

# 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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Father Paul writes....

I am writing this thought in my room at Quarr Abbey. I make a two-day visit here every two months or so. I have experimented with different ways of getting to the Isle of Wight. Today, I parked the car at St. Swithun's in Southsea – where Fr. Anthony Fyk is the Parish Priest and walked to the ferry at Portsmouth Gunwarfe.

The journey and the arrival at Quarr Abbey were two experiences of extreme contrast. The ferry was full of children anticipating the festivities of Christmas – I am writing this on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. I overheard songs, and children looking forward to parties, presents and visits to Fr. Christmas or his visit to them.

Then I arrived at Quarr as Vespers (Evening Prayer) began. The chanting of the psalms, Exposition and Benediction, with clouds of incense produced a powerful atmosphere of prayer, contemplation interspersed with community silence.

As I wish everyone a Happy Christmas, I hope it will be one full of song, entertainment, and jollification as well as being a time for prayer, contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation, the Word of God made flesh.



Thanks to everyone for your kindness and generosity to me over Christmas, I am immensely grateful.

### 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	December	22nd	11am	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	✘	Venerable Father Pelagio Sauter
Tuesday	December	24th	4.30pm	✘	<i>Nativity of the Lord</i>	✘	
Wednesday	December	25th	11am	✘	<i>Nativity of the Lord</i>	✘	Alexander Waugh RIP
Friday	December	27th	10am	✘	<i>St. John</i>	✘	
Sunday	December	29th	11am	✘	<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>	✘	Holy Souls
Wednesday	January	1st	10am	✘	<i>Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>	✘	People of Ringwood Parish
Friday	January	3rd	No Mass	✘	<i>Christmastide</i>	✘	No Mass
Sunday	January	5th	11am	✘	<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	✘	People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	January	8th	10am	✘	<i>Christmastide Liturgy of the Word</i>	✘	Liturgy of the Word
Friday	January	10th	10am	✘	<i>Christmastide Mass</i>	✘	John Jinks RIP

#### 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	December	21st	6pm	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	✘	Private Intention
Sunday	December	22nd	9am	✘	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	✘	Anthony White RIP
Tuesday	December	24th	7.30pm	✘	<i>Nativity of the Lord</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Wednesday	December	25th	9am	✘	<i>Nativity of the Lord</i>	✘	
Thursday	December	26th	10am	✘	<i>St. Stephen</i>	✘	
Saturday	December	28th	6pm	✘	<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Sunday	December	29th	9am	✘	<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>	✘	
Tuesday	December	31st	8pm	✘	<i>Liturgy of the Day (7th Day within Octave of Christmas)</i>	✘	
Thursday	January	2nd	10am	✘	<i>Ss Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen</i>	✘	
Saturday	January	4th	6pm	✘	<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Sunday	January	5th	9am	✘	<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	✘	
Tuesday	January	7th	No Mass	✘	<i>Christmastide</i>	✘	No Mass
Thursday	January	9th	10am	✘	<i>Christmastide Liturgy of the Word</i>	✘	Liturgy of the Word

*Confessions will be available on Saturdays at 5.30 in Fordingbridge. In Ringwood before and after the Wednesday Mass. If there is no Mass there will be no confession.*



### Christmas Offering for Fr Paul

This Christmas we give thanks for all the dedication, guidance and care our priest gives us throughout our diocese and within our parish. If you would like to

give a gift to support our Father Paul in his vocation and mission please send a donation via BACS, DONA machine or cash in the collection tray. Wishing you a joyful and peaceful Christmas.



Ringwood - Wednesday 29th January after 10am Mass  
Fordingbridge – Tuesday 4th February after 10am Mass

✿Fordingbridge Parishioners please consider a small donation to the Christmas flowers on Dona or the collection plate.✿



Ringwood Parishioners a small Christmas card addressed to all of your fellow parishioners can be given to Peter Mollett for placement on the Christmas tree at the back of the church.

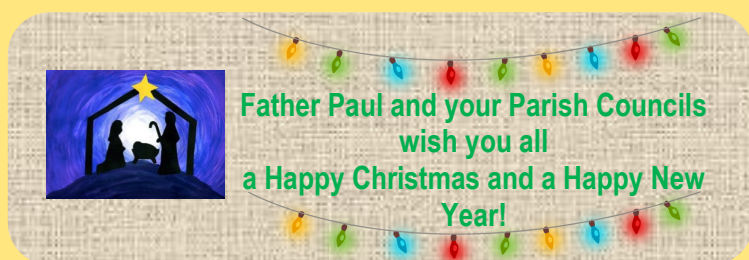
The CAFOD World Gifts Catalogue is here! To be found in both Ringwood and Fordingbridge Porches. A great idea to give to that someone who has everything, or to add to a gift to remind people you support CAFOD. A gift with meaning. (Lightweight to post too!)



### Stella Maris seeking knitters

As a worldwide Roman Catholic charity and part of the Caritas Social Action Network, Stella Maris cares for the spiritual, practical, and welfare needs of Seafarers and Fishers of all faiths and none. The Southampton office serves hundreds of thousands of seafarers arriving at ports along the south coast of England, throughout the year. Every ship visited receives a bag of gifts, including faith materials, rosaries, chocolate, and knitted hats.

Dedicated knitters across the Portsmouth Diocese offer these much-appreciated hats, bringing pleasure to crews who endure tough, isolated lives, separated from family and friends for up to nine months at a time. If you'd like to help, you might like to use the tried and tested 'Stella Maris knitting pattern', easily found by searching online for "Stella Maris Knitting" Or you can use your own favourite patterns. Dark or bright colours are best. There are drop off points in the porch and hall of both churches. Thank you!



### Forty Days and Forty Nights....

#### your parish magazine

Send contributions and feed back for future editions to: [crisbasha@aol.com](mailto:crisbasha@aol.com). The Forty Days deadline for January edition will be the 30th of December.

### 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](mailto:ptownsend@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Administrator:** Melissa Hildreth  
 Tel: 01425 653131 Email: [shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:shandolos@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Safeguarding Co-ordinator:

Fordingbridge: Helen Thomas email: [safeguarding@olosfordingbridge.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@olosfordingbridge.org.uk)  
 Ringwood: please contact Helen Thomas details above

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2025

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - 11am - Joint CTIRD Service at Poulner Baptist Chapel followed by an Italian lunch. Booking essential for the lunch (limited number available) Scan QR code below to book.**



Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	- 11.30am	- Trinity
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup>	- 7.30pm	- Crowe
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	- 11.30am	- Parish Church
Thur 23 <sup>rd</sup>	- 7am-7pm	- Poulner Baptist Chapel Drop-in Day of Prayer
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	- 10am	- Sacred Heart

### Churches Together Unity Service Fordingbridge

This will be held at **10.30am on Sunday 19th January 2025 at St Mary's Church in Fordingbridge**. This falls within the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January each year) and is a time when we all come together to worship. We hope that you may be able to attend.

### AID FOR UKRAINE



Donations may be left under the table at the back of the Fordingbridge hall. Arrangements have been made for it to be collected shortly after Christmas. Warm blankets, sleeping bags, suitcases on wheels, medical supplies, bandages, dressings and crutches or walking sticks, warm coats, jumpers and boots. Old tradesmen work trousers for the soldiers. Also, the Ukrainians need old seat belts; they're making stretchers for the front line out of them.



Shopping online this festive period? Raise free donations for Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Churches when you shop 6,000+ stores online using Give as you Live Online! A link can be found on each of the churches webpages at [www.avonstour.co.uk/parishes/](http://www.avonstour.co.uk/parishes/) Thank you!

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

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2010	£ awaiting
Cash/online	£ 638	£ awaiting

### 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](http://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