

## CAFOD NEWS

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast day 5<sup>th</sup> October

On Family Fast day CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal or give up a meal to help our brothers and sisters overseas who do not have enough to eat or clean water to drink. Please put your donation in the fast day envelope provided and don't forget to gift aid your donation if you are a UK tax payer. Many thanks for your generous support.



### ALPHA – PRAYERS, PLEASE!

Over 70 people have signed up for our Alpha Course! Please pray for them as they make this journey over the next 11 weeks. Please pray also for our large team of volunteers supporting and encouraging them.

**Meal Sponsorship** (red envelopes at back of church): please consider helping towards the meal costs. Many thanks to those who have already made contributions.



Recently 100 people, all at different stages of their own personal faith journey, have started doing **Alpha** in Avon Stour Pastoral Area – sharing meals, meeting new people, getting to know each other, learning and talking together about Jesus for the next 10 weeks. About 60 are meeting at St Joseph's church in Christchurch, while 40 others are meeting in people's homes in Southbourne and Ringwood.

In November we will all gather together as one big group for our 'AwayDay', focused on the Holy Spirit. Please pray for all those involved: guests, group leaders/helpers, catering teams, welcomers, organisers and admin support team. Come, Holy Spirit!

### CONFLICT IN THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS

Saturday 22nd September 2018 marked exactly 2 years since the people of the former British Southern Cameroon came out on the streets with branches and other greenery in a peaceful protest. Their one and only cry was a call to be treated with respect and dignity by the Yaoundé regime of President Paul Biya. The government, however, unleashed the military on them. Many were killed, women, children and others, especially university students molested and many young girls raped. It was an horrific crackdown.

Today, two years later, there are now local self-defence militias who argue that they have taken up arms to defend themselves and their communities from the government and its army. Over the past few months, the situation has escalated with targeted and extra-judicial killings orchestrated by the military. There are also reports of kidnaps and disappearances of people seen as sell-outs by locally armed vigilantes. An estimated 2000 people have lost their lives and over 170 villages burnt down by government forces. Amnesty International's September 2018 report on the crisis says over 400 people have been killed this year alone. Besides that, there are over 50,000 internally displaced and more than 150,000 refugees in neighbouring Nigeria.



### FASTFACTS

Did you know that in our Diocese of Portsmouth there are 91 parishes (142 chapels) and 76 Catholic schools? We have just over 100 priests and 45 deacons working in our parishes. We also have 38 religious communities. The total population of the area covered by the Diocese of Portsmouth is 3,129,000 of whom 235,000 are baptised Catholic (8%). 34,000 Catholics are practising (14%). Currently, we have 12 students in formation for the priesthood and 14 students in formation for the diaconate. 296 adults were baptised or received into full communion last year. Of our 76 schools, 53 are maintained. These latter have 24,899 pupils in them (of whom 62% are Catholic) and 1547 teaching staff (of whom 39% are Catholic). The other schools are independent schools. These have 6783 pupils (of whom 36% are Catholic) and 847 teaching staff (of whom 29% are Catholic). Each parish in the Diocese – see the back pages of the annual *Diocesan Directory* - has an Index of Multiple Deprivations (IMD) score. This is an average score derived from several measures of poverty and affluence. The IMD scores for parishes range from 5.3 (Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Dominic Barberi in Earley) to 38.0 (St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth).

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

Avon Stour Pastoral Area

Co-ordinating Pastor & Dean: Canon Paul Townsend

## The Catholic Church in Fordingbridge and Ringwood

Internet: [www.shandolos.org.uk](http://www.shandolos.org.uk); [www.avonstourpastoralarea.org](http://www.avonstourpastoralarea.org)

**PARISH PRIEST:** Canon Paul Townsend Tel: 01425 653131 Email: [ptownsend@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ptownsend@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Natalie Littlefair Tel: 07892670133 Email: [shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Co-ordinators:** Fordingbridge –Donna Kerrigan 01425 656895 [donna.kerrigan@btinternet.com](mailto:donna.kerrigan@btinternet.com)  
Ringwood - Margaret Pointon 01425 480726 [pointonfamily@btinternet.com](mailto:pointonfamily@btinternet.com)

### Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th October 2018

(Year B, weekday cycle 2, Office week 3)

The Gospel today touches on the question of marriage. Here is a reflection by Fr Karl Rahner on the Sacrament of Marriage;

Trusting and Loving

"This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church." (Eph. 2,32)

This is what Paul says about the loving union of a man and woman in marriage. This hour belongs to that great mystery. For today, before the altar of God, and with the blessing of Christ and His Church, we see the beginning of a new life, a life of love and faithfulness. This holy adventure of marriage is seen, even from the human point of view, to be part of the mystery of God.

When a man, in the existential awareness of his own being, freely disposes of his life, when he dares to entrust his heart, his life, his destiny and the eternal worth of his own person to another human being, thus abandoning himself to the strange, unknown and impenetrable mystery of another personality ( and this is possible only in the supreme adventure of love and trust), then such an experience-which, seen by others, may appear insignificant, almost banal, because it occurs so frequently-is indeed what it appears to the lovers themselves to be: the unique miracle of love.

This is an experience which partakes of the divine, for it involves the whole man and his whole destiny. When a marriage is freely contracted, the man and wife, whether they are aware of it or not, enter the presence of God. There is always a silent Companion, perhaps never given a name, who embraces, preserves, redeems and blesses all: we call Him God. Such an experience is boundless because it leads to what is infinite and unconditional, and is possible only in the infinite dimension of a spiritual person, reaching out to God. There is always something free and boundless in a truly personal love which is superior to all the chances and changes of life, so that when a man and woman truly love each other they grow beyond themselves and enter a stream which flows into infinity.

On Thursday, the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Pilgrimage to the Holy Land begins. Please keep us all in your prayer. We return on Friday 19th October. Father Tony Pennicott and Father John Catlin will be celebrating Masses in both Ringwood and Fordingbridge. (PJT)

### Masses and Liturgies for the 6th October to 13th October 2018



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



Our Lady of Sorrows & St. Philip Benizi  
SP6 1EG

#### The Sacred Heart, Ringwood

Sat 6th	12.30pm	Wedding of James and Claire
Sun 7th	11.00am	Mass
Mon 8th	9.45am	Holy Rosary
	10.00am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion
Wed 10th	10.00am	Mass Canon John Grieg RIP
Fri 12th	10.00am	Mass

#### Our Lady of Sorrows, Fordingbridge

Sat 6th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass People of the Parish
Sun 7th	9.00am	Mass Joy Chapple RIP, Elizabeth & Patrick Manning RIP
Tues 9th	9.00 am	Mass
Thurs 11th	10.00am	Mass
Sat 13th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass

**Sacrament of Penance or Confession - Saturday 11-11.30 Fordingbridge, 12-12.30 Ringwood  
No Confessions 13/14th October**

**RINGWOOD MUSIC : Ent. –80 Off. –546 Comm – 398 Final - 416 (subject to alteration)**

**PSALM O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways**

**The Parish office will be open for enquiries at Ringwood on Fridays between 9am and 12pm,  
Fordingbridge on Tuesdays between 9am and 12pm.  
Please arrange Mass intentions with Natalie through the Parish Office**

**Our brand new Pastoral Area website is being developed we will be taking photos for possible use on website.  
We kindly invite you to let Natalie Littlefair know if you object to being in one of these photos.**

**Second Collection — 7th October CAFOD Harvest  
14th October Prison Sunday  
21st October World Mission Sunday**

**Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries fall in October;** SHELAGH BRADBURY, JOHN FRIEL, CORNELIUS REYNOLDS, MARY POPE, JOHN RYDER, BERNARD CLARRKE, TERESA DULLAGHAN, ROBERT BRIDGMAN, ANGELA HENDRICK, ANTHONY MEE, HUBERT MARSHAM, DOROTHY BRODE, MRS WESTLAKE, MARY C SHEPHARD, CICILY TURNER, REGINALD KING, MICHAEL ANDREWS, MARY MATAITIS, ETHEL M MANSTON, MICHAEL CROUTER, MAURICE REED, ANNETTE SANDS, RON TAGUE, MICHAEL LOWE

**We would kindly ask for volunteers to be fire wardens for both churches. This is not an onerous task but just to be available during mass should the fire alarm sound to help direct people to the fire exit and to the fire assembly point. Full training will be provided. Please contact Canon Paul or Natalie in the Parish Office.**

#### **Pilgrimage to The Holy Land.**

During the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land Canon Paul will be writing an occasional piece for our parish Facebook page and, hopefully, sharing some photos. This is a lovely way that those of us at home can be in close touch with those who are going on this very special journey. Prayer requests could also be posted and, in that way, we will all stay connected to each other. The link for both our parishes is <http://tinyurl.com/shandolos>

#### **RINGWOOD NEWS**

Cake Sale this Sunday. Please join us after mass.

#### **FORDINGBRIDGE NEWS**

**CTIF** plan an event on Remembrance Sunday 11 November quite different from that in previous years. Full details will be known soon but the parade, this year, will end at the Park. Just to let you know that the Museum holds a Roll of Honour so anyone who thinks there was a family member /old friend in the Great War (from not just Fordingbridge but also the surrounding villages) should go and look at the Roll. (free admission). Jan Brian. Tel: 656726

**TRANSPORT needed:** to take people from Fordingbridge, 1st Thursday in month, to and from the Link Lunch at Hyde Memorial Hall, to get there 12.15pm and collect at 2pm. If you could help occasionally, please speak to, or phone, Pat Bloomfield 837735.

#### **Liturgical Calendar for the Week**

**Monday: Feria**

**Tuesday: Blessed John Henry Newman or St Denis & Companions or St John Leonardi or Feria**

**Wednesday: St Paulinus of York or Feria**

**Thursday: St John XXIII or Feria**

**Friday: Feria**

**We acknowledge with thanks, our September Collections:**

	<b>Ringwood</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>
<b>Non Gift Aid Cash/Chq</b>	<b>£895.33</b>	<b>£1018.31</b>
<b>Gift Aid Envelopes</b>	<b>£236.20</b>	<b>£805.90</b>
<b>Non Gift aid Envelopes</b>	<b>£43.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Standing Order/ Direct debits</b>	<b>£992.00</b>	<b>£838.33</b>
<b>Total monthly collection</b>	<b>£2166.53</b>	<b>£2662.54</b>
<b>Special Collections</b>	<b>£260.85</b>	<b>£262.23</b>

#### **SCIENCE – OR – RELIGION? A SYMPOSIUM.**

A big diocesan Symposium is taking place on Saturday 3rd November 2018, 10 am – 4 pm in The Discovery Centre in Winchester (opp. St. Peter's church) on Science and Religion. Two leading scientists will ask whether recent research on the Universe suggests the existence of a Creator. There will also be a series of workshops led by experts on such topics as Christianity and Extra Terrestrial Life, the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and whether human consciousness is immortal. The Symposium is open to all, whether religious or not. See the diocesan e-News for more details. Places are limited and bookings are now open at <https://portsmouthdiocese.eventbrite.co.uk>



#### **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Artificial Intelligence is making a lot of waves recently. Yet how do we define what we mean by AI? Does AI help or hinder us in our daily lives? What is the role of the government? Indeed, is regulation and legislation even possible? This is just one of the workshops in our big diocesan Symposium. The Symposium, called "Science - or - Religion?" takes place on Saturday 3rd November 2018, 10 am – 4 pm in The Discovery Centre in Winchester (opposite St. Peter's church). There are two keynote speakers: Professor Alister McGrath, professor of Professor of Science and Religion at the University of Oxford, and Dr. Andrew Pinsent from the Oxford University Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion. They will be tackling from varying perspectives the issue of whether recent research on the universe suggests the existence of a Creator.

We've also got a great line-up of other speakers who will be running optional workshops depending on your interests. You can choose two from the following six

options:

- Christianity and Extra Terrestrial Life (Bernard Barrett, theologian)
- The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (Professor Maria Burke, Winchester University)
- Quantum Physics and the Quantum Physicist (Dr. Vincenzo Tamma, University of Portsmouth)
- Is Consciousness immortal? (Dr. Andrew Beards, Academic Director, School of the Annunciation, Buckfast)
- In the light of evolutionary psychology, can humans have free will? (Dr. Rebecca Page-Tickell, Hampshire Business School)
- In the light of current medical advances, could people live forever? (Dr. John Ochai, St Mary's Hospital, Ryde).

**Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit [www.catholicssingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicssingles.org.uk) or tel. 0161 941 3498**

#### **Avon Stour Pastoral Area:**

**Other Priests in the Pastoral Area with Weekend Mass Times (subject to change)**

Fr. Darryl Jordan: 01202 485588 (Iford)

St Thomas More Sat eve 6pm, Sun 9.30 am

Fr. Kevin Hoiles: 01202 424960 (Southbourne)

Our Lady Queen of Peace Sat 11am, Sun 8.00am, Sun eve 6pm,

Rev. John Chadwick: 01202 483340 (Christchurch)

St Joseph's Sat eve 6.30pm, Sun 9.00am