

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE

# NEWSLETTER



19 JANUARY 2025

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## YOU SHALL RECEIVE

There are many lessons we can learn from this incident in Christ's life: for example, Christ's approval of marriage - there were some heretical sects later who said marriage was sinful, unfit for a Christian. Or we could see in it the intercessory power of our blessed mother. Christ anticipated his "hour" for working miracles in order to grant her request. But the theme of today's readings is the goodness and kindness of God, and we surely have a convincing proof of that loving kindness in today's gospel story.

Christ worked his first miracle in order to grant a temporal favour, an earthly gift, to save the newly married groom from embarrassment. It had the other effect of convincing his very recent disciples of their belief that he was the expected Messiah. It also convinces all Christians of the efficacy of Our Lady's intercession for us, but its primary purpose was to confer a temporal benefit on the groom.

By this kind act he has shown us that he is interested in our earthly affairs also. He became man in order that we could become the children of God; he came to earth so that we could go to heaven, but this miracle at Cana proves that he has a deep interest in our many and varied activities during the course of our journey to heaven.

He told us, "Ask and you shall receive." That "shall" is very definite; our prayers will be answered, and what we should ask for is not only spiritual gifts



but also the temporal aids that we need. The "shall" applies to them too, as the miracle of Cana proves. We shall get our temporal requests, provided of course that they won't impede us on our journey to heaven. No kind father would give his child a gift that would injure him. Our father in heaven is the kindest of parents. We can and should therefore make our temporal needs known to God in our prayers, confident that he will give us what we ask if it is for our real good.

Visit our website: [www.catholicwestbourne.org](http://www.catholicwestbourne.org)

## MASS TIMES

**Sunday 19 January - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9.00am  
11.00am

**Monday 20 January - ST. FABIAN**

No Mass

**Tuesday 21 January - ST. AGNES**

10.00am

**Wednesday 22 January - 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME**

10.00am

**Thursday 23 January - 2ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME**

10.00am

**Friday 24 January - ST. FRANCES DE SALES**

10.00am  
10.30am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday 25 January - CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL**

10.00am

**Sunday 26 January - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9.00am  
11.00am

## OUR PARISH

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH  
SEAMOR 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 Administrator:** Peter Murdock-Saint  
General enquires and hall bookings

**Telephone:** 01202 760640

**Email:** oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Safeguarding Officers:**

Joan Smithies and Edward Adamson  
safeguarding.boush@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Donations:** CDP Bournemouth

**Our Lady Immaculate**

**Sort code:** 309304 **Account:** 00875075

## SUNDAY MASS READINGS

**Entrance Antiphon**

*All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name,  
O Most High!*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the  
good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to  
captives. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon**

*You have prepared a table before me,  
and how precious is the chalice that quenches  
my thirst.*

**SAFEGUARDING NOTICE.** I am pleased to announce that Joan Smithies will be joining our parish safeguarding team. Joan will be replacing Dee Owen and working alongside Edward Adamson. Thank you, Dee, for your support and dedication. *Fr. Leslie*

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC.** If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Catholic, either someone who is not baptised and wishes to be or someone baptised in a non-Catholic Church who is interested in being received into full communion with the Catholic Church, please speak to Fr. Leslie.

**GETTING MARRIED?** Congratulations! Please note that you need to give 12 months' notice. Please speak to Fr. Leslie or contact Peter in the office.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.** 9.00am on Wednesday.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY ROME 2025.** The diocese will be joining the World Youth Day pilgrimage to Rome from 28 July to 4 August. During that week, there will be thousands of young people in Rome at the invitation of the Holy Father. We will also be there for the Mass and ceremony at which Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, Patron of our Youth, will be canonised.

The cost includes flights, hotel accommodation, half board, travel in Rome, entrance and participation fees and more. For more information, please contact: youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

## PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

**WHITE FLOWER APPEAL - 19 JANUARY.** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. Visit the website: [www.spuc.org.uk](http://www.spuc.org.uk).

**PRAYER OF BLESSING.** If you are not a Catholic or not receiving the Eucharist, please come forward in the procession, place one hand on your chest with your head slightly bowed, and the celebrant / minister will know to pray a short prayer of blessing for you.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** all the sick and housebound in our parish: *Mike Ellestone, Cecilia Agnes Grimston, Geoffrey Dixon, Christopher Browne, Teresa Wraith, Elizabeth Lubrow, Win Sheridan and Yolanda.*

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY.** *For the right to an education.* Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

**THE ROSARY** is prayed every Wednesday at 9.30am, prior to Mass. All are welcome.

**THE ROSARY IN A YEAR - PODCAST.** If you've ever struggled to build a habit of prayer, this podcast is for you. Fr. Mark-Mary guides listeners in a step-by-step journey that will change the way you pray. By starting small and adding on over time, listeners will find themselves falling more in love with this powerful Marian devotion, becoming a source of grace for the whole world.

Listen to discover; *How to build a daily habit of prayer. How to form a relationship with Jesus and Mary. The biblical foundations of the Rosary. How to meditate with sacred art (visio divina), saints' writings, and scripture (lectio divina). The power of Mary's influence in your life.* Visit the website: <https://ascensionpress.com/riy>.

**THANK YOU** for your continued support. *Fr. Leslie*

**THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE - 2025.** Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. (Catechism 1817) Pope Francis said, "*Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love*".

Each diocese is permitted to establish shrine churches where the faithful can go on pilgrimage, attend Mass and receive the Sacrament of Penance, and at the same time gain a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions. Our shrine churches on the mainland are *St. John's Cathedral in Portsmouth, St. James's Church in Reading, Sacred Heart Church in Bournemouth, and St. Edmund's Church in Southampton.*

**THE ORATORY SCHOOL OF PRAYER** takes place on Mondays at 4.00pm in Café Neri, next to Sacred Heart Church, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth, BH1 1BZ. Aim to arrive at around 3.45pm to buy your coffee or tea (before the café closes), then sit back, sip your favourite beverage, and learn about the joys of the saints in teaching us about prayer and deepening our relationship with God.

**INVITATION TO ENGAGED COUPLES.** Saturday 8 February 2025, 9.15am, St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. This is a special engaged couples breakfast for all those in the diocese looking forward to marriage in 2025. This will conclude at 11.45am with a short service of blessing for the couples and their engagement rings. An opportunity to affirm our faith in the original plan of God for marriage. To register, contact Kirsten on 023 9421 6511.

**WE CAN STILL DEFEAT ASSISTED SUICIDE!** There is a clear path toward the assisted suicide bill being defeated at its third reading. Early analysis shows that at least 36 MPs supported the bill but have concerns that mean they may vote NO at later stages. Visit [www.righttolife.org.uk](http://www.righttolife.org.uk).

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# 'My hour has not yet come...'



There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, *'They have no wine.'* Jesus said *'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.'* His mother said to the servants, *'Do whatever he tells you.'*

There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, *'Fill the jars with water'*, and they filled them to the brim. *'Draw some out now'* he told them *'and take it to the steward.'* They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from - only the servants who had drawn the water knew - the steward called the bridegroom and said, *'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now.'*

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** Please let the nursing staff know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplaincy. Fr. Leslie would also be happy to administer the Sacrament of the Sick before you are admitted.

**VOCATIONS.** If you would like to explore a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, please email [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**EVANGELISATION & CULTURE CONFERENCE. 21-22 February 2025.** Join us for our first-ever conference on the Bible at the Excel in London. This conference is for you if you are seeking to gain a deeper appreciation of the sacred scriptures and the beauty of the Catholic faith while growing in your evangelisation efforts. Find out more on the web: [wordonfire.org/the-bible-event](http://wordonfire.org/the-bible-event)