

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 Body and Blood of the Lord Father Paul writes.....



Our Gospel narrative this weekend is from St. Luke. He describes the miraculous feeding of the five thousand. Everyone ate as much as they wanted and there were twelve baskets left over. The miraculous feeding at the hands of his disciples, coupled with the abundance, spoke to St. Luke of the Last Supper and Jesus's words given to us by St. Paul in the narrative from his First letter to the Corinthians. Paul describes how Jesus *took* some bread, *gave thanks to God*, *broke* it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me". Jesus did the same with the cup.

St. Luke wrote his Gospel between 80 and 85 AD, which was around 50 years after the Last Supper and the death and resurrection of Jesus. Luke and those who listened to his Gospel would have been thoroughly familiar with, what Luke terms, the Breaking of Bread and the words which were used each time. Luke has incorporated the key words into his description of the miraculous feeding of the five thousand. So, Luke tells us that Jesus "raised his eyes to heaven" which means that he 'gave thanks', 'took', *broke* and gave the bread and fish to his disciples to distribute to the crowd. The narrative of the feeding of the five thousand would have reminded Luke's audience of the Breaking of Bread.

By the time Luke wrote his Gospel the celebration of the Breaking of Bread was well established and was at the heart of the early Christian community in the first century. Luke testifies to that in the Acts of the Apostles. Since then, the Breaking of Bread, the Eucharist or, as we call it, the Mass, has been celebrated continually for 2000 years. Christians have gathered every Sunday, the day of resurrection, to obey the Lord's command at the Last Supper "do this in memory of me". Visitors to the catacombs in Rome will see early illustrations of the Eucharist. Why has the Mass been so important to Christians since the beginning of the Church? The answer to that question is at the heart of our celebration of today's feast. Justin Martyr described the Mass in detail at the beginning of the second century.

As Jesus gave thanks so must we. To "give thanks in all circumstances" as St. Paul puts it, is our "duty always and everywhere" (Eucharistic Prayer II). God is the giver of everything, and we are the recipients which is why we must give thanks and we express our appreciation most perfectly in the Eucharist. The bread and wine, which we bring to the Altar, are signs of our lives, the gifts we receive and the use we make of them. They are signs of our cooperation with God and the use we make of our gifts and talents because bread and wine require the use of human skill and the gifts of God. So the bread and wine are signs of our thanksgiving and praise. During the Eucharistic Prayer, which is essentially a prayer of thanksgiving, our 'thank you offering – the bread and wine' becomes the body and blood of Jesus and, therefore the presence of the risen Lord. We believe that Jesus's eternal prayer in the life of God is to give praise and thanks to his Father. Each time we celebrate the Eucharist our thanksgiving becomes part of Jesus's thanksgiving, making it perfect and part of the life of God. Our bread and wine as an offering become the self-offering of Jesus which we see on the Cross and which is Jesus's eternal offering in love to his Father. So, we can say in Eucharistic Prayer II "Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his death and resurrection, we offer you Lord (God the Father), the Bread of life and the Chalice of Salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you".

Then we eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus so that we might be "gathered into one by the Holy Spirit". (Eucharistic Prayer II) To be gathered into one is to be drawn continually into the Body of Christ so that the love we live in all our relationships will make the love of Jesus present and active in our world. We are to become what we eat.

Our eucharistic praise to God and our eating and drinking to become the Body of Christ, which is the Church, means that the bread and wine which we bring truly becomes the presence and reality of the risen Jesus. The Church teaches that what looks like bread is not bread but the Body of Christ and what looks like wine is the Blood of Christ. That is why the Church urges us to be careful about language: never to call the Body and Blood of Christ bread or wine because it is not. The final words are those of St. Thomas Aquinas in today's Sequence "This faith to Christians is given – bread is made flesh by words from heaven: into his blood the wine is turned".

Congratulations to our children and families who celebrated First Holy Communion today. My special thanks to Mary Richardson, Barbara Geatrell and Steve Berry who were the catechists.

Public and YouTube Celebrations of Mass

Both our churches are now open daily for prayer

Sacred Heart, Ringwood

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFTmHlkq-4M7rTwOB-Wxysw> or search on YouTube for Catholic Parishes of Ringwood and Fordingbridge

(All masses livestreamed at this link unless otherwise noted)

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|-----------|-----------|------|--|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | June 19th | 11am | ✘ <i>Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ)</i> | ✘ People of Ringwood Parish |
| Wednesday | June 22nd | 10am | ✘ <i>Feast of Ss John Fisher and Thomas More</i> | ✘ |
| Friday | June 24th | 10am | ✘ <i>The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</i> | ✘ |

Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFTmHlkq-4M7rTwOB-Wxysw> or search on YouTube for Catholic Parishes of Ringwood and Fordingbridge

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|----------|-----------|---------|--|----------------------------------|
| Saturday | June 18th | 6pm | ✘ <i>Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ)</i> | ✘ People of Fordingbridge Parish |
| Sunday | June 19th | 9am | ✘ <i>Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ)</i> | ✘ Sybil Quirk RIP |
| Tuesday | June 21st | No Mass | ✘ <i>Memorial of St. Aloysius Gonzaga</i> | ✘ No Mass |
| Thursday | June 23rd | 10am | ✘ <i>The Nativity of John the Baptist</i> | ✘ Liturgy of the Word |

Confessions: Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available in Ringwood at 12 noon each Saturday or 5.30 in Fordingbridge.



Congratulations!

Please pray for our children making their First Communion this Sunday

Our Lady of Sorrows

**Isabella Allegrì
Holly Dinsdale
Stella Stefanini**

Sacred Heart

**Jack Bates
Beatrice Davie Denegri
Alan Kurda
Victor Puia
Matteo Schettino-Cunningham
Isabella Scollard**

The Body and Blood of Christ (C)

First Reading: Genesis 14:18-20

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 110:1, 2, 3, 4

R. You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: Luke 9:11b-17

† Please Pray for Our Dearly Departed †

Joan Mary Roffey

Funeral at Our Lady of Sorrows
27 June at 11:30 am

Norman James Hughes (Jock)

Funeral at Sacred Heart
1 July at 10 am

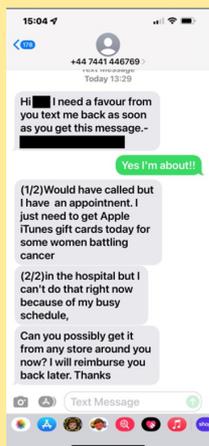
Today's Second Collection

Today's Second Collection is a mandatory collection in support of the *Day for Life*, to be taken 18-19 June. This Collection assists the work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre (whose new website (<https://www.bioethics.org.uk/>) contains a wealth of pro-life resources and information), and other life-related activities supported by the Church. The Catholic Bishops this year invite people to think again about the value and worth of older persons in families and in society, and to make practical choices to build bridges between the generations, devoting quality time, energy and creativity to caring for the older persons in our communities. The focus of the *Day for Life* this year is older persons. The COVID pandemic highlighted the desperate plight of many older people, especially those in care homes and those struggling with long-term chronic conditions such as dementia.

Forty Days and Forty Nights....

your parish magazine

Send contributions and feed back for future editions to: crisbasha@aol.com. The Forty Days deadline is the 25th of the month. All contributions are welcome.



Warning! We have just been made aware of Parishioners in our Diocese being contacted by text, by someone pretending to be their Parish Priest. (See attached image). This person asked the Parishioners to buy vouchers or goods needed urgently by the Parish Priest. Parishioners are reminded to:

- Report the text Phone number to [Action Fraud](#) and send the text number to: report@phishing.gov.uk
- Parishioners are advised to ignore any messages coming from a non-saved contact

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

Fordingbridge and Ringwood Contact Details

Office hours: OLS Tues 10-12 and SH Fri 10-12

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

Ringwood: please contact Donna Kerrigan, details above

Friendship Group



Would you like to meet regularly with friends for coffee and chat or perhaps visit a restaurant for lunch?

We have been looking at setting up a 'friendship group' in Ringwood. We looked at meeting on a Wednesday following Mass but there are too many clashes so are now looking at every Friday following Mass.

Watch this space for our start date (it will be soon) and spread the idea amongst your friends. Any thoughts/suggestions welcome. Please contact Barbara at bgeatrell@yahoo.co.uk.

Gardening at Sacred Heart

This Saturday June 18th 2pm



Please come out to help do a little tidy of the beds before First Holy Communion on Sunday.

Come for as little or as long as you can manage. Please bring your own tools. Tea and cold drinks provided.



Joint Parish Walk

The next Joint Parish Walk will be on Saturday 2nd of July. Details will follow.

Churches Together in Fordingbridge Prayer Link

Copies in the porch for the month of June. Prayers for everyday.

Greeting Cards

Thank you to all who support the sale of cards which really helps our church finances. I hope to restock the racks this week. If you can't find what you are looking for please let me know.

Barbara : bgeatrell@yahoo.co.uk

Cards and First Communion gifts also available in the hall at Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

<https://www.avonstour.co.uk/parishes/ringwood/piety-stall/>

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

| | Ringwood | Fordingbridge |
|----------|----------|---------------|
| SO | £ 1948 | £ 2781 |
| Cash/Env | £ 1070 | £ 627 |

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)

Deacon Hugh Parry :07971 071571

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