

The Catholic Church in Fordingbridge and Ringwood

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

New Forest 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 16th Sunday of the Year Father Paul writes....

A thread running through all the Gospels is the fact that frequently Jesus would take himself into a lonely place. He had a busy and active life, and he would separate himself from the activity and take time to pray, which for Jesus, was about communication with God his Father.

Today's Gospel describes the return of the apostles after having been sent out by Jesus with his authority to preach and heal. They, like us, were commissioned to continue Jesus's ministry and on their return, they would have had a lot of rich experiences upon which to reflect. Jesus invites them to follow his example and to "come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for while". They headed for a place for silence, isolation, reflection and prayer only to be thwarted by the people who reached the spot before them, no doubt in search of Jesus and perhaps the possibility of seeing a miracle. Jesus responded and taught them and did in fact provide a miracle which was the feeding five thousand.

Jesus's instruction to 'come away to a lonely place' has special significance at this point in Mark's Gospel. Jesus is now beginning to focus on teaching his disciples rather than the crowds which continued to flock to him. The disciples needed careful teaching and preparation because they were the ones who would continue his ministry after his death and resurrection. To 'come away' to a lonely place for prayer and reflection was a crucial part of their preparation. Without it there was a danger that they would lose direction and forget their purpose. They needed always to listen to the word of God, God's communication to them, in silence and prayer.

What happens if there is no coming away to a lonely place? What happens when prayer dries up and ceases altogether? To find the answer, we only need to listen to Jeremiah in our first reading. "Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks." The shepherds are the kings and political leaders who had completely lost sight of the good of their people, because they had lost sight of God and the power of prayer.

As we look at our world and aspects of the leadership today, we can see that the Lord's words from Jeremiah apply in our own time. Only in prayer can we learn the way that leads to life.

Jesus says, "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice". Are we generous in prayer and in listening to his voice speaking in our hearts?" Do we take note of the Lord's invitation: "You must come away to some lonely place and rest for a while"?



Public and YouTube Celebrations of Mass

Both our churches are 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	July	21st	11am	⊗	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Parishioners of Sacred Heart
Wednesday	July	24th	11.30am	⊗	Feria (16th Week in Ordinary Time)	⊗	Funeral Mass for Bridie Paley
Friday	July	26th	10am	⊗	of 16th Week in Ordinary Time	⊗	Holy Souls

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	July	20th	6pm	⊗	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Wieslaw Grzyb RIP
Sunday	July	21st	9am	⊗	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Bridie Paley RIP
Tuesday	July	23rd	10am	⊗	St. Bridget of Sweden	⊗	Liturgy of the Word
Thursday	July	25th	10am	⊗	St. James	⊗	Parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows

Confessions will be available on Saturdays at 5.30 in Fordingbridge. In Ringwood before and after the Wednesday Mass.

† Please Pray for Our Dearly Departed †

Bridie Paley

Funeral Mass at Sacred Heart
on Wednesday 24th July
at 11.30

Catherine Barrett

Who died this week.
Her funeral will be at Sacred
Heart on a date to be confirmed.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: – Jeremiah 23:1-6

Responsorial: Psalm 22

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34



Ringwood - Wednesday 31st July after 10am Mass
Fordingbridge – Tuesday 6th August after 10am Mass



FORDINGBRIDGE 'BOOKSHOP' Ready for some Summer reading?

The little book shelves in the Fordingbridge Hall have been refreshed with some novels to suit all tastes from 'Cosy Crimes' and spiffing yarns to more academic reads.

Only 50p to read one – pop in the pot on the adjacent table; proceeds to church funds. If you

have any good novels (non-fiction) in 'As New' condition, perhaps you could bring them in for others to read? Regret, no factual books as these just don't get taken up and are removed and taken to a charity shop - or worse!



Joint Parish Walk

The next Joint Parish Walk will be on Saturday 3rd August at 2.30pm. We will meet at the Ashley Walk car park (187157) (Godshill). Walk for about a hour and a half with a couple of hills.

Lifts from Ringwood Church at 2.10.

The Bell at Fordingbridge

The church at Fordingbridge, unlike many Catholic churches, is blessed with an external bell which hangs overlooking the cemetery. Recently it was removed so that it could be cleaned and repaired. It is now ready to be returned to its original position.

I am grateful to all those who have donated some money towards the bell's restoration. We still need some more as the total cost will be about £3000. I am very keen on having the bell returned to its home because it is part of our original patrimony. Donations for the bell can be made through the Dona machine.

Bells in Catholic churches, like the one we have, are rung at the time of the Angelus, three times a day. They are also rung during the Eucharistic Prayer and as a coffin is carried from the church to the place of burial.

The bell is a reminder that each day must be marked by regular and frequent moments of prayer.

Friendship Group Sacred Heart

The group will be taking a break for the summer holidays and will return to its regular Wednesday meeting after Mass on September 4th. Enjoy your summer!



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: CPD Ringwood Sacred Heart or CPD 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: Fordingbridge Tues & Thurs 9-12 and Ringwood Fri 10-1
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: Helen Thomas email: safeguarding@olosfordingbridge.org.uk
Ringwood: please contact Helen Thomas details above

FREE FILM NIGHT
FREE SHOWING EACH MONTH
7:30PM ARRIVAL * SHOW STARTS 8PM
DRINKS & SNACKS SERVED
VENUE:
FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN HALL
63 HIGH ST. FORDINGBRIDGE SP6 1AS

The CHOSEN

Friday 29 March "Shabbat" @11.45 am after Walk of Witness
Saturday 20 April "Jesus loves the little children"
Saturday 18 May "The Rock on which it is built"
Saturday 8 June "The Wedding Gift"
Saturday 13 July "Indescribable Compassion"
Saturday 21 September "Invitations"
Saturday 12 October "I am He"
Saturday 16 November "Christmas Special"

BOOK FREE TICKET ONLINE
WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/NEWLIFE
OR POP IN AND COLLECT AT
THE BRANCH: 1 HIGH STREET OR AVON 474 HIGH STREET, FORDINGBRIDGE, SP6 1AS

Churches Together in Portsmouth
Catch up online at
memosen.tv

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 21, 2024

"He had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd."

Will you respond to the needs of Christ's sheep as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke.

vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

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

Send contributions and feed back for future editions to: crisbasha@aol.com. The Forty Days deadline for the next edition is the 25th of July.

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	£ awaiting	£ 3014
Cash/online	£ awaiting	£ 383

For an Urgent Matter —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)

Fr. Paul Obada: Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph (01202483340)

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

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

(Salisbury Chaplaincy Office) : 01722429271

(Southampton Chaplaincy Office): 02380777222

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth (reg. charity no. 1199568)

"Bringing people closer to Jesus Christ through his Church"

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