



The Catholic Parishes of:

The Sacred Heart and St Theresa of Lisieux – Ringwood

Parish Secretary: Sheila Younger: 01425 477784 Email: s.atha@uwclub.net

Our Lady of Sorrows and St Philip Benizi - Fordingbridge

*Parish Secretaries Anne Hammond: 01425 654838 Email: Hammond.44@talktalk.net
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Priest of both Parishes: Fr Des Connolly SMM 01425 653131

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Website: www.fordrc.org.uk

Part of the Avon Stour Pastoral Area

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity number 246871

20 December 2009 – 4th Sunday of Advent - Year C



Blessed is the season
which engages the whole world
in a conspiracy of love!

	Fordingbridge	Ringwood	Ashurst
Sunday 20 December	9.00am - Mass Father Des	11.00am – Mass Father Des	9.00am – Mass Father Danny
Monday 21 December		10.00am – Mass	5.30pm – Mass
Tuesday 22 December	10.00am - Mass		5.30pm – Mass
Wednesday 23 December		10.00am - Mass	5.30pm – Mass
Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve	11.30pm –Carols – Midnight Mass Father Des	8.00pm – Vigil Mass of the Nativity Father Ronnie	11.30pm – Carols – Midnight Mass Father Danny
Friday 25 December Christmas Day	9.00am – Mass Father Ronnie	11.00am – Mass Father Danny	9.00am – Mass Father Des
Saturday 26 December	6.00pm - Vigil Mass Father Des		

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM FOR SUNDAY:
GOD OF HOSTS BRING US BACK;
LET YOUR FACE SHINE ON US AND WE SHALL BE SAVED**

Please pray for the sick of our Parish and for their carers. Johanna and Arthur Jackson, Alice Milmer, Annette Sands, John McGeachy, Ron Tague. Jean Ward, Joan Ward, Robert Hope, Dennis So, Michael Goh (K.L), Johnny Chang (Singapore) Nicky Ings, Chris Riley, Marie Bergmann, Nell Lonnergan, Mary Carlow, Sarah Andrews, Linda Andrews, Courtney Andrews, Pat Baker, May Rogers, Thomas Bernard, Gus Kiamtia, Margaret Scotchmer and anybody else in the parish who is experiencing health problems.

Father Des has asked us to say a very big and sincere THANK YOU to Betty Overill!

After many many years as our Church Organist and because of recurring health problems Betty has made a hard decision to stop playing the Church organ . She has given so much of her time willingly and with good humour and it has really been appreciated by all of us.

Best wishes Betty and thanks from all of us!

Following the above Frances has agreed to play two Saturday Masses and two Sunday Masses each month. Thank you to Frances and Harriet for all your playing. However, this leaves a gap in our Church Music. If there is anybody in the parish – young or old – who play any instruments at all Father Des urges you to get in touch with him to discuss a way forward, music has become such an integral part of our services. Thank you

Apologies: Fr Des apologises for not being able to do all he had planned for Advent. This was due to the weather, to ill health and various other things beyond his control. He knows that the Parish Community is very understanding and supportive but even so, he would love to be able to do more for us than he is able at the moment!

Christmas decoration of the Church There will be a collection for flower decoration expenses after Mass today. PLEASE may we have some strong volunteers to help burrow through the dungeons to extract the crib, preferably after Sunday Mass. All volunteers to help with flowers, lights and moving heavy objects very gratefully received. Many Thanks - Jenni NW

Portsmouth People and 2010 diaries now available in the porch – please take one home – they are free!

Un- Needed Christmas Presents: Once again this year we will be having our highly successful collection of unwanted Christmas Presents. It's so easy - instead of sticking them in the back of the cupboard, never to be seen again, so please just give them to us and we will use them to raise funds for Good Causes throughout the year. Please mark your donations clearly so that we may keep them separate from the Poitiers food donations. **Thank You**

Churches together in Fordingbridge & District

On **Tuesday 22nd December at 7.30 pm**, you are warmly invited to join us at the **United Reformed Church** for an evening of **Christmas Music and Readings** by candlelight. We shall be accompanied by the St George's Singers of Boscombe, coffee and mince pies will be served afterwards, and there will be a retiring collection for our Christmas Charities. Do come and join us, this would make a lovely ending to the carol singing around the town

St Peters school Mass in Southbourne chapel “There is a regular **fortnightly** Mass on **Thursdays at 1pm**. The next one is on **10th Dec** and then on the **14th January 2010**. All Welcome. There is also a regular 8am Mass every Friday which everyone would be welcome to attend.” *Maggie Belcher, St Peter's School Chaplain.*

CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY - Saturday 9th January, St Bede's Parish Hall, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX, 10.30am-3.30pm (Stations of the Cross at 3.30pm). An opportunity for all CAFOD supporters across the Diocese to get together and hear about upcoming plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Lent Fast Day, and be led by our Spirituality Team reflecting on and praying in solidarity. Refreshments provided - please bring your own lunch. To book a place contact the CAFOD Portsmouth Office: portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329385

The CAFOD Group. The next meeting will be at Fordingbridge Parish Rooms at 7pm on January 14th. (The meetings alternate between Ringwood and Fordingbridge) If you are interested in helping the work of CAFOD in the developing world, please come along. For more **information** contact Helen Eales, Betty Baxter, Ginny Westwood, Jane Saunders or any of the members of the CAFOD Group.

Brass Cleaning – Recently Paul Bond put a request in the newsletter for people to offer to help with the church brassware, as he felt unable to continue. Unfortunately there was no response to this plea. Paul, despite feeling unwell, came to Church this week with Charlie and they each spent 4 hours cleaning all the brasses to make our church look lovely for the Christmas services.

Many sincere thanks to each of them from all of us.

From Father Ron Hishon – Chaplain of Bournemouth Hospital

CHRISTMAS 2009

To give you good notice, may I ask you to make a note that on Christmas Morning (Friday 25th) I shall be visiting all known R/C patients (and any other on request). Also, at 12 noon, I shall be celebrating Mass at the Hospital on Christmas Day. I shall be obliged if you would make this known in your newsletters etc.

JANUARY 2010

Later, in January I shall be away for two weeks – going to Bamenda Cameroon to tour the projects Portsmouth Diocese supports in that Diocese in West Africa. I leave on Sunday 10th and return Saturday 23rd January 2010.

I am pleased to say that from 10pm Monday 11 Jan till Noon Sunday 17 Jan and then from 10pm Monday 18 Jan till noon Sunday 24 Jan., Fr Shaun Budden at St. Thomas More Church, 42 Exton Road Iford, has agreed to stand in for me: His contact details are:

Landline: 01202 485588 Mobile: 07754 634998 e-mail shaun.budden@googlemail.com

Crib Collection during Christmastide for Christian communities in the Holy Land

Collection for week ending 13 December 2009

Gift Aid £219.90 Cash £138.47 Standing Orders £106 Thank You

The newsletter is printed each week on the Parish Website – www.fordrc.org.uk

Have you been away and missed newsletters?

The last few weeks' newsletters are readily available to read and catch up on in the blue folder marked Newsletter. It is always on display in the porch. Should you wish to have the newsletter by email please let me have the address and I will add you to the list.

Any items for the newsletter should be sent to Anne Hammond at Hammond.44@talktalk.net or leave a message on 01425 654838 (deadline Wednesday 9.00pm) – thank you