

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 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Today, the Gospel narrative is about Jesus the Good Shepherd and, as always, it is a day of prayer for vocations. Here is the opening of Pope Francis's message for this Sunday. The entire text can be found on our website or on the Vatican website:

"Dear brothers and sisters!

Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord's call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life. Hearing that divine call, which is far from being an imposed duty – even in the name of a religious ideal – is the surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness. Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, what our gifts are, where we can make them bear fruit, and what path we can follow in order to become signs and instruments of love, generous acceptance, beauty and peace, wherever we find ourselves.

This Day, then, is always a good occasion to recall with gratitude to the Lord the faithful, persevering and frequently hidden efforts of all those who have responded to a call that embraces their entire existence. I think of mothers and fathers who do not think first of themselves or follow fleeting fads of the moment, but shape their lives through relationships marked by love and graciousness, openness to the gift of life and commitment to their children and their growth in maturity. I think of all those who carry out their work in a spirit of cooperation with others, and those who strive in various ways to build a more just world, a more solidary economy, a more equitable social policy and a more humane society. In a word, of all those men and women of good will who devote their lives to working for the common good. I think too of all those consecrated men and women who offer their lives to the Lord in the silence of prayer and in apostolic activity, sometimes on the fringes of society, tirelessly and creatively exercising their charism by serving those around them. And I think of all those who have accepted God's call to the ordained priesthood, devoting themselves to the preaching of the Gospel, breaking open their own lives, together with the bread of the Eucharist, for their brothers and sisters, sowing seeds of hope and revealing to all the beauty of God's kingdom.

To young people, and especially those who feel distant or uncertain about the Church, I want to say this: Let Jesus draw you to himself; bring him your important questions by reading the Gospels; let him challenge you by his presence, which always provokes in us a healthy crisis. More than anyone else, Jesus respects our freedom. He does not impose, but proposes. Make room for him and you will find the way to happiness by following him. And, should he ask it of you, by giving yourself completely to him."

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	April	21st	11am	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	✘	People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	April	24th	10am	✘	<i>of the 4th Week of Easter</i>	✘	
Friday	April	26th	No Mass	✘	<i>of the 4th Week of Easter</i>	✘	No Mass

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	April	20th	6pm	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	✘	
Sunday	April	21st	9am	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	April	23rd	10am	✘	<i>of the 4th Week of Easter</i>	✘	Liturgy of the Word
Thursday	April	25th	10am	✘	<i>St. Mark</i>	✘	

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



Quiz Night for Bee Against Poverty Zambia

This year the quiz night proceeds will be for an orphanage project in Kitwe Zambia. Quiz will be held at the United Reformed Church in Fordingbridge on 10 May from 8 to 10.30. Our Lady of Sorrows has been invited to gather a team. It would be £12 for a team of 6. If you are interested in going please email Melissa at shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Keyboard Player Need in Ringwood

Do you play a keyboard? Might you be willing to play at 11 am Mass on Sundays in Ringwood?

Peter, our organist, is not as young as he used to be and would welcome some help to provide accompaniment to our singing. If you are willing to give it a try please tell Peter, Fr Paul, Anthony or David.

LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina is on Tuesdays at 7pm and it lasts about 40-50 minutes. We spend some reflective time listening to a piece of scripture and discerning what it is saying to each one of us individually. It is not 'Bible Study' but a gentle yet profound way of enabling a conversation with God.

It takes place using Zoom so is open to you literally anywhere you live. If you would like to join or just try it, do contact either Barbara at bgeatrell@yahoo.co.uk or Maria at maricarmen@murraybrown.uk who will be able to give you the Zoom code.



**From the Bishop
Canon Peter Wilkie R.I.P.**

Please pray for the repose of Canon Peter Wilkie who died on Easter Monday, 1st April, aged 94 – may he rest in peace. Living in retirement in Milford-on-Sea, Winchester and finally Fordingbridge, he was our longest living priest, ordained in 1953.

Peter Wilkie was born on 24th February 1930 in Clapham, South London, and following formation at St Edmund's Ware, he was ordained on 4th June 1953 for the Diocese of Portsmouth at St Agatha's in Kingston-on-Thames by Archbishop John Henry King, who went over specially to his home parish to celebrate the ordination. Many will remember him from his ministry at St Swithun's, Southsea, the Cathedral, St Joseph's, Bracknell, Sacred Heart, Bournemouth, St Bernard's, Holbury, St James', Reading, St Edward's, Chandlers Ford, Our Lady of Sorrows and St Philip Benizi, Fordingbridge, and St Francis of Assisi, Milford-on-Sea. In addition, he had a passion for prison ministry and was Chaplain to Winchester Prison for over 20 years where he received a long service award and the new Visitor Centre was named in his honour as "The Wilkie Centre". He became a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter in 1989 and he was a member of the Old Brotherhood of the English Secular Clergy. When he was at Beaumont College, he played cricket against the Oratory at Lords. – the only Portsmouth priest to do so!

Let us thank God for Canon Peter's loving service to the people whom he was called to serve. May the Lord grant him eternal rest. ☩

Poulner Baptist Church have been contacted by a 52 year old Pastor in Ukraine who, due to the military actions in Ukraine is looking for a place to move to with his wife and their 10 year old daughter and a Christian friend with their 14 year old son. They want to use the Home for Ukrainians program <https://homesforukraine.org.uk/find-a-sponsor/> but want to find a Christian sponsor. All they require is two rooms for 6-8 months, in which they hope that this time will be enough for them to learn spoken English and find a job.

Could you help them in this need? or know of anyone who might be able to? If so, please do get in contact with Owen Griffith on loveukraine.ringwood@gmail.com for more information on how the scheme and process works.

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



Plant Sale after Mass
Sundays 19th & 26th May
Our Lady of Sorrows Fordingbridge and Sacred Heart Ringwood
 Summer bedding plants, flowering perennials, shrubs from cuttings and some vegetables
 All grown on at home in Dorset
All donations go to CAFOD

Mission Mass : Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite everyone to celebrate a special Mass for Mission at St Theresa's Church Beaumont Road, Totton SO40 3AL .On Wednesday 8 May at 7pm. Come and hear how the Red Box is supporting our global Catholic community through donations and prayerful support. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

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 April.

Modern Slavery Talk

Caritas Plymouth has invited people in our diocese interested in learning more about **modern slavery**, particularly in the care sector to an event they are holding in Poole on **30th April**. There are some great speakers from the Medaille Trust and Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority. Event runs from 10:30-12:30 in the church hall of St Marys Catholic Church, 211A Wimborne Road, Poole, BH15 2EG. Please register beforehand at <https://forms.office.com/e/zUCKYENMNH>

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

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2313	£ 2786
Cash	£ 579	£ 869
DONA/online	£ 180	£ included above

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