

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 Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Father Paul writes.....

Today's feast is always celebrated on the 2nd February. Because it is a feast of the Lord Jesus it always takes the place of the ordinary prayers and readings when the 2nd February falls on a Sunday. The location for today's Gospel narrative from St. Luke is the Temple in Jerusalem. The significance of the Temple for the people of Israel and for our appreciation of the Gospels cannot be overemphasized.

The first Temple was built by King Solomon following the wish of his father King David. It was built 900 years or so before Jesus and destroyed in 587BC during the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem. It housed the 'Ark of the Covenant' which is said to have contained the tablets of the Ten Commandments.

Another Temple was built on the same site, the 'Temple Mount', after the Persian conquest of Babylon, in around 516 BC. Much later, at the beginning of the 1st century AD this temple was refurbished by King Herod the Great, to a magnificent degree. It was a 'wonder of the then world'. Visitors to Jerusalem would be able to see the beautiful model. There is only a model because Herod's temple was destroyed in 70 AD by the Romans who built it in the first place. The Temple became the place where, it was believed, God dwelt on earth. When Jesus was presented in the Temple, God had truly entered the Temple.

Many Jewish people believe that God still dwells on the Temple Mount. The 'Western' or 'Wailing' wall in Jerusalem is the last remaining wall of the Temple and Jewish men and women come to pray there because it is viewed as so sacred.

Our Celebration of Mass this weekend, will begin with the procession of lighted candles. This act of worship proclaims that Jesus is the light of the nations, as Simeon also proclaimed in his prayer which we call, in Latin, the 'Nunc Dimittis'.



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	February	2nd	11am	✘ <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	✘ Brendan Joseph Kneen RIP
Wednesday	February	5th	10am	✘ of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time	✘ Colin Geatrell RIP
Friday	February	7th	10am	✘ <i>Feria (4th Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘ People of Ringwood Parish

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	February	1st	6pm	✘ <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	✘ Edwin Torba RIP
Sunday	February	2nd	9am	✘ <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	✘ Katherine Guy RIP
Tuesday	February	4th	10am	✘ <i>Feria (4th Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘ Liturgy of the Word
Thursday	February	6th	10am	✘ of the 4th Week in Ordinary Time	✘ Special 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.

Father Paul is asking for you to bring your old palms so that they can be burned for Ash Wednesday. Please leave in the entrance areas of the churches. Thank you!

LEAVE YOUR MARK

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THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a sacred time of renewal, reflection, and grace celebrated every 25 years.

But what does the Jubilee Year mean for me?

Wednesday 5th February

2pm or 7pm

Joseph's Place,

Our Lady of Mercy & St Joseph Catholic Church, Lymington



Fordingbridge – Tuesday 4th February after 10am Mass
Ringwood - Wednesday 26th February after 10am

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.

Welcome to Worship

Bournemouth East Pastoral Area invite you to their popular "Welcome to Worship" event, an evening of Song, Scripture and Silence, with worship band and prayer stations.

Tuesday 11th February
Immaculate Conception & St Joseph Church
67 Purewell, Christchurch BH23 1EH
7.30 – 9.00 pm

followed by refreshments

Everyone welcome!

(and why not bring a friend or two...?)

Comments (from previous Welcome to Worships):

"wonderful, reflective and uplifting"

"a truly inspirational evening!"

"a lovely sense of calm and deep prayer"

"inviting, open and non-threatening"

REACHING THE UNREACHED

A wonderful new book on the Life of Brother Lionel Kimpton, a saint and founder of Reaching the Unreached, will be on display at Mass on Sunday in Ringwood. This new edition will be able to be purchased for £10. 00



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/>

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

Escorted Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2025. £799.00 pps.

Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4 Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.*



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 1:00 PM

Tickets: £10



Friendship Group Sacred Heart

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

Reminders Fordingbridge



There are disabled parking spaces and parking bays along the drive to the church. They are spaced so that an ambulance can get by. Do not park anywhere else along the drive. If the parking lot is full please park on the street.



There is a green bin for cemetery waste next to the Hall, at the top of the cemetery, on the right hand side. All your rubbish can go there. Please do not pile it next to the fence.

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 February.

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

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