

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



2 OCTOBER 2022

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

How long, O Lord!

"How long, O Lord! Why don't you intervene!"
How many times have believers felt this?

The short book of Habakkuk reads like prophecy in poetry. At one point, Habakkuk says his people act like fish drifting without a leader. When caught, they watch their captor worship his net. From God's side, we hear that when the oppressor opens his mouth, we can see the entryway into hell. Poetic beauty aside, God's response to Habakkuk's anguish feels lacking: *"The vision still has its time."* In other words, *"No matter what you think, God has not forsaken you. Be patient. God's time is not the same as yours."*

Habakkuk is our lead-in to the apostles' entreaty, *"Lord, increase our faith!"* What are they really asking for? Are they requesting irrefutable proof that Jesus is worthy of their trust? Are they, like Habakkuk, begging for help to believe in God's loving care while terrible things keep happening? Are they asking for the grace of greater fidelity?

Jesus replied, *"If you had faith like a grain of mustard [The Greek text doesn't say anything about size], you could uproot this mulberry tree and send it to the sea."* This is the second time that Luke's Gospel mentions a mustard seed. The other was in Luke 13:19 when Jesus said that the reign of God grows like a mustard plant. Maybe



Jesus' answer addresses not the size of their faith, but rather its explosive power. Jesus wanted them to have grain-of-mustard faith, faith that spreads like weeds.

We look to God for strength, for answers. In desperation we shout, *"Dear God in heaven, help us!"* And Jesus responds, *"Are you waiting for God to set the table for you? What makes you think it's time for you to sit down and for God to take over?"*

Perhaps we are being invited to pray something like this: *"Lord, help us! We hope for what we can't yet see, but we are acting as if it is happening among us. Now, let us hear your voice!"*

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sun 2 Oct - 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am
11.00am

Tuesday 4 October – ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

10.00am

Wednesday 5 October – FERIA

10.00am

Thursday 6 October – ST BRUNO

10.00am

Friday 7 October – OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

10.00am

Mass is followed by Adoration at 10.30am.

Sun 9 Oct - 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00am
11.00am

CONFESSIONS after Mass or by appointment.

SUNDAY MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon - Cf. Est 4: 17

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Gospel Acclamation - 1S3:9, Jn6:68

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon - Lam 3: 25

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

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.

YOUR PARISH CONTACT DETAILS Have you moved since you first joined the Parish? Do you have your current email address? Have you added to your family? Help us to keep our database up to date. Thank you!

PARISH SICK LIST Do you know of someone who is ill? In need of prayers? Is housebound and would like Holy Communion at home? Please contact the Parish Office with their details.

UKRAINE Donate money to the DEC appeals to allow the relief agencies including Caritas to continue their work with refugees as they arrive in neighbouring countries. Visit the Caritas website www.caritasportsmouth.org.uk for news and regular updates on the crisis. Thank you for your continued generosity. Let us continue to keep the people of Ukraine in our prayers.

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

PARISH NEWS

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER - Friday 14 October at 12.00pm in the hall. Please read the menu and sign-up sheet in the lobby to place your order. Payment must be made by Wednesday 5 October at the latest. Please pay by cash and leave it in the office post box. Cash bags, labels and pens can be found outside the office on the noticeboard. Please ensure you have clearly written your name on the label and include this with your cash payment.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT Over the next few weekends, parishes across all the dioceses of England and Wales will be undertaking their annual count of how many people are attending Sunday Mass.

WHAT IS A HOUSE OF PRAYER? We recognise that our churches are places of prayer, and that Jesus is truly present in the tabernacle waiting for us to visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Please use your time in church to talk to God and not to each other, so that we can keep our churches sacred as houses of prayer.

MARRIAGE A Loving4life Retreat. 8 - 9 October Wistaston Hall Retreat Centre, Crewe. CW2 8JS Retreat led by Aba & David Shields. Another special opportunity to reclaim your emotional intimacy as a sacramentally married couple. Contact 07387 645 211. You can also email them marriagefamilylife@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



MISSIO Sincerest thanks and best wishes from Missio and Mill Hill Missionaries to all current members and newly signed up members, following Fr Vincent's recent presentation at Mass. He gave a very entertaining homily detailing some of the work in which he has been involved. Fr Vincent has worked with Catholic communities in some of the poorer countries of the world.

A number of parishioners either took Red Boxes or signed Direct Debit forms, and we are very grateful for their support. If anyone would like further information, please speak to Suzanne in the office, as she can put you in contact with Ron Millington, our Missio Local Secretary.

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, Phillip Rockford,
Germain McAulay, Geoffrey Dixon,
Joe Bonnici and
Christopher Browne

Increase our faith

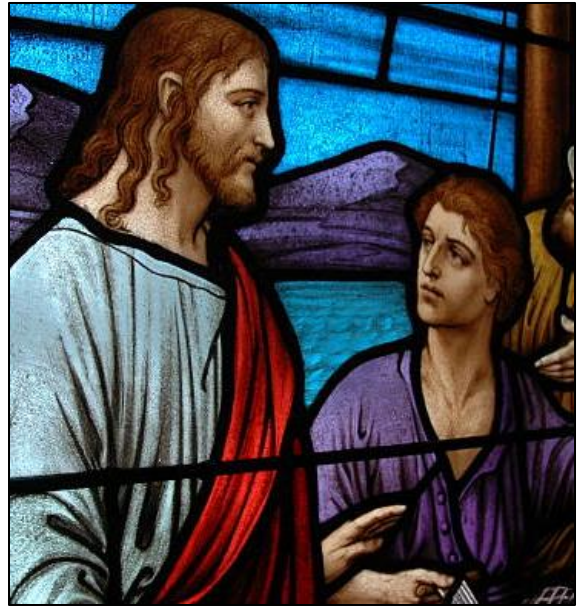
The apostles said to the Lord, *"Increase our faith."* The Lord replied, *"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."*

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded?"

"So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

POPE'S PRAYER FOR OCTOBER *For a Church open to everyone.* We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Friday 7 October Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. Your donations can help CAFOD's local efforts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst effected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today using the envelopes in the foyer or online at: cafod.org.uk/fastday Thank you for your continued support for CAFOD's work.



SINGING If you are a strong, confident singer, please sit in the back pew near our organist, Louis, and support our congregation with the hymns.

A DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS This is the first time our Diocesan Catechists will have met since the pandemic. The Day for Catechists takes place in Winchester on Saturday 8 October from 10.00am - 4.00pm. We hope to offer a fantastic experience of fellowship, prayer and formation. The plans for the Diocesan formation and support of catechists will also be presented.

www.eventbrite.com/e/diocesan-day-for-catechists-registration-337127185487

NOTICES FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send these to Suzanne by 9.00am on Wednesday. Thank you.