

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

Thought for the Second Sunday of the Year

Father Paul writes....

The week of prayer for Christian Unity begins on the 18th January and ends on the 25th. Elsewhere in the Newsletter are details of all the events. On 'Day 7', Friday 24th January, the daily unity service for Ringwood will take place in the Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Therese of Lisieux beginning at 10.00am. The theme will be 'Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus.'

Last week, I included the first part of Dr. Nicola Brady's introduction to the Christian Unity pamphlet for this year. Here is the second part: "While recognising the value of this looking back, we have also been conscious of the need to reflect on how we are responding to Christ's question in the circumstances of today, considering as we do so what we might learn from the example and experience of Nicaea. An important question in that regard, and one to which this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity resource seeks to respond is: what is the relevance to the life and mission of the local church?"

There is an opportunity to celebrate and draw strength and encouragement from the gift of our shared faith. In these troubled and turbulent times, we can take heart from the endurance of that faith. The Church that gathered in Nicaea was one that had been shaken and wounded by violence and persecution and was therefore close to the suffering of humanity. It was presented with an opportunity for dialogue with the political power which posed difficult choices about how best to share the Good News of the Gospel as faithful disciples of Christ, whose Kingdom is not of this world. In today's polarised world, when trust in the willingness of political powers and authorities, including the Church, to protect the most vulnerable has been undermined, how might a renewal of our commitment to Christian unity contribute to positive change?

Our polarised and fracturing world is in need of a new vision for peace, centred on the recognition of our inter-connectedness and shared humanity. As we gather to mark this anniversary, we have an opportunity to ask the hard questions about what may be getting in the way of our shared identity as Christians and our collective witness to the world. We are reminded of the transformative power of our faith which gives hope in suffering through the promise that all will be renewed in Christ." - Dr Nicola Brady, General Secretary, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

The pamphlet can be downloaded from the Christian Unity 2025 website.

Public and YouTube Celebrations of Mass

Both our churches are 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)

Sunday	January	19th 11am	⊗ <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	⊗ People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	January	22nd 10am	⊗ <i>St. Vincent</i>	⊗
Friday	January	24th 10am	⊗ <i>Christian Unity Service</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

Saturday	January	18th 6pm	⊗ <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	⊗
Sunday	January	19th 9am	⊗ <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	⊗ People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	January	21st 10am	⊗ <i>of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time</i>	⊗
Thursday	January	23rd 10am	⊗ <i>Feria (2nd Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	⊗

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.



Please pray for Thomasin Jane Shepherd and William Randolph Connor Prior who are to be married at Our Lady of Sorrows on Friday 24 January, 2025 at 11.30am. May God bless this union with His love and grace, today and always.

† Please Pray for Our Dearly Departed †

Donald Alfred Wheeler
Funeral Mass at
Sacred Heart on
29th January 2025 at 11 am

Gavin Loudon
Funeral Mass at
Our Lady of Sorrows on
31st January 2025 at 11 am



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

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2025

Sunday 19th 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 20th	-	11.30am	-	Trinity
Tue 21st	-	7.30pm	-	Crowe
Wed 22nd	-	11.30am	-	Parish Church
Thur 23rd	-	7am-7pm	-	Poulner Baptist Chapel Drop-in Day of Prayer
Fri 24th	-	10am	-	Sacred Heart



SCAN ME

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. [A sheet of prayers for intercessions to pray for during this week can be found in the porch.](#)

Donate your Un-needed Christmas Gifts!

If you have any un-needed Christmas presents please would you consider donating them to the bring and buy table in the hall at Fordingbridge. They then magically turn into funds for our church. Last year we raised £204.14 in this way. Thank You.

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 will be the 25th of January.

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



World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Rome

The Diocese will be going there for the Youth Jubilee, from **28th July to 4th August**.

During that week, there will be thousands of young people in Rome at the invitation of the Holy Father. Our group will also be there for the Mass and ceremony at which Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, Patron of our Youth, will be canonised. The cost includes flights, hotel accommodation, half board, travel in Rome, entrance and participation fees and more. It should be really good! For more information and pre-booking, contact youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Peace Sunday 19 January

"The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice."

Please find donation envelopes at the back of both churches. They can be returned to donation baskets today or at Mass on the 19th.



White Flower Appeal 2025

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal on Sunday the 19th January.

SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the Society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child.

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

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2235	£ 2826
Cash/online	£ 1058	£ 228

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"

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk