

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

32nd Sunday

Father Paul writes.....

Wisdom. We all want it and search for. In our Old Testament reading today, wisdom is described as a bright and precious gift that wants to share herself with us all. Wisdom is to be found in the very young as well as the very old, especially through long experience of life. 'There is no fool like and old fool,' as they say.

In the scripture, 'Wisdom' is not knowledge, such as scientific or philosophical knowledge acquired through study and learning or in experience or human maturity. It is essentially a gift of God which comes through the action of the Holy Spirit.

Coming as a gift from God and is made flesh and recognisable in the person of Jesus, 'Wisdom' is about the way we live. If we accept the gift, life will be lived in tune with the mind of God. Our humanity will therefore grow and be enriched and enhanced because everything about us will be in accord with God's purpose in creating us.

That purpose is contained and expressed in Jesus, the Word of God, through whom all things came to exist and continue to exist. So, how do we open our lives to the divine gift of Wisdom? The bridesmaids in the Gospel today were foolish because they had no oil for their lamps. They did not even bring any and having oil was vital if they were to take part in the ritual of welcoming the bridegroom. Wisdom will consist in living fully in the present moment and not dreaming about the future. Herbert Hoover, a one-time USA President said that "Wisdom consists not so much in knowing what to do in the ultimate as in knowing what to do next."

Living fully in the present has other aspects which open us to wisdom. For people of faith the power of prayer (each day), the solitude of silence and the depth of reflection on the events of life, in which God expresses his love and purpose. All these are all vital in the search for wisdom. In the fourteenth century, Meister Eckhart said the "Wisdom consists in doing the next thing you have to do, doing it with your whole heart, and finding delight in doing it." Then there was the old monk, who was sweeping leaves. He was asked "What would you do, brother, if you knew you were going to die?"

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	November	12th	11am	✘	<i>Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	✘	People of Ringwood Parish
Wednesday	November	15th	10am	✘	<i>St. Albert the Great</i>	✘	
Friday	November	17th	10am	✘	<i>St. Elizabeth of Hungary</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	November	11th	6pm	✘	<i>Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	✘	Mary Agnes Madden RIP
Sunday	November	12th	9am	✘	<i>Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	✘	Betty Ciulei
Tuesday	November	14th	10am	✘	<i>Feria (32nd Week in Ordinary Time)</i>	✘	People of Fordingbridge Parish
Thursday	November	16th	10am	✘	<i>St. Edmund of Abingdon</i>	✘	

Confession times: Confession will be available at 5.30pm on Saturdays in Fordingbridge. In Ringwood confession is available after Mass or by appointment.

First Communion— Applications for First Communion classes can be found at the back of the church. Classes will be starting soon. For all children aged 7 or over by the 1st of Sept. 2023. Please give to Father Paul or return to the Presbytery.

Our Lady of Sorrows Church Open Morning

on November 18th from 10-12.

Come along, bring a friend who is curious about our church or just about finding God.

A Musical Evening with the Wessex Folk Orchestra and Susan Harmer



Saturday November 18th at 7pm
At Fordingbridge Catholic Church Hall



*Tickets are £15 and include a fish and chips supper.
Bar and soft drinks available*



Fordingbridge – Tuesday 7th November after 10am Mass
Ringwood - Wednesday 29th November after 10am Mass

Scratch Choir

Would anyone like to sing in a 'scratch choir'? Ringwood Churches Together is putting together a choir to perform at the Ringwood Light Up on the 26th of November. The time will be from 2-5 pm. If interested please contact Maggie Spiers - Maggie@spiers.net

Christmas Hampers

Ringwood Churches Together are once again creating Christmas Hampers to distribute through schools. Collection boxes can be found in both Churches along with a list of wished for items.

Poiter is also collecting for their Christmas Hampers and a wish list can be found in the Fordingbridge Hall.

WE NEED YOU.....

Well, more precisely, we need a little bit of your time – next Saturday morning, 11th November, anytime from 10am until 1pm, to help prepare for our Open Morning and musical concert, both of which take place a week later.



Our task is to ensure our hall and the area around our church are tidy and ready to receive visitors. There's a few jobs to get done – clean windows, clear the terrace, tidy the garden after the recent weather, and so on.

In return, as ever, there will be mid-morning coffee and cake around the table – a great way to catch up with fellow parishioners and even meet new ones.

Go on – you know you can.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Flower Arrangements in Fordingbridge

As we approach Christmas and I turn my thoughts to the Christmas flower arranging it seems an appropriate time to ask if there is anyone who feels that they could help with the church flowers throughout the year. Maybe you have helped in the past and would like to come forward again or perhaps you are new to the parish and feel that you could take a turn on the rota. The current situation is that we only have three people who do the flowers throughout the year plus another helper who is not a member of our congregation. We all like to see flowers in the church and one vase of flowers under the altar is sufficient. So, if you can help in any way it would be greatly appreciated and then hopefully we will not have to resort to artificial flowers so often.



Thank you
Teresa
My contact details are: Phone 01725 514537 or email teresarogers56@me.com

Greeting Cards

Christmas cards will be available in Ringwood by Sunday 29 October. There are boxes of 18 cards for £4.25 a box which is just over 23p a card and boxes of 12 cards for £3.95 which is 33p a card. As well as, in individual cards and packs of 10 small cards for £1.60 a packet (10p a card). Thanks for your support, Barbara

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 November edition is the 25th of November.



THINKING AHEAD

There are some CAFOD 'World Gift' catalogues to be found in Ringwood and Fordingbridge porches from this weekend. Something to give someone who has everything, or you think would really appreciate the sentiment. You can spend as little as £4 for a Happy Queen Bee gift to set up a hive to help people become self-sufficient, £10 for a soup kitchen, £30 for a Winter Survival Kit or £150 for a Marvelous Moo Cow. There are so many other ideas as well as practical gifts of chocolate, etc. And, of course, it doesn't just have to be for Christmas!

Friendship Group

We meet on Wednesdays following Mass for a coffee and a chat. Do come and join us - all are very welcome
.- Barbara



Thank you from CAFOD Campaigns

Thank you to everyone who signed 'Salina's letter' this summer. Salina is the small-scale farmer from Bangladesh who is calling on the World Bank to protect the rights of farmers over their own seeds. 70,000 parishioners in England and Wales signed the letter, and a third of all parishes took part. Salina said, "I am very happy to know about 70,000 signatures along with mine." This helped CAFOD to secure initial meetings with World Bank staff, who heard the message that seeds are for all. This is a long struggle but it's a very good start. Thank you for adding your voice.

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

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

	Ringwood	Fordingbridge
SO	£ 2298	£ 3086
Cash/Env	£ 978	£ 312
DONA/Online	£ 255	£ 84

Fordingbridge and Ringwood Contact Details

Office hours: Office Open Tues (OLS) 9-12 Friday 10-1(SH)
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

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