

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



20 February 2022

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Time to forgive

Loving one's enemies is asking a lot. Blessing them and praying for them might be all right for St. Francis but expecting it of us seems to be going very far. Asking for a blow on the second cheek while the first is still stinging with pain seems fit only for a martyr. Not to try to take back what was stolen from us looks very foolish. Yet it was Christ who made all these demands.

However, before we give up in despair, and decide that this type of Christianity is not for us, let us look a little more closely at the demands that are made. To love our enemy does not mean we must throw our arms about them every time we meet them. It means we must do all in our power to rid our minds of any hatred of them, and try to see the good within them. Not judging and condemning comes under this heading. Human beings that we are, our faculty for seeing in our neighbour the real person they are before God, is very limited and very prone to error. There are justly convicted robbers and murderers in our jails, in whom God can see a lot of goodness even now, and perhaps future citizens of heaven later on.

Not demanding back what was unjustly taken from us does not mean that we may not have recourse to the legal or other means available to us for obtaining compensation in such cases.



Another consoling point to bear in mind is that the vast majority of people have no inclination to injure us in our person or our property and will never do so. If we feel we have a lot of enemies only waiting for the chance to pounce on us, we would do well to examine our own consciences very carefully and then look for the many good points there are in our neighbour's character.

By offering charity to our enemy, we help them to seek God's forgiveness too.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sunday 20 February - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am

11.00am

Tuesday 22 February

NO MASS

Wednesday 23 February – FERIA

10.00am

Thursday 24 February

NO MASS

Friday 25 February – FERIA

10.00am Funeral Mass for Patricia Kowalewska RIP

Please note: There is no Mass at 7.00pm or Adoration on Friday 25 February.

CONFESSIONS: After Mass or by appointment.

OUR PARISH

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH
SEAMOOD ROAD, WESTBOURNE,
BOURNEMOUTH, BH4 9AE**

Parish Priest: Fr Leslie Adams

Telephone: 01202 764027

Email: ladams@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*(Baptism, Marriages, Sick Visits,
Funerals and Confessions)*

Parish Office (Wed 9.00am - 12.00pm)

Parish Administrator – Suzanne Quinn

General enquires and hall bookings

Telephone: 01202 760640

Email: oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Matthew French

Email: mail@matthewfrench.net

SUNDAY READINGS

Entrance Antiphon - Ps 12: 6

*O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.*

Gospel Acclamation - cf. Ac16:14

*Alleluia, alleluia!
our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon Ps 9: 2-3

*I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name,
O Most High.*

PARISH NEWS

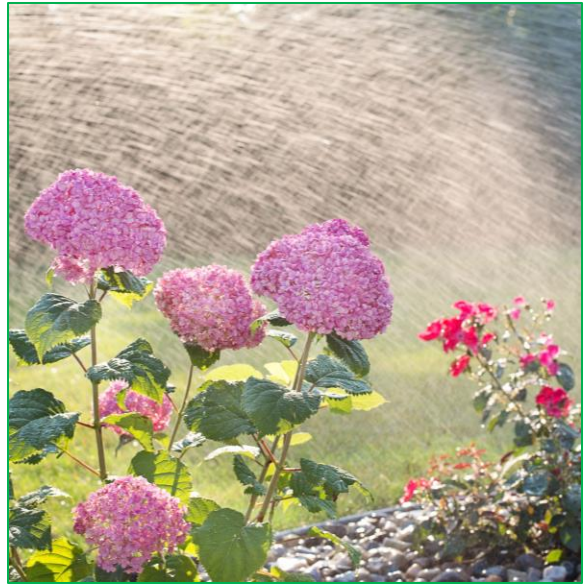
WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO THE CHURCH?

Tuesday 1 March from 6.00pm until 7.00pm

A unique, live, online event with Fr. James Mallon, Bishop Robert Barron, and Revd. Nicky Gumbel which explores the enormous challenges we have faced, but also the exciting new opportunities to proclaim the Gospel. Divine Renovation will host a one-hour webinar exploring what the last two years have revealed about the Church, what we have learned, and what we need to focus on as we look to the future in the context of evangelisation and discipleship. To register visit the website: www.divinerenovation.org/what-is-god-saying-event

BEQUESTS - A gift to the Church? When one makes or changes a Will, one will obviously be thinking about family & friends. You could also make a gift to the Church. Many Catholics feel this is a wonderful way to thank God for the blessings that they have received during their lifetime, help the Church proclaim the Good News of Jesus and meet the needs of the next generation.

GETTING MARRIED? Congratulations! Please note that you need to give 12 months' notice. If you're a Catholic and not Confirmed you will need to join 'Journey into Faith' in order to celebrate Confirmation. Contact Fr Leslie to find out more information.



PREPARING FOR LENT: Ash Wednesday 2nd March Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting.

We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. Let us start to prepare for this 40+ days season of grace.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

You can donate directly into the bank account:

**PRCDTR Bournemouth
Our Lady Immaculate**

Sort code: 309304 **Account:** 00875075

Thank you for your continued support.

PRAYERS PLEASE

Please remember all the sick and housebound of our parish especially:

Teresa Wraith,
Win Sheridan, Kathleen Wood,
Phillip Rockford, Germain McAulay,
Geoffrey Dixon, Joe Bonnici,
Marjorie Lee

Love your enemies

Jesus said to his disciples: *'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect?*

'For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

PRAY FOR OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

CANDIDATES: Jasmyn, Carlo, Hugo, Isabella, Tony, Valeria, Carlos, Esther, Tommy and Leon.



PATRICIA KOWALEWSKA RIP: Patricia's funeral Mass will take place on Friday 25 February at 10.00am, officiated by Fr Andrew Wagstaff. This will be followed by her burial at North Cemetery.

GDPR FORM: To ensure we comply with General Data Protection Regulations, please can you fill in the relevant form in the lobby or on our website. By filling in this form, you will be granting us permission to store your personal details on the parish database for another year.

Please return your completed form to our Parish Administrator, Suzanne Quinn, by leaving it in the black postbox to the left of the front door. This can also be left in the office box in the hall, or handed to Suzanne on Wednesday mornings.

BRIDGE CLUB: Now meeting in the church hall each Monday at 1.30pm. All newcomers welcome, beginners or experienced. Do come and join us and meet new friends.