

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



16 FEBRUARY 2025

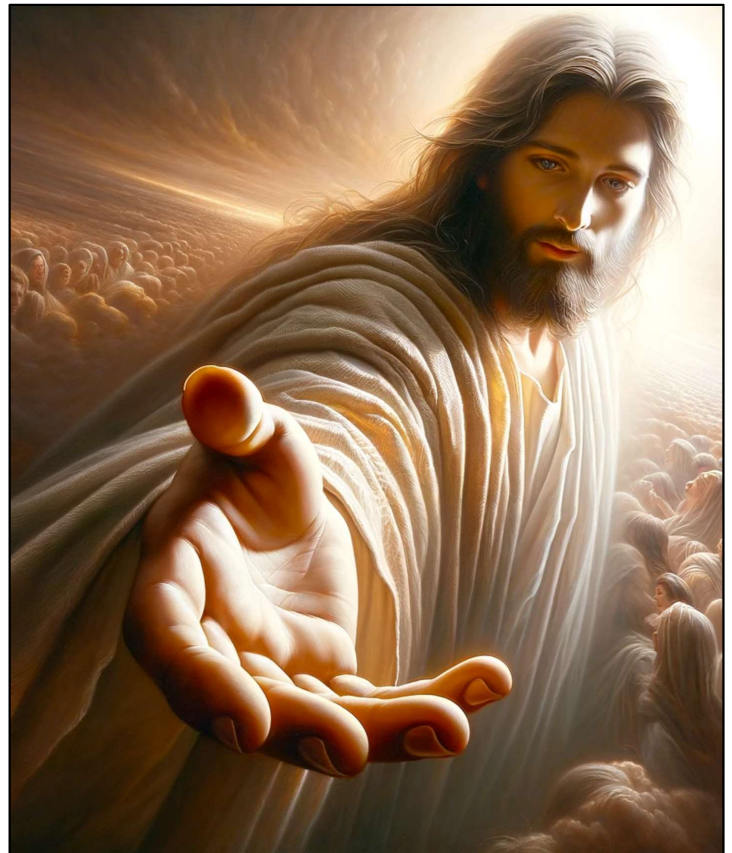
6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GOD'S KINGDOM

What Christ said to his disciples that day long ago in far-off Galilee applies equally well to every true Christian today. We must never let the things of this world keep us from God. We may acquire and use earthly goods, but we must acquire and use them justly, charitably, and reasonably. While only a relatively small number of Christians are called on to take a vow of poverty, all Christians are forbidden to take a vow of wealth, i.e., to make the acquisition of wealth their purpose in life. While only a few special disciples of Christ are asked to give up even the lawful pleasures of the senses, all Christians are commanded to avoid unlawful indulgence in sensual pleasure.

No follower of Christ is forbidden to enjoy the legitimate joys of life, but every Christian must be prepared to accept life's pains and sorrows as well. We are pilgrims and strangers on this earth, weeding our way to heaven. The lighter our pack, the easier and faster we travel. But there are cares and responsibilities, according to each one's vocation in life, which we may not and must not shirk. If we face these responsibilities honestly and cheerfully, realizing that they are the means by which God wishes us to gain our eternal reward, then they will be less burdensome and less heavy for us.

These Beatitudes are personally important to all of us. If we are true followers of Christ and sincere Christians, we will take the rough as well as the smooth, the poverty as well as the plenty, the



sorrows as well as the joys. These are the stepping stones that God has laid down for us to help us get across the river of life to the eternal shore.

"Ours is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Putting it into practice. Read the more detailed, corresponding passage in Matthew 5:3-12 on the Beatitudes. Choose a beatitude to focus on for the rest of this month. Write it in conspicuous places throughout your house - desk, home altar, fridge.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sunday 16 February - 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9.00am
11.00am

Monday 17 February - 6TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
No Mass

Tuesday 18 February - 6TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
10.00am

Wednesday 19 February - 6TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
10.00am

Thursday 20 February - 6TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
10.00am

Friday 21 February - 6TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
10.00am
10.30am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 22 February - THE CHAIR OF PETER
10.00am

Sunday 23 February - 7TH 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 - Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

*Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to
save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

Gospel Acclamation - Mt11:25

*Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of
heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of
the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Ps 77: 29-30

*They ate and had their fill, and what they craved
the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed
in what they craved.*

ASCENSION PRESS APP. The number-one Catholic Bible app. The word of God, commentaries and teachings of our Catholic faith. Video, audio, and textual. <https://ascensionpress.com>

'KEYS TO ACCOMPANIMENT - GOOD CONVERSATIONS TO ACCOMPANY OTHERS.' Join this online course and explore conversations that can help others to grow closer to Jesus. Listening conversations require us to call on the help of the Holy Spirit to embed our conversations in his love. Email: lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SVP SOCIAL. Come and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon on Thursday 20 February, 1pm, Sacred Heart Church, Richmond Hill. This event is being hosted by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. There will be tea, coffee and refreshments.

CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS. The Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph in Lymington are offering a 2-year Certificate in Catechesis to equip parish catechists, parents and grandparents with the skills to transmit the Catholic faith to others. This certificate is approved by the Bishop's Conference, and offers a formation developed from the 2020 *Directory for Catechesis*, relevant to the pastoral context we face in our parishes. This is a great opportunity. To begin your studies in September 2025 and to find out more, visit the website: www.lightoftruth.uk/certificate

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

CAR SHARE. We have received a request from the family of Margaret Kay (Parkstone area) to help with transport to Sunday 9.00am Mass. If anybody is able to help, please contact the office.

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

POPE'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY. *For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.* Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the religious life.

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

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue, or have you stopped because it only makes it worse? Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on Zoom. 27 February to 2 March 2025. Email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk Call or text 07887 296 983. www.retrouvaille.org.uk

WORLD YOUTH DAY ROME 2025. The diocese will be joining the World Youth Day pilgrimage to Rome from 28 July to 4 August. 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. For more details, please contact the team at the following email address: youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

VOCATIONS. If you would like to explore a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life, please email Canon John Cooke at the following email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

SVP SOUTH SUDAN APPEAL - ADVENT 2024.

Thank you to everyone who donated money to this appeal during the four weeks of Advent. The sum raised by Our Lady Immaculate and Sacred Heart parishes was a total of £3,191. A heartfelt thank you for this remarkable and very generous sum, which will be enhanced by Gift Aid contributions. The money will be put to good use in one of the poorest countries in the world. *Mark Owen, SVP President*

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.

EVANGELISATION & CULTURE CONFERENCE. 21-22 February 2025. 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.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

'Happy are you who are poor ...'



Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: *'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.*

But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false

prophets.'

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 on a step-by-step journey that will change the way you pray no matter where you are in your spiritual life. 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 and more. Visit the website: <https://ascensionpress.com/riy> to find out more.

ADORE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT - Saturday 22 February, 10.00am - 1.00pm. *"Pilgrims of hope - the Holy Spirit is our guide."* This includes Mass, Adoration, praise, prophecy, prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker Gerry Penfold. Please register for the free Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREFEB2025. Please join us if you can.