	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	11 th Sunday of the Year (B)	Harry Newenham RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	16 th	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	11 th Sunday of the Year (B)	In Thanksgiving (HL)	DMA
SUN	16 th	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	11 th Sunday of the Year (B)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	16 th	OLMSJ	12.30pm	Baptism	baby Delphina Hoogewerf	N/A	DMA
SUN	16 th	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	11 th Sunday of the Year (B)	Clement Ignatius Brand RIP F/M	DMA
TUE	18 th	OLMSJ	10.00am	Mass	11 th Week of the Year	John Barry Ball RIP F/M	DMA
WED	19 th	St Francis	10.00am	Mass	11 th Week of the Year	Ann Marie Lavender RIP	DMA
THUR	20 th	St Anne	10.00am	Mass	11 th Week of the Year	Michael McCabe (Ints)	DMA
SAT	22 nd	OLMSJ	6.00pm	Mass	12 th Sunday of the Year (B)	Joseph & Flora Weld RIP F/M	DMA
SUN	23 rd	St Francis	9.00am	Mass	12 th Sunday of the Year (B)	John Percival (Health)	DMA
SUN	23 rd	OLMSJ	10.30am	Mass	12 th Sunday of the Year (B)	People of the Parishes	DMA
SUN	23 rd	St Anne	6.00pm	Mass	12 th Sunday of the Year (B)	Normina Marshall RIP F/M	DMA

The Growth of the Kingdom: In the first parable of today's Gospel Jesus compares the kingdom of God to what happens when seed is sown by a farmer. Once the seed is sown, the farmer waits for harvest time. The cycle of growth follows its own secret rhythm; how it all happens the farmer does not know. Even though nothing much seems to be happening, the miracle of growth is taking place. The farmer cannot improve the crop by staying awake at night and worrying; the seed is nurtured in its own silence. The harvest will not be rushed; neither will the kingdom of God be advanced by those restless for instant results. Just as the harvest comes in its own time, so the kingdom will reach its completion in God's appointed time. It is God's kingdom, not ours. In the second parable Jesus compares the kingdom to a mustard seed that grows into the largest shrub so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade. In the ancient world the size of the mustard seed was a byword for the smallest and most insignificant thing anyone could imagine. According to the Koran: "God will bring good and evil to light, even if they are no bigger than a mustard seed." In Jesus' parable the contrast is made between the smallness of the seed and the exuberance of its growth. Unremarkable beginnings can make for mighty achievements. Littleness is no index of importance. The small mustard seed grows to become a shelter for all the birds of the air.

It is worth noting that the phrase "birds of the air" was a traditional Jewish expression for the Gentiles, all the non-Jews. In today's first reading, for example, the prophet Ezekiel speaks of the universal openness of God's welcome in the image of the tree where all birds can find a resting place. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. Similarly in Jesus' teaching: the kingdom of God is open to all peoples. The greatness of the kingdom, which grows from such a small beginning, is for the benefit of all peoples; it is not the exclusive domain of any one flock.

When we think of the small beginnings of Jesus' ministry in Galilee to the spread of his message throughout the world, we can appreciate the vast growth that has taken place in history. The seed which Jesus planted has indeed grown: who could have guessed in Galilee in 27AD what would emerge from Jesus' ministry? From small beginnings – Jesus' preaching, his attention to the afflicted, his quiet transformations, his unusual company of followers – there did indeed arise the greatness of the kingdom of God.

God's work still continues, not only in the Christian churches but in people and places unknown and unrecognized by us. At the heart of the familiar God works in so many ways. His kingdom grows of its own accord; how, we do not know. This doesn't mean that we can be complacent, but it does save us from cynicism and despair. We have reason to rejoice in God's work, that his kingdom still attracts and welcomes so many different people. We are part of that kingdom. And we shouldn't be surprised if we seem to be sharing the shade with some really strange birds!

(from Denis McBride – Seasons of the Word)

St Francis, Milford-on-Sea

Anniversaries this week: Emily Eileen "Jean" Hayward (17th), Ethel Maria Maclean (18th), Charles Edward Benefer (21st), Patrick Richard Bond, James Albert Henry Brown, Margaret Mary Murphy (22nd)

Sick & Housebound: Jacquie Kirke, Barbara Mills, Kath Randle, Rita Ford, June Gow, Norah Sweeney, Sarah Bell.

SPECIAL PRAYERS, PLEASE: for Anthony & Judith's daughter-in-law, Jacquie, who is gravely ill. Jacquie and Jeremy so appreciate all the prayers on their behalf and say how invaluable they are, so thank you and please keep them going.

NEXT COFFEE MORNING: This Sunday, 16th June after Mass in the Maryland Room. All are welcome. And thanks to the Team.

COACH TRIP – 4th SEPTEMBER: PLEASE BOOK NOW. It would be very helpful if you could book now for this lovely day out to Arundel & Chichester Cathedrals. We need just 30 confirmed bookings to know we can cover the cost of the coach booking. Fr David has printed booking forms available at all churches and John Stephenson also at Milford.

St Anne, Brockenhurst

Anniversaries this week: Anne Mary Birks, Kathleen Mary Elphick (16th), Marie Therese Parkinson (17th), Agatha Jordan (19th), Eric Arthur Michael Trevett, Edgar Julian Chatterton (20th), Canon Donal Murphy-O'Connor (22nd)

Sick and Housebound: Please keep in your prayers: Michael McCabe, Paddy Lark, Susan McCabe.

SPECIAL PRAYERS please for Michael McCabe who is in Bournemouth Hospital

LOCAL HUSTINGS: There will be an opportunity for parishioners to question local candidates at St Luke's Church at 7pm on Wednesday 19th June. Please come to make your voice heard on issues that Catholics care about.

CAFOD LEGACY EVENT : Join CAFOD's Director, Christine Allen, for a morning of inspiring stories of hope, faith and generosity over a slice of cake and learn more about how you can make a lasting impact through legacy giving. On **Tuesday, 18 June, 10.45 to 12.45, at Our Lady of Sorrows & St Philip Benizi Parish Hall, Fordingbridge.** See the poster in the porch and please let CAFOD know you are coming.

RESTORE NATURE NOW The upcoming General Election is an incredibly important moment for wildlife and wild spaces across the UK. Join the march in Central London on Saturday, 22 June to call on ALL political parties to take action for nature's recovery. The event is being organised by nature, wildlife, environment and climate organisations including the Wildlife Trusts, RSPB, Woodland Trust, National Trust and Rewilding Britain and key partners, Extinction Rebellion. Here is the link for more details <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/restore-nature-now> and see this link for the many organisations supporting the event <https://www.restorenaturenow.com/supporters>

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All Parishes

SCHOOL NEWS: PRAYER TRAIL; In keeping with the Pope's request that 2024 be a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Year of Jubilee in 2025 the children and staff from OLSJ too part in a Prayer trail. On Wednesday staff and children across the school joined together along with Fr David, Linda and Steve from CAFOD to explore the power of prayer! The children participated in 6 Prayer stations that helped them delve deeper into understanding different types of prayer. At our first station, we gave praise and thanks for the gifts we have in our lives, through our friends, family, leaders and communities. Children thought about influential people in their lives and why they are thankful for them. At our second station, we thought about prayers of repentance and how sharing our sins with God can help lighten the load we carry. Children participated in activities such as washing away their sins in water and removing sins with God's love. As we moved on to our third station, children thought about prayers that ask God for something. Children in Year R and KS1 thought about prayers that ask for things for themselves and KS2 children thought about prayers for others in our lives and our global families. The final type of prayer we learnt about were prayers of adoration and celebration. In particular, today we focussed on adoration and celebration for God and Mary - prayers that say yay and yes thank you God! Together in classes, the children thought about what God and Mary meant to them and wrote their own lines for a whole school prayer of celebration. We cannot wait to start using these prayers in our times of worship.

As well as exploring the types of prayers, Children worked with Steve from CAFOD to think about ways they can pledge to live simply. Each class has created wishes and hopes for the future and these will be feeding into our plans for the next school year! Finally the children each created a prayer item in the Creative Corner with Linda that will be shared in our new prayer space that is currently in development.

We all thoroughly enjoyed this special time of worship and reflection together and we are looking forward to seeing how our ideas and thoughts will follow through in the next few weeks and coming months.

Our Lady & St Joseph, Lymington

Anniversaries this week: Leonard Baker Morgan (15th), Christopher Fielding, Jean Collyry, John Clive Thomason (16th), John Dunstan Mansbridge (18th), Marie Louise Bulloch-Moreau, Anne Gabriel Mary Munro (19th)

Sick and Housebound: Jo English, Fr Shaun Budden, Pat Leahy, Clare Bearcroft, Susie Wright, Joan McCafferty, Frances Riches, Ron & Rita Barrett, John & Nicki Collins, Frances Walker, Sean Dunn, Deacon Anthony Cairns, Simone Cluett.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: – The July meeting of the Friendship Club on Monday 1st July will be a Fish & Chip lunch between 12.30pm and 2pm. If you are interested in joining us, please call Nichola Kirby on 07710 156087. The cost will be around £5.

The next **LYMINGTON COFFEE MORNING** will take place on Saturday 29th June 2024 in Joseph's Place from 10am to 1pm. All proceeds again to the Summer Camp fund for young people aged 11 to 21, which is run by the sisters at St Dominic's Priory and a team of "Fanning the Flame" volunteers who have been running the event for over 20 years. All cakes gratefully received.

THANK YOU: Thank you to all those who returned their sunflowers to us for planting out on Thursday. 19 sunflowers were planted in the boxes in the car park and hopefully will survive the current high winds and rain to produce a beautiful display. We look forward over the next few weeks to see who manages to grow the tallest sunflower between the school children and OLMSJ!

ROAD CLOSURE – LYMINGTON HIGH STREET: at No. 2 Lymington High St (just above the junction with Gosport Street & Captains Row) from 18th June for 7 days. Diversions will be in place. As far as we understand the church car park will still be accessible but only from the High Street end.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: On 31/05/24 Church Building Fund was £263,190.08.

All Parishes

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

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. Link to Second Collection Day for Life fundraising page: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/day-for-life-second-collection-2024>

ACTION TO LIFT THE 50% CAP ON CATHOLIC ADMISSIONS TO FAITH SCHOOLS: Responses are crucial if Catholic families throughout the country are not to continue to be deprived of a Catholic education. The link to the consultation is here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/> Although a general election has been called, the consultation will continue. **The closing date for completion of the consultation is 20th June.**

SR VERONICA'S WEEKLY REFLECTION: Welcome to this week's reflection. We learn that great things emerge from humble beginnings and that the Kingdom grows silently and mysteriously in the tangle of human events. We must allow tiny seeds to take root and grow into something much bigger. transforming the world embrace small beginnings with much hope. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfEXHzkxbml>

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ADORE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT: 22nd June 10.00am-1.00pm "TRANSFORMED INTO HIS IMAGE – with ever increasing glory," Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker Fr Chris Thomas. Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREJUN2024 More information at www.altonrenewal.com

FATHER'S DAY 16TH JUNE 2024: Father's Day is a day set apart to celebrate fatherhood, recognize the influence of fathers in our homes and society, and foster paternal bonds. 'Happy Father's Day' to dads everywhere.

CAFOD LEGACY EVENT Join CAFOD's Director, Christine Allen, for a morning of inspiring stories of hope, faith and generosity over a slice of cake and learn more about how you can make a lasting impact through legacy giving. On **Tuesday, 18 June, 10.45 to 12.45, at Our Lady of Sorrows & St Philip Benizi Parish Hall, Fordingbridge.** See the poster in the porch and please let CAFOD know you are coming.

"KEEP THE DATE" -7th September 2024 for our 3 parishes joint beach clean up. This year the suggested joint activity for our 3 parishes is a beach clean-up in Milford on sea and the date chosen is just after schools have re-opened. Please keep this date free and look out for more information in July/August.