

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:
Rev Mgr Canon Paul Townsend

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

The First Sunday of the Year Fr. Paul writes....

Next week sees the beginning of the 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. Melissa has included in this Newsletter the details of the events which will take place in Ringwood and Fordingbridge. As usual there will be a liturgy of prayer and reflection on Tuesday 25th January in Ringwood at 4.30pm.

Dialogue and prayer with other Christians is an important part of Catholic teaching and something which should always be on a parish agenda. Please do all you can to support these local events.



Covid: I am only too aware that many families have been affected by the Omicron virus during the past few weeks. It seems that it is very easy to catch. I will therefore repeat below the guidelines for church attendance which I gave just before Christmas. I urge everyone to follow the guidelines so that those who attend Mass can come knowing that we are all doing our best to keep everyone safe.

Please wear a mask at all times in church.

Please sanitise your hands on arrival.

Please respect people who are not in your bubble by leaving a vacant seat next to them.

Please leave a space between yourself and the person in front as you approach for Holy Communion.

Please observe social distancing at all times.

Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell and if you can take a lateral flow test before you come, please do so. Do not come if your test is positive.

Remember that there is no obligation to attend Mass in these circumstances, especially if you have concerns about your health.

As the churches are well ventilated, please wear warm clothing.

Adjustments may be made to seating arrangements in church, but I have still to make a final decision.

The Wedding Feast at Cana: On this Sunday, the first of the year, the Gospel narrative is always the same as we hear what happened when Jesus, his mother and his disciples went to the wedding at Cana. The event, as John describes it, is rich in themes upon which we do well to reflect.

We have considered during Christmastide the mystery of the incarnation in which the Word of God, God himself, became human in the person of Jesus. Christians have always had difficulty believing that God who created everything that exists, could become human like the rest of us and share and experience of life in time and space. To make it clear and to allay any fears that Jesus's humanity might only be a disguise, which it certainly is not, the first experience of the Word made flesh is at an ordinary wedding. The visitor to Cana will discover that it is a very ordinary place, with the tensions we would expect to find in Israel/Palestine. Not only that, but the wedding also suffered from an organisational failure because the wine ran out. In the middle of the ordinariness, chaos and inevitable tension is Jesus using his power as God to bring about life in abundance.

The bridegroom was in trouble because the wine ran out and then he was challenged because he served the best wine last when people couldn't tell the difference. In fact, it is Jesus who turned out to be the bridegroom who fulfils the prophecy of Isaiah who saw Jerusalem being wedded to God the bridegroom: "Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice over you". (Isaiah 62.5) Jesus comes to us as the bridegroom so that we might become "a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord".

Public and YouTube Celebrations of Mass

Both our churches are now 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	Jan	16th	11am	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	Jan	19th	10am	⊗	Memorial of St. Wulstan	⊗	
Friday	Jan	21st	10am	⊗	Memorial of St. Agnes	⊗	

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	Jan	15th	6pm	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Michael Quirk RIP
Sunday	Jan	16th	9am	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	Jan	18th	10am	⊗	Feria 2nd Week in Ordinary Time	⊗	
Thursday	Jan	20th	No Mass	⊗	Memorial of St. Fabian	⊗	No Mass

Confessions: Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available in Ringwood at 12 noon each Saturday and at 5.30pm each Saturday in the hall at Fordingbridge, by appointment or on request after Mass.

† Funerals †

Please pray for our dearly departed

Sheila Mary Crouch
Our Lady of Sorrows
January 25th at 2pm

John Jinks
Sacred Heart
February 3rd at 10am

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18-25 January 2022

Church Together Fordingbridge

Christian Unity Service at Burgate School on Sunday Jan 23rd at 10am

Churches Together Ringwood

Christian Unity Service at Sacred Heart on Tuesday Jan 25th at 4.30pm

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Friday 4 March 2022

In Fordingbridge, the service is being hosted by the Methodist Church. If you would like to be involved in the service, then please let me know. Jan Brian: 656726.

Second collection in support of your Cathedral in Portsmouth



Next weekend we make the annual appeal for the Cathedral in Portsmouth. Envelopes are available at all Masses for those who do not have gift aided planned giving envelopes for second collections. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family.

In response to some of the precautions taken in the previous lockdowns, a 'Give as you Live' page was also created at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal-1>

Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.



WANTED!

Welcomers in Fordingbridge - for both Masses.

Any parishioner can join in this important ministry; all that is required is a friendly manner and a warm, welcoming smile.

No special training needed! As the first person anyone visiting the church will meet, this is a vital first contact for many and can make the difference to a decision to stay or come again. More volunteers are always needed to join the welcoming rotas.

We like to think our church is a place where people feel comfortable and welcome, of course, but Welcomers have an especially crucial role to play. If you want to help or find out more, please contact the parish office.

Opportunities for Formation in Jan-Feb 2022

For Adults who wish to know their faith better: We are offering a 6 weeks course on **Tuesdays 15th February - 22nd March, 7.00 - 8.30 pm**. This course, **Anchoring your Faith: the Mass**, will help you (re) discover the Mass, exploring its liturgy in the light of our faith. For registration and more information please go to the website: www.pffm.org.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 this month is reverting to the 25th of January. All contributions are welcome.

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

CAFOD Recycling Ringwood Update

Many thanks to all contributors. We have made a good start but the sack takes a lot of filling. So, please, if you have any old or broken mobile phones, cameras, electronic gaming devices, tablets, ipods, MP3 players or Sat Navs these will help. There is a collection box in the porch or 01425 480052 for a collection.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

First Reading: *Isaiah 62:1-5*

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 96:1-2,2-3,7-8,9-10*

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

Gospel: *John 2:1-11*

Thank you from Stell Maris



We send great thanks from Stella Maris Southern Region to all who answered our Christmas appeal to support seafarers with prayers and gifts. Your response was marvellous and raised the spirits of crews separated from family and friends, visiting our ports at a particularly difficult time. Thank you for extending to them the spirit of Christmas.

Lectio Divina Group

We are a small group of parishioners who meet via Zoom every Tuesday at 7.10pm. We read a short passage from Scripture, a Psalm or a Prayer and reflect on it either silently or aloud. It is not Bible Study so there is no right or wrong interpretation of the reading.

We pray beforehand and ask the Holy Spirit to guide each of us so that the reading ultimately says something different to each of us. This can be interesting and can open up our minds to seeing a well-known passage of Scripture in a new way. This is Lectio Divina, an ancient practice of the Roman Catholic church.

If you would like to join us, try it out or find out more, please get in touch by email with Maria maricarmen@murraybrown.uk or Barbara bgeatrell@yahoo.co.uk. And please do not worry if you are new to Lectio Divina. We as a group only started a few months ago initially under the guidance of Father Paul.

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

Ringwood Fordingbridge

SO	£ 1943	£ 2866
Cash/Env	£ 864	£ 325

Fordingbridge and Ringwood Contact Details

Office hours: OLS Tue 9am-12pm, SH Fri 10am-1pm

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: 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)

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

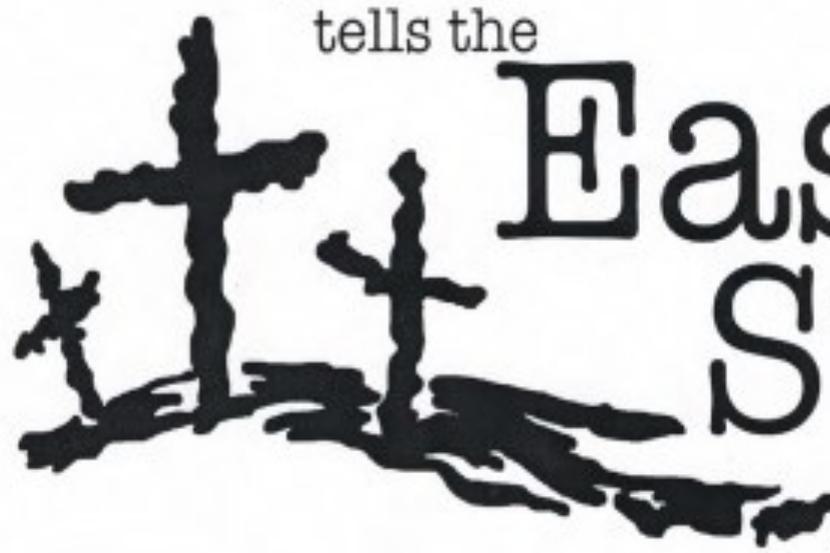
Hospital Chaplain (B'mouth & C'Church): Fr. Darryl Jordan contact at: 03000194221 (Chaplaincy Office)

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

“Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church”

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Fordingbridge
tells the

A black silhouette illustration on the left side of the page. It depicts a cross on the left, a tomb with a rolled-away stone in the middle, and a figure standing next to the tomb on the right. The background behind the text is a faint, light-colored map of the Fordingbridge area.

Easter Story

a community play

On Good Friday, 15 April, at 11am, we intend to perform a play telling the Easter story, but this will only be possible with a team of **actors** (in roles big and small), **back-stage helpers**, and other **organizers** and **supporters**. *No experience is necessary.*

We encourage **you** to be one of the people to make this happen.

On Sunday 23 January, after the 10am *Unity Service* at Burgate School, there will be a chance to sign up. The more, the better! The play will be a community production, a chance to work together, rather than the product of a particular church.

If you are unable to attend on Sunday 23 January, but would like to take part, please email avon-easter-play@outlook.com

With thanks,
Tom Burden
Jeremy Houghton-Brown





GET TO KNOW ABOUT RUGBY4REFUGEES

WHO ARE WE?

We are a voluntary organisation working as part of the government community sponsorship scheme to resettle a Syrian refugee family to the local Hampshire - Dorset area.

Over the past year we have been working on raising funds, finding accommodation, arranging schools for the children etc, and we are now ready to welcome the family into their new home. The end goal of the initiative being for the family to be independent and an active part of the community.

OUR STORY



@Rugby4

HOW CAN YOU...

GET INVOLVED?

See below some ideas of how you can get involved. These are not at all limited, if you have any ideas or want to get involved, please email us at info@rugby4refugees.com

Transport



Are you a local transport company or driver willing to help the family out with transport for their first few months here? If so, get in contact via email to find out more

Business Owner



Do you own a local business? Are you looking for new staff? Are you willing to offer the family an interview? If so, email us at info@rugby4refugees.com to hear more

Befriending Team



Do you live in Verwood and know the local area well? Email info@rugby4refugees.com and find out more about joining our befriending team



Follow the QR link to our...



GoFundMe Page

Follow the QR link to our...

Amazon Wishlist

