

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



11 MAY 2025

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD

This Sunday is often called "*Good Shepherd Sunday*." Jesus intended the beautiful parable of the Good Shepherd with its many consoling truths and promises for men of every century, including the twentieth. We are all too prone to evaluate the words of the Gospel in an exclusively historical sense. The liturgy's primary aim is to portray the present, not the past, to give grace and life along with history. You must, therefore, give the parable a present-day context and apply it personally. After each sentence, stop and say, Christ is doing this today and to help me. The parable brings to our attention three consoling truths: Christ gives His life for His sheep; He remains with them constantly through the bond of grace; He will not rest content until there be but one flock and one shepherd.

Now how do these points affect me personally?

a) My Shepherd's death means my deliverance - why, even at this very moment of Mass, redemption's graces are flooding my soul. b) Between Christ and myself, there must exist a closer intimacy than even that between brothers, relatives, or friends. c) It is through Christ's efforts that I have been brought into the fold, and He is ever striving to make me a more perfect member of His flock.

In order to realize these ends, Christ instituted his church. This church is his representative. There we may approach Him; there He is close to us; there He continues His presence: *"I am with you*



all days, even unto the consummation of the world." Through the Catholic Church, he speaks to us; in the Catholic Church flow the rivers of grace from Calvary's Cross; by means of the Catholic Church, Christ seeks to become united personally with each of us. Oh, if only we would regard the Catholic Church as Christ mystically present in our midst! At this point I would like to single out two ways by which Christ fulfills his office of shepherd in the church, viz., through his words and through his very body.

SEE PAGE TWO

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sunday 11 May - 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.00am

11.00am

Monday 12 May - 4TH WEEK OF EASTER

No Mass

Tuesday 13 May - 4TH WEEK OF EASTER

10.00am

Wednesday 14 May - ST. MATTHAIS

10.00am

Thursday 15 May - 4TH WEEK OF EASTER

10.00am

Friday 16 May - 4TH WEEK OF EASTER

10.00am

Mass is followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 17 May - 4TH WEEK OF EASTER

10.00am

Sunday 18 May - 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 32: 5-6

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by
the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia.*

Gospel Acclamation - Jn 10:14

*Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says
the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know
me. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon

*The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his
life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock,
alleluia.*

GOOD SHEPHERD (FROM PAGE ONE) The words he spoke will never die. *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."* Christ's words are as pregnant with life now as when they were first spoken. They give us the mind of our good shepherd as he instructs, warns, and consoles us; they are the words of a father, a mother, a brother, a friend, and a judge. Once upon a time, Christ's words performed miracles; they have not lost their power! *"Young man, I say to you: arise. This day you shall be with me in paradise."* Treasure Christ's words most highly.

Christ's body in the Eucharist gives flesh to his words in the gospel. Never disjoin one from the other. For together they constitute our most valuable earthly treasure; together they give us the whole Christ. What he promises in the gospel, he fulfills in the Eucharist. And thus the Mass, comprising the word and the body of Christ, brings him completely to us. In the gospel, he says, *"I am the good shepherd."* In the Eucharistic sacrifice, the good shepherd becomes present. In the gospel he proclaims, *"I lay down my life for my sheep."* In the Eucharistic sacrifice, he pours his life into our souls. In the gospel, he tells us, *"I know mine and mine know me."* In the Eucharistic sacrifice he fulfills his claim: Whoever eats my flesh abides in me and I in him. In the gospel he says, *"Other sheep I have ... them also must I bring"*. Through his sacrifice, he grows his flock.

MASS INTENTIONS. Please speak to Fr. Leslie.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

PRAY THE ROSARY. If you would like to learn to pray the rosary (or have a refresher) please join us on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am and speak to Charlene. If you are unable to come on Wednesday morning, please leave your details with the parish office, and Charlene will contact you.

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.*

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? Please speak to Fr. Leslie if you would like him to administer the Sacrament of the Sick before you are admitted. The Chaplaincy Service is available to you so do let the hospital staff know that you'd like a visit.

CONFESSIONS take place after the 9.00am Sunday Mass, after weekday Mass or by appointment. For further details, please speak to Fr. Leslie.

THANK YOU for your continued generosity.

REGINA CAELI. O QUEEN OF HEAVEN. *This is prayed in place of the Angelus during Eastertide.*

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

INVITATION TO ALL WOMEN PARISHIONERS.

In an effort to create a more vibrant parish community, we would like to invite all women parishioners to come together to cultivate a space for friendship, shared interests, hobbies, expertise and fun. Our initial meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 May at 7.30pm in the parish hall, when we will have the opportunity to discuss how you would like the group(s) to develop. We sincerely hope that you will come and join us to chat, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and share your ideas.

THERE IS A SECOND COLLECTION TODAY for the Diocesan Clergy Training Fund.

DIOCESAN FORMATION DAY FOR MINISTERS OF CHILDREN'S LITURGY, Saturday 7 June, St. Bede's, Basingstoke. This will be led by Fr. Anthony Fyk. Please contact: liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY. We would like to start a children's liturgy at the 9.00am Sunday Mass to help our youngest parishioners grow in their faith in a fun and meaningful way. We are looking for volunteers to help run this on a rotational basis. No prior experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a willingness to get involved. Guidance and support will be provided. If you're interested or want to learn more, please speak to Fr. Leslie after Mass or contact Roisin at roisinwaite@hotmail.co.uk.

ACCESS TO FREE ADVICE. The Citizens Advice Bureau is an independent charity that provides information, education and advice services to help people resolve problems. They are part of a network of over 250 individual charities that deliver advice across England and Wales. Visit the Bournemouth branch at: <https://citizensadvicebcp.org.uk> or call 0808 278 7939.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS. Saturday 21 June, 11.00am, St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke. If you'd like to attend, please email: anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

I know my sheep, and they follow me

Jesus said: *'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'*

PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV. Faithful God. You guide us on the path of life and your goodness is our constant companion. Be with our new shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, in his service of the Church. Fill him with the power of your spirit, the peace of your presence and the compassion of Christ. May he walk with you, in wisdom and humility, and lead us, together with all God's people, to embody your love for the world. Amen.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY hosts a monthly lunch and social afternoon on the third Thursday of the month at 1.00pm, jointly with Bournemouth Oratory in the Oratory Undercroft Auditorium. The afternoon includes lunch, bingo, a raffle, and lots of fun and friendship.

PROJECT OPEN DOOR. We would like to keep our church doors open in daylight hours more often. This will require a team of volunteers to undertake on-site 1-hour shifts on a rota basis. To find out more, please speak to Fr. Leslie or Peter in the office.

YOUR CHURCH & HUMAN RIGHTS is an ecumenical conference that takes place on Saturday 17 May from 9.00am to 5.00pm at Hotel Collingwood, 11 Priory Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5DF. Does your church support all human rights? Are you worried about the erosion of human rights in the UK? How do Christians speak up against human rights abuses? Refreshments and sandwiches will be available. To book your free ticket, visit <http://bit.ly/3Q2dUB1>



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE. Please send all items to the office by 9.00am on Wednesday. Thank you!

BOURNEMOUTH ORATORY CATHOLIC ART CLUB. If you paint or draw or would like to learn now is the chance to develop your God-given talents. Art isn't limited to paint or pencil. It includes needlework, sculpting and restoration. We will be exploring every aspect of art, particularly in relation to our Catholic faith. There'll be an initial meeting to assess interest and discuss what you'd like to happen. There will then be a series of trips out to local places of interest. Contact Brother Antony on 01202 411140 to find out more.

CAFE NERI. Monday - Saturday, 10.00am - 4.00pm. Morning coffee, light lunches, afternoon tea and takeaway. This community café is staffed by learners from Autism Unlimited (cooking, serving, etc), COAST, other local charities and volunteers. This is the most comfortable café in Bournemouth. Just head to The Oratory Undercroft, Richmond Hill.

OUR BRIDGE CLUB welcomes new members. Please speak to Les Lewis or Peter in the office.