

The Catholic Church in Fordingbridge and Ringwood

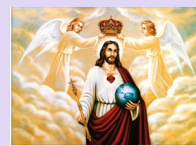
The Sacred Heart
& St. Thérèse of Lisieux
The Close
Ringwood BH24 1LA

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

Thought for the Solemnity of Christ the King

Father Paul writes.....



A word of thanks to everyone for the tremendous effort last Saturday. The 'Open Church' and the 'Musical Evening' were both great successes. They provided opportunities for our parishes to work together to provide welcome and hospitality for visitors and parishioners alike. I loved the music of the Wessex Folk Orchestra. I had no idea that our local musical tradition held such treasures. Including music from Thomas Hardy's tune book.

Our celebration at Mass today honours Jesus Christ the Universal King. The Gospel narrative of today is one of the defining texts of the Christian faith. It is offered as one of the readings for funerals but is rarely chosen. I wonder why....

Jesus offers us the image of a king separating people, some to go to his right and some to his left. Just like a shepherd separating sheep and goats. The world is divided into 'goodies' and 'baddies'. Envisaged is the process that will occur at the end of time, the moment we call the 'Last Judgement'. Being considered is that moment, sometime in the future, when our experience of time and space is complete, and we enter the change of moving into the life of God for ever.

The scene which Jesus describes is not one of judgement as such. It is more about pronouncing sentence based on certain criteria for living our lives. One word sums up the criteria: mercy. In specific terms Jesus speaks of feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked and visiting the sick and those in prison. Of all our ethical and moral teachings, it is our deeds of mercy on which judgement will be based. The question it leaves us with is this: is my life noticeable for the mercy I show in all my relationships?

The importance of charity and compassion, especially expressed in our concern for the needy – and everyone is needy in some sense – is given sharp focus as Jesus identified himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and those in prison. Jesus's words are worth keeping in mind: "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

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	November	26th	11am	✘	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	✘	John Ross RIP
Wednesday	November	29th	10am	✘	<i>Feria (34th Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘	People of Ringwood Parish
Friday	December	1st	10am	✘	<i>Feria (34th Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘	

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	November	25th	6pm	✘	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	✘	
Sunday	November	26th	9am	✘	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	November	28th	10am	✘	<i>Feria (34th Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘	
Thursday	November	30th	10am	✘	<i>St. Andrew</i>	✘	

Confession times: Confession will be available at 5.30pm on Saturdays in Fordingbridge. In Ringwood confession is available after Mass or by appointment.



Ringwood - Wednesday 29th November after 10am Mass
Fordingbridge – Tuesday 5th December after 10am Mass

WARNING!

This week there have been scam emails sent to parishioners in Father Paul's name. Please check the email address before opening. When in doubt—delete. A true email from the office or Father Paul or anyone else in the Diocese would end with @portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Check the spelling of the email. Remember that if Father needs you for a project he would normally ask you in person or call you.

He would not ask you to buy something on his behalf. If you still not sure call Father Paul or the office to check the request.

Christmas Hampers

Ringwood Churches Together are once again creating Christmas Hampers to distribute through schools. Collection boxes can be found in both Churches along with a list of wished for items. **Last weekend for this collection is 25th and 26th of November so that items can be delivered to Poulner Baptist for sorting and wrapping.**

Poiter is also collecting for their Christmas Hampers and a wish list can be found in the Fordingbridge Hall. This is on going.



Loaves and Fishes

Our Facebook group is a great way of keeping in touch with other parishioners. Ask to join here:
<https://www.facebook.com/1397210003927764/>



AN EPIPHANY NATIVITY

This is a call for children - aged 5 to 100 - to help us construct our Nativity in celebration of the birth of Christ. This Christmas we will focus on events occurring after Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

Please let me know of your interest via:

email: stephaniebartel@hotmail.com, text: 07909 971036 or by old fashioned word of mouth at the Parish Open Morning on 18th November.

We will hold our rehearsals over four Saturday mornings from 10am until 11.30am. Performers will need to commit to most, preferably all, of the dates below:

9, 16, 30 December

6 January

Performance on 7th January immediately after the 9.00am Mass.

-Stephanie



WINTER WARMER at Fordingbridge Hall after 6pm Mass on 2nd December and at the house in Ringwood after 11am Mass on Sunday 3rd December. This is your **Joint** CAFOD

Group's Thank you for all your support this past year. All welcome to join us for home made mince pies and punch (non alco available)

There will be music and lively chatter. It's FREE - Do come!



THINKING AHEAD

There are some CAFOD 'World Gift' catalogues to be found in Ringwood and Fordingbridge porches from this weekend. Something to give someone who has everything, or you think would really appreciate the sentiment. You can spend as little as £4 for a Happy Queen Bee gift to set up a hive to help people become self-sufficient, £10 for a soup kitchen, £30 for a Winter Survival Kit or £150 for a Marvelous Moo Cow. There are so many other ideas as well as practical gifts of chocolate, etc.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/lpc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

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: Office Open Tues (OLS) 9-12 Friday 10-1(SH)

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@olosforfordingbridge.org.uk

Ringwood: please contact Helen Thomas details above



Greeting Cards

Christmas cards available in Ringwood and Fordingbridge.

There are boxes of 18 cards for £4.25 a box which is just over 23p a card and boxes of 12 cards for £3.95 which is 33p a card.

Advent candles now for sale at Ringwood!

Thanks for your support, Barbara



From Caritas Portsmouth

COP28 is rapidly approaching (30 Nov – 12 Dec). In Laudate Deum, Pope Francis describes how some of the

big changes we need to happen to slow the rate of climate change must come from the actions of governments. Let us pray for those leaders, that they can listen to those already affected by climate change and have courage to act. Join other Christians groups in prayer and fasting on the 1st of each month <https://prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/>



Free to a good home!

I have 5 well rooted healthy Rosemary cuttings if anyone would like one - please let me know. -Barbara

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 November edition is the 25th of November.

Friendship Group Sacred Heart

We meet on Wednesdays following Mass for a coffee and a chat. Do come and join us - all are very welcome
.- Barbara



Job Openings with the Diocese

There are some exciting opportunities across the Diocese for a variety of roles. Please help us to fill these vacancies by mentioning to family and friends. Our vacancies may be found at <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>



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

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2298	£ 3086
Cash/Env	£ 978	£ 312
DONA/Online	£ 255	£ 84

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