

# 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 Third Sunday of the Year

Father Paul writes.....

During this year, our Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of St. Luke. His Gospel is written in two parts, the Gospel itself from which we hear today and the second volume which is called the Acts of the Apostles. The Gospel presents the events of the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. The Acts of the Apostles describes the beginning of the Church and the action of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Lord's disciples.



Today's narrative sees Jesus launching into his 'public ministry'. The location is the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth where Jesus reads from the Prophet Isaiah. The quotation Jesus uses looks to the moment in history when the anointed one will come from God with the gifts of liberation, freedom and release from restrictions to human freedom. Isaiah describes the event as 'good-news' because it is about the peace and restoration that God gives.

To the amazement of the people in the synagogue Jesus ended by saying "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing".

The gift of the Holy Spirit to us now means that the fulfilment of which Jesus speaks is happening in our lives. Do we recognise the signs of that fulfilment in our lives? Do we cooperate with the Holy Spirit in our faith, hope and love?

Isaiah would have agreed with the words of Bishop Budde of Washington this week: "I ask you to have mercy, on those in our communities whose children fear that their parents will be taken away, and that you help those who are fleeing war zones and persecution in their own lands to find compassion and welcome here. Our God teaches us that we are to be merciful to the stranger, for we were all once strangers in this land."

## 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	January	26th	11am	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Delphine Champagne RIP
Wednesday	January	29th	11am	⊗	Feria (3rd Week in Ordinary Time)	⊗	Funeral Mass of Donald Alfred Wheeler
Friday	January	31st	No Mass	⊗	of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time	⊗	Funeral Mass of Gavin Loudon in Fordingbridge

### 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	January	25th	6pm	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	Mary Madden RIP
Sunday	January	26th	9am	⊗	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	⊗	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Tuesday	January	28th	10am	⊗	of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time	⊗	Liturgy of the Word
Thursday	January	30th	10am	⊗	Feria (3rd Week in Ordinary Time)	⊗	Private Intention

*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.*

**LEAVE YOUR MARK**

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## † 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 11am funeral Mass  
Fordingbridge – Tuesday 4th February after 10am Mass

## 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.

## Second Collection Cathedral of St. John, Mother Church of the Diocese

Canon James McAuley, Dean of the Cathedral, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia writes:

*Since I became Dean of our Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist in September 2022, the parish has had to pay for the emergency repair of three serious roof leaks, as well as the replacement of two failing flat roofs. The cost of these repairs was met from parish funds. In 2023, the 120-year-old West Window had to be shored up, removed and completely restored to prevent its imminent collapse. So far, generous donors from the parish and from across the diocese have contributed £84,130 of the £90,100 cost of repair.*

*Our most recent quinquennial architectural survey (autumn 2023) indicated work required over the next few years to the roof, windows, heating, and electrical systems at an estimated cost of £2 million plus VAT.*

*I fully appreciate the financial pressures being felt by you and by your fellow parishioners but would appeal to you to support the Second Collection for the Cathedral on 26th January. Never has this annual collection by parishes for the Mother Church of the Diocese been more critical or needed. Your support is vitally important to us.*

Online donations for the Second Collection can be made at the following link: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/st-johns-cathedral-second-collection-2025> or by scanning the QR code below with a Smart Phone



### 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



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



## WOMEN TOGETHER in RINGWOOD PRESENTS:

**Breakfast, an Empowering Talk, Worship & a Time to Build Community with Kemi Koleoso.**

**Date:** Saturday, 8th February 2025

**Location:** Poulner Baptist Chapel, Linford Road, BH24 3HZ

**Time:** Breakfast starts at 9:00 AM; event concludes around



## Friendship Group Sacred Heart

Meetings on Wednesdays after 10am Mass. We look forward to seeing you for a coffee and a chat..- Barbara

## 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 the next edition will be the 25th of January.



## Job Openings with the Diocese

There are some exciting opportunities across the Diocese for a variety of roles. Please help us to fill these vacancies by mentioning to family and friends. Our vacancies may be found at <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs/>

**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](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

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