

The Catholic Church in Fordingbridge and Ringwood

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

Avon Stour Pastoral Area
www.avonstour.co.uk
Parish Priest:
Canon Paul Townsend

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

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year Father Paul Writes...

Our Gospel this Sunday sees Jesus and his disciples travelling south on the east side of the Jordan towards Jerusalem. The Pharisees are intent upon trapping Jesus in the whole area of marriage and its breakdown. It was, even in Jesus's time, a complex and topical issue, and the Pharisees thought that Jesus would stray away from the Jewish Law, and they would add the mistake to the growing list of material that they could use against him. Jesus was a growing threat to the status quo.

The Pharisees asked Jesus whether it was against the Law for a man to divorce his wife. Jesus's question "What did Moses command you?" was a clever question because the Pharisees had to admit that "Moses allowed us (not commanded us) to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce". Merely allowing is quite different from commanding and Jesus made the point that Moses and the Jewish Law took divorce as a fact of life. Allowing rather than commanding was an attempt to minimise harm by protecting the rights of women. It is important to remember that at the time the Gospels were written, a woman was the property of the man and therefore had no rights. The man could divorce his wife for any reason and the woman had no rights of redress nor could she divorce her husband because she was his property. Jesus condemns the Pharisees because they were 'unteachable' and had hard impenetrable hearts.

Jesus managed not to infringe the marriage law of Moses and pointed out that the Law was not about men having heartless power over women. The Law was intended, by using the word 'allow', rather than 'command', to lessen the harm against women done by men who were heartless and cruel. Jesus takes the opportunity to offer his teaching on marriage which he sees as a gift which establishes an unbreakable bond between husband and wife. A union we would see as a sacrament of God's own unity, filled with love, compassion, respect, fidelity, forgiveness and acceptance.

It seems clear in the New Testament that Jesus saw the indissoluble nature of marriage for life as a vital part of his message and as a reflection of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit. Marriage is a foundational sacrament in the life of the Church. While holding marriage as sacred we must be respectful towards those whose marriages fail. It is worth knowing that in Jesus's time, life expectancy was less than half of what we can expect, and marriages would usually only last for twenty years before the parting of death. At the same time, it was believed that the world would soon come to an end. Both these realities meant that divorce and second marriage was not the issue it is in our own time. We must remain faithful to the teaching of Jesus and at the same time find a way to help people grow and flourish in life's journey and their relationship with God and the Church when they experience the failure of a marriage.

Confessions: The Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation is available in Ringwood at 12 noon every Saturday and at 5.30 pm at Fordingbridge or by appointment.

Live Streaming Changes: Due to generous donations from Canon Gerry Hetherington, two anonymous parishioners and a grant from AllChurches Trust, both parishes will have their own living streaming cameras and will be moving to YouTube instead of Zoom. Starting with Fordingbridge and hopefully by the end of October for Ringwood. There may be disruption to Zoom mass as we transition. Please bear with us.

Public, Zoomed and Youtube Celebrations of Mass

Sacred Heart, Ringwood

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88397744328?pwd=RitLbjRTQjhhcDhrSElDWjlxQUYyZz09>

(All masses zoomed at this link unless otherwise noted)

Sunday	Oct 3rd	11am	✘ <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	✘ Canon John Grieg RIP
Wednesday	Oct 6th	10am	✘ <i>Feria 27th Week in Ordinary Time</i>	✘ People of Sacred Heart Parish
Friday	Oct 8th	10am	✘ <i>Feria 27th Week in Ordinary Time</i>	✘

Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge

We will be unable to Zoom Mass from Fordingbridge this week. Please watch Sacred Heart.

Saturday	Oct 2nd	6pm	✘ <i>Memorial of The Holy Guardian Angles</i>	✘ Gordon Gray RIP
Sunday	Oct 3rd	9am	✘ <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	✘ People of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish
Tuesday	Oct 5th	10am	✘ <i>Memorial of St. Faustina Kowalska</i>	✘ Marguerite-Marie Dicquemere RIP
Thursday	Oct 7th	NO MASS	✘ <i>Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	✘ No Zoom/Youtube/Mass

Both our churches are now open daily for prayer

ID
88397744328

Passcode
083174

First Holy Communion: Anyone with a child who is rising 8 and would like to begin preparation for First Holy Communion in September please email the Parish Administrator or call 01425 653131. We will need to close registration soon.



Eucharistic Adoration
Fordingbridge – Tuesday October 5th following 10am Mass
Ringwood - Wednesday October 27th following 10am Mass

Fordingbridge will live stream using YouTube

Starting very soon we will live stream Mass using YouTube rather than Zoom. You are able to access this live stream by using this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFTmHlkg-4M7rTwOB-Wxysw> in your web browser or going to www.avonstour.co.uk/fordingbridge. Ringwood is still using the usual Zoom details for now, but hope to have them on YouTube by the end of October.





CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday

1st October

Pick up your envelopes this weekend

Our local experts are helping people all over the world adapt to climate change and to protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this family

fast day you can help communities affected by the worst impact of the climate crisis. Please donate by using the envelopes provided, online on our website CAFOD.org.uk/climatecrisis or by texting **CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10** or choose any whole amount between £1 and £20 e.g. £5 CAFOD5 more information on the CAFOD leaflet. Many thanks for your support.

Your Help is Needed

Extended Ringwood family (grandparents, parents, teenage children) urgently require 4/5 bedroom house to rent locally. Please contact Paul if you can help. 07340804467

Ringwood – Counters

Ringwood parish are looking for people willing to count the collections after 11.00 a.m Mass on Sundays. Please talk to Canon Paul or Bridie Gray if you feel able to offer your help.

Ringwood Coffee/Tea Rota



We are looking forward to restarting “Coffee in the House” regularly after Sunday Masses but we are in need of volunteers to make up a rota. Please speak to Jane Saunders or Maggie Spiers if you are able to help.

The Bishop is coming!

He will visit Fordingbridge for the 6pm Mass on Saturday 9th October to congratulate Fr Paul on his appointment as Monsignor. Ringwood Parishioners are welcome and there will be a party afterwards at 7pm, in the Hall. There will be an American style supper (as we did for Fr Anthony Fyk). Could Parishioners kindly bring savouries (surnames A-M) or desserts (surnames N-Z).



Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

First Reading: First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6
R/ May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.
Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11
Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Ringwood Carers Group needs Volunteers

Please help with teas and coffees February and August on the 2nd Thursday of each month ,9.45 to 10.45. Call Margaret Gillos 01425474648



Fordingbridge Coffee Morning—

October 3rd coffee morning in aid of CAFOD. There will be a Jam and Chutney sale too.



The next **Joint Parish Walk** will be on Saturday 2nd October at 2.30 pm at Godshill. Park at the Ashley Wood car park (187157), the second car park .8 mile after the Fighting Cocks. About 3 miles, one hill plus some slopes. Leave Ringwood at 2.00. Any problems? David (480052) or Jan (656726).

Greeting Cards

Cards for sale are now available again in Church. Please ask if you don't see what you are looking for. You may see a small selection of cards on <https://www.avonstour.co.uk/parishes/ringwood/piety-stall/>

Thank you for your support - it all helps our Church finances Barbara and Maria .

Forty Days and Forty Nights.... your parish magazine

Send contributions and feed back for future editions to: crisbasha@aol.com . All contributions greatly appreciated.

Please have your submissions to Chris by the **25th of October**

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: PRCDTR Ringwood Sacred Heart or PRCDTR Fordingbridge St. Mary and St. Philip

Ringwood: Sort Code: 30 93 04 Account Number: 00886336
Fordingbridge: Sort Code: 30 93 04 Account Number: 00878309

Thank you for your financial support: please, if you can, continue to support your parishes during these difficult times via standing orders. August offerings to Parish bank accounts.

Ringwood Fordingbridge

SO £ 1986 £ 2939
Cash/Env £ 753 £ 375

Fordingbridge and Ringwood Contact Details

Office hours: Tues - 10-12 OLS, Fri– 10:30-12:30 SH
Parish Priest: 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: Donna Kerrigan 01425 656895
donna.kerrigan@btinternet.com

Avon Stour Pastoral Area—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)
Rev. John Chadwick: Christchurch St Joseph's (01202483340)
Rev. John Chadwick: Highcliffe Holy Redeemer

More details on the website: www.avonstour.co.uk

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

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 246871)

“Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church”

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk