

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



4 SEPTEMBER 2022

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Renouncement

In today's Gospel Jesus says, *'If you want to be my disciples, you must hate your very own family.'* According to scripture scholar David E Garland, the word *'hate'* is better understood as *'indifference'*. Hate, the inverse of love, is emotionally involved; contact or even the thought of someone we hate provokes strong feelings — we remain very much aware of and influenced by that person. Indifference is the emotional equivalent of a temperature of 68 degrees: neither hot nor cold. It does not keep our attention or solicit concern.

The second of Jesus' demands, *'renounce all your possessions,'* can be understood as a reiteration of the first, simply sung in a different key. Poverty is a major theme in Luke, as it is in the writings of Pope Francis. Luke quotes Jesus as saying *'anyone who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.'*

In *Evangelii Gadium*, Francis explains that possessions have dangerous power to make our hearts *'complacent yet covetous.'* He describes materialism as, *'the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures,'* warning that it wields treacherous potential to blunt our consciences, leaving no room for God's love or voice.

It seems that what He really counselled was an indifference to blood ties such that one was not bound by them, nor by self-preservation



nor by possessions. That means that, like the good Samaritan, the need that appears on our road must trump our other priorities. (If you want to calculate the cost of that, imagine how that Samaritan explained to his wife what had happened to the oil, the wine and the money he was supposed to bring home!)

We are not called to walk through Israel with Jesus. Few of us are called to forsake home and family completely. But today, everyone who wishes to be Jesus' disciples must carry the cross of wounded creation and renounce what harms her. This is not an option.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sun 4 Sept - 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am

11.00am - Benjamin Samuel Oakley Armas
(Baptism)

Tuesday 6 September – FERIA

10.00am

Wednesday 7 September – FERIA

10.00am

Thursday 8 September – THE NATIVITY OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10.00am

Friday 9 September - FERIA

10.00am

Mass is followed by Adoration at 10.30am.

Sun 11 Sept - 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am

11.00am

CONFESSIONS after Mass or by appointment.

OUR PARISH

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH
SEAMOOR 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 MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon - Ps 118: 137, 124

*You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is
right; treat your servant in accord with your
merciful love.*

Gospel Acclamation - Jn15:15

*Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the
Lord, because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 41: 2-3

*Like the deer that yearns for running
streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my
God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living
God.*

DATE FOR THE DIARY – PARISH CHRISTMAS

LUNCH You are invited to our Parish Christmas
lunch at The Riviera Hotel, Bournemouth on
Saturday 17 December for a 12.30pm start. The
menu and sign-up sheet are on the foyer
noticeboard. We hope you can join us.

ABORTION A recent BBC poll found that 15% of
British women had experienced pressure or
coercion to have an abortion that they did not
want. This abuse must be stopped. Please sign
SPUC's petition calling on the Health Secretary to
urgently commission research into the area of
abortion coercion, and in so doing recognise
coerced abortion as a priority for health & social
policy www.spuc.org.uk/coercion

PRAYER FOR PREGNANT WOMEN We pray for
the families and friends of pregnant women.
That they would recognise their responsibility to
care for the mother and child, and that they
would shower them with love and support
through the journey of pregnancy and beyond.
Lord hear us

THANK YOU for your continued financial support
to the parish.

PARISH NEWS

St BERNADETTE OF LOURDES RELIC TOUR UK

The relics of St Bernadette (a section of bone from her thigh in newly built reliquary) for the very first time will journey on a pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales. Her relics will come to St John's Cathedral from Thursday 8 September, 9:30am, o/night to Friday 9 September, 10.00am.

This special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the charisms of Lourdes. Do come and make a personal pilgrimage to the French saint, to venerate and to pray for her intercession.

Special Evening Prayer of the Church and Torchlight Procession Thursday 8 September at 7.00pm.

(Please arrive at the Cathedral by 6.45pm) Why are relics important to Catholics? Relics are venerated to honour the holiness of God. The veneration of relics is rooted in the natural human instinct to treat anything connected with those we love, who have died, with care and reverence.

From earliest times the bodies of martyrs were held in special veneration. The relics of St Polycarp, for example, were described as being *'more valuable than precious stones and finer than refined gold.'* In Rome, prayer services were held in the catacombs, and from the



fourth century, the Eucharist was celebrated over the tombs of the martyrs. St Augustine explains this by highlighting that the bodies of saints and martyrs had enabled them to live as organs of the Holy Spirit. Relics help us to feel close to a holy person, making the communion of saints more real and fostering in us a desire for holiness.

Pope Benedict XVI said: *'By inviting us to venerate the mortal remains of the martyrs and saints, the Church does not forget that, in the end, these are indeed just human bones, but they are bones that belonged to individuals touched by the transcendent power of God. The relics of the saints are traces of that invisible but real presence which sheds light upon the shadows of the world and reveals the Kingdom of Heaven in our midst.'*

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 and
Christopher Browne

None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all he owns

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. *'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.'*

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish."

Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

BISHOP PHILIP'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY MASS We are looking at the possibility of hiring a coach to enable us to attend Bishop Philip Egan's special anniversary Mass at St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet if you are interested. Further details to follow. This trip will only be possible if there is sufficient interest, so don't delay in signing up if you would like to go.



CAN YOU HELP? Could you support CAFOD in its mission to inform and educate? They are looking for school volunteers to deliver assemblies and workshops. Please contact Jo portsmouth@cafod.org.uk for more info.

MARRIAGE CONCERNS Retrouvaille is a Catholic programme that is open to married couples of any faith, or none. It is offered as a gift from the Catholic Church to any married couple who wishes to heal the difficulties they are experiencing in their marriage. Visit the website www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER *'Let us take advantage of their example and reflect on our lifestyle, especially during these moments of health, social and environmental crisis,' he said. We should take the opportunity to reflect on 'the way we eat, consume, travel, or the way we use water, energy, plastics, and many other material goods,' especially those which are harmful to the environment. more respectful of the environment.'*