



A new relationship.....

I have heard of helium balloons being set off at the end of Ascension Masses to mark Jesus' "return to the Father". This creates great excitement among children. Often the children are asked to write a prayer or a wish on the balloon and 'send it off', as it were, to God. I can understand the visual effect, the engagement and involvement of children in this. Something they will remember. Since it catches their attention it cannot be bad.....but!

The danger with such events is that it can give everyone, young and old, the wrong message: Jesus has gone; Jesus is in 'heaven'; Jesus is with the Father; we will see Jesus again at the end of time. There is a sense in which this is right, but a sense also that this is not the case.

During Easter-time we reflect upon and celebrate resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus has two facets. On the one hand, it involves victory over death and so new life. On the other, it involves an entry into a new relationship with God, a relationship which makes the new life entirely new. The stories of the empty tomb and the appearances of the risen Jesus illustrate the first facet and the ascension stories illustrate the second.

It is, in a sense, easy to illustrate victory over death but far more difficult to express a new relationship with the invisible God. Yet this latter relationship is central to the life, message and ministry of Jesus.

Our future is beyond this world in its present form but is not a 'pie in the sky' brand of Christianity which looks solely to 'heaven', to the 'future life', to 'eternity'! Heaven is not a place within or apart from this world.....our home and our destiny is, in a sense, here. Heaven is where God is, and God is here! God is where we are! God has embodied God's self into our lives.

The Ascension is not about escapism from this world, but commitment to it! The role of the Church is not to wait for the end of the world but to work, as the Body of Christ, for its completion. We need to remember that the final words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel is that "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time". He is here, now, and we are His hands, feet, eyes, ears and mouth called and sent into our world as it is: sent not simply to speak words of comfort and life, but to see and hear God's presence, and walk with God, so enabling those we 'touch' to be touched by that Divine Presence now, where they are.

Vincent Harvey

5 JUNE 2011 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



**CITY CENTRE
CATHOLIC PARISH,
SOUTHAMPTON
ST JOSEPH'S &
ST EDMUND'S**

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
PORTSMOUTH REG. CHARITY NO. 246871

**SOUTHAMPTON
CENTRAL AND WEST
PASTORAL AREA
ALSO INCLUDES
ST. BONIFACE,
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
& HOLY FAMILY**

**A Stewardship Parish in
a Stewardship Diocese**



THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

1. The eleven, when they saw Jesus "*fell down before him, but some hesitated*". When have you laid yourself before the Lord? When have you hesitated to be open to the Lord? When? Why? How did you feel?
2. "*Go.....witness.....baptise.....teach...*" Identify when you have given witness, taught, brought people to Jesus!
3. "*.....may the Father of glory give you wisdom.....*" When have you sought wisdom and understanding from God? How? Why? Did you do so in prayer?

Vincent Harvey

TODAY - SUNDAY 5 JUNE

SECOND COLLECTION: WORLD COMMUNICATIONS when we pray for and support all who work in the world of communications especially those involved in the Catholic media.

WELCOME RITES: 11am Mass.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP BBQ: 12.30pm at 107 Highfield Lane, Southampton. Contact Tim Patten 023 8077 3174.

ECUMENICAL FAMILY RAMBLE meet 2pm at High Corner (New Forest). Tel. 023 8077 2868.



REQUIEM MASS FOR *Stella Maris Lund Conlon* at 11.30am Tuesday 7 June in St. Edmund's Church. Our sympathy to her family. *May she rest in peace.*

THIS WEEK

SEPARATED & DIVORCED CATHOLICS Support Group to meet 7pm-ish Tues 7 June at Kali Mirchi Restaurant, 98 Shirley High Street. Tel Fr Des 8077 8203 to book.

YOUTH PROJECT meeting 7pm Tues 7 June in St. Edmund's Lodge.

J & P meeting 7.30pm Tues 7 June in St. Edmund's Pres.

LITURGY GROUP to meet Fri 10 Jun in St. Edmund's Presbytery.

FOR INFO: Mon: Day off: PL; Mon-Fri: VH away.
Tues: Council of Priests meeting in Portsmouth: VH

NEXT WEEKEND

'FIRED UP' CATHOLIC YOUTH EVENT TO CELEBRATE PENTECOST 12.30pm – 6pm Sat 11 June at St Stephen's Church, Winchester. Contact Peter McGeady, 07769258378. Consent forms available at youngcatholicssouth.blogspot.com or parents can sign in on the day.

FEAST OF PENTECOST: Next Sunday 12 June.

ANNUAL PEACE WALK: *Assemble* at Peace Fountain and *depart* at 12.30 pm Sun 12 June. Visit The Gurdwara in Peterborough Rd (+ Baha'i), and at 2.10pm the Synagogue in Mordaunt Road. At 2.45pm arrive at St Edmund's Church, followed by the Friends Meeting House in Ordinance Road at 3.30pm and the Medina Mosque, Compton Walk at 4.15pm and finish at the Vedic Temple (Hindu + Buddhist) at 5.15pm. *Come along to join other religious people to pray for peace and to understand more about different faiths. Volunteers needed here at St Edmund's to welcome visitors.*

REVISED ORDER OF MASS AND ROMAN MISSAL: Information evening for Musicians: 7.30 to 9.30pm Tues 14 June. This will present new and revised settings of the Mass texts from a variety of different sources, at St Edward the Confessor, Chandlers Ford. For info evenings at other churches in the diocese, see Notice Board. Tel. Eileen 01329 835583 **booking essential.**

NEXT WEEK

CATHOLIC HOMECARE meeting 7pm Wed 15 June in St. Edmund's Lodge.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES weekend away at Marwell 7pm drop off Fri 17 June, pick up 4pm Sun 19 June. Tel. Charlie on 077 4030 1390 for info.

INVOCATION 2011

NATIONAL DISCERNMENT FESTIVAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

A festival for young adults, to be held in the grounds of **St. Mary's College, Oscott in the Archdiocese of Birmingham from 17 – 19 June 2011.** This national festival is aimed at young men and women aged 16-35, who are looking to deepen their relationship with Christ and searching for the knowledge and tools to develop their own personal formation, discernment and understanding of God's will for their lives; for some this may mean being open to the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. ***The event will provide "Fellowship, Catechesis, Confession and Adoration"*** with time for prayer, quiet reflection, and discernment through Keynote speakers, interactive workshops and life-changing services, above all the opportunity to encounter the Lord. Also to find space and enjoy conversation, accompanied by inspiring priests and religious, who will journey with you sharing their wealth of experience and providing witness to their lives and vocation. For more information visit <http://www.invocation.org.uk> or contact the Vocations Promoter at vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

SILENT RETREAT Fri 17 – Sun 19 Jun. Contact Douai Abbey Tel. 011 8971 5399.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REHEARSAL for parents and children 9.30am Sat 18 June in St. Edmund's.



WEDDING BELLS: Congratulations! to **Katarzyna Zwickowska** and **Lukasz Kudelski** who are getting married at 2pm on Sat 18 June in St. Edmund's Church. *May God bless them all the days of their lives.*

ORGAN RECITAL 4pm—5.30pm Sun 19 June St. Edmund's Church. Paul Rosoman, visiting Organist from New Zealand will be performing an afternoon recital, more details to follow, keep the date free in your diary! A retiring collection will be taken towards expenses and organ funds. Further concerts from City organists to follow in the coming months!

GENERAL ITEMS

GET DOWN TO BUSINESS, MR MITCHELL...A CAFOD INITIATIVE/CAMPAIGN *"Before I used to depend on hand-outs. Now I rely on myself – I have the power!" Amparo Oyola, furniture-maker, Colombia.* Now's our chance to help set aid and policy priorities for the UK government. Please ask the Secretary of State for International Development, Andrew Mitchell, to back small businesses, and help many more people like Amparo raise themselves and their families out of poverty.....more details next weekend.

CAR PARKING AT ST EDMUND'S CHURCH:

Remember not to block the drive into the Park Centrale estate.....ever!



DOUBLE YELLOW LINES....a reminder that the double yellow lines outside St Edmund's Church are still a legal requirement! People have been booked parking there! Disabled Badge holders are exempt.

PASTORAL AREA GROUP to meet 7.30pm Tues 21 June in St. Edmund's Presbytery.

30TH ANNIVERSARY DAY OF PRAYER IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE: 11am—5pm Sat 25 June at Aylesford Friary, nr Maidstone. Coach available from Southampton (dep. 8am). To book, send name, address, Tel. No. and £10 deposit to Heather Hauschild, 151 Bournemouth Road, Chandler's Ford, SO53 3HA. Contact Dudley on Tel. No. 023 8067 9079.

11AM CHOIR CD'S avail £10; includes Mendelssohn's Wedding March. Contact the Parish Office for a copy.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE for *Grzegorz Dobiecke and Kristy Olszewski* to be married in St Edmund's in July.

WANTED: Married couples to join the **Marriage Preparation Team**. We have a large number of Weddings every year and a growing number of couples who marry outside the parish. Please contact Fr. Vincent, Fr. Paul, Marjorie Dean, Wilma Boddeke or the Parish Office. An information evening will be held soon....*watch this space!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR: James Smith, Baby Aga (in Poland), David Taylor, Oke Hammed, Joan Hunt, Angus Mackinnon, Baby Ava Evans, Josie Franklin, Stephen Brooks, Byron Reynolds, Myra Andrade, Anne Brackenbury, Brenda Hibberd, Betty Ashbolt, Carlos Fernandes, Eileen & Alex Aitken, Sheila Quinn, Percy White, John Dorling, Pat Cummings, André Neves, Peter Scott, George Francis Ponniah, Carolyn, Lee Henninghan, Jenson Pearce, Phyllis Richmond, Teddy Blake, Brian Cunio, Eileen Smedley, Virginia Monteiro, Stella Smith, Sheila Morris, Terry Clark, Kay Gills, Kathy Kelly, Ian McKenna and all parishioners who are sick or recovering. Please call the parish office if you would like to add someone to the list.

YOUTH EVENT FOR TEENAGERS 7.30pm – 9.00pm Fri 1 July in St. Edmund's Hall for young people in the parish to have fun, meet others and learn more about our faith. Contact Peter McGeady 077 6925 8378.

REVEREND JOHN CHANDLER (*worked here last year*) would appreciate our prayers as he approaches his priestly Ordination at 11am Sat 2 July in St. John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. *Deacon John invites everyone to come and celebrate his Ordination.*

MARGARET DE GROEN'S FAMILY would like to thank everyone for the support and friendship shown by so many friends in their recent bereavement "*your thoughts meant a great deal to us and will be remembered, please accept this as a personal thank you.*"

INFO FOR TAX RETURNS? For info re Gift Aid or contributions made please contact the Parish Office.

SOUTHAMPTON CENTRAL & WEST PARISH MISSION

.....**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW LIFE:** The Mission is taking place in our Pastoral Area (Holy Family & St Vincent de Paul, St Boniface and St Joseph & St Edmund) **from 16-23 July**. Morning Mass (10am on Monday-Thursday) and evening talks/prayer (7pm), ending with Mass at 7pm on the Friday. The morning Masses will alternate between St Boniface and Holy Family (*NB: no Masses at St Edmund except on Friday*). **Make a note to be free those mornings and evenings!** Members of the team will be speaking in our schools. It will be led by St Patrick's Community, John Pridmore, Niall Slattery, Matthew Beine, Breda Coman and Catherine Leigh. **Watch this space for more details.**

PLEDGE REMINDER FOR FATHER PAUL'S 62km CAFOD WALK: contributions to the Parish Office please. **The total raised was £2735!** "*Many thanks to all who have pledged so generously*" from Father Paul.

THANK YOU RECEIVED from **PAX CHRISTI** for £429.49; Father Pat Cashin, **MONGU** for £1716 (see Notice Board for letter with updates) and from **CAFOD** for £1147 received from our parish.

FEMALE UNIVERSITY STUDENT seeks accommodation in a Catholic home (to do her dissertation) from Sep—Dec 2011. Tel. Teresa on Mobile No. 074 3266 4009.

MAGNIFICAT MONTHLY MASS BOOKLETS: Now available through The Universe media group in the UK. More than a million copies of the special Papal Visit edition were distributed last year and they have had many new subscriptions signed up from the popularity of this issue. Tel. 016 1488 1700 or visit the website www.totalcatholic.com to place an order for your subscription.

2011 CELEBRATE WEEKEND 1st & 2nd Oct. from Sat 9am—9pm; Sun 9.30am—5.30pm at St. Mary's College, 57 Midanbury Lane, Bitterne Park, SO18 4DJ.

THE NEW TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL - WHOSE IDEA WAS IT ANYWAY?

Until the early 1960s, Mass was celebrated in Latin throughout the world. At the Second Vatican Council (1962-5), the bishops of the world agreed that Mass could be said in the language of the country in which it was being celebrated. This would enable people to understand more fully what was being said and help them to participate more fully. In 1970 Pope Paul VI agreed the official Latin text that would be used for the Mass, which was then translated into different languages. An English translation was made available as quickly as possible, but it was intended to be temporary. We have been using this 'temporary' translation for some 40 years! From September, we will be using a new, more 'considered', translation. **More to follow!**

TWO HUNDRED CLUB WINNERS—JUNE 2011

1st Prize: Dr. Timothy James £20

(*Dr. James please contact the Parish Office*)

2nd Prize: Fr. John O'Shea £10

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 5 JUNE

SAT	VIGIL MASS 4 JUNE		6.15PM SJ IAIN KERR RIP (CK)
SUN	5 JUNE	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	7.00PM SE MASS IN POLISH
TUES	7 JUNE	OF THE 7TH WEEK OF EASTER	9.00AM SE CECILIA COUTINHO RIP (WED. CLUB)
WED	8 JUNE	OF THE 7TH WEEK OF EASTER	10.00AM SJ PERS. INTS - PLANTING SEED (AC)
THURS	9 JUNE	OF THE 7TH WEEK OF EASTER	11.00AM SE ALISON STRICKLAND RIP (GC & HP)
FRI	10 JUNE	OF THE 7TH WEEK OF EASTER	7.00PM SE DORIS WARRINGTON RIP (TK)
SAT	11 JUNE	ST. BARNABAS	10.00AM SE NORA BROSANAN (F)
SUN	12 JUNE	PENTECOST SUNDAY	11.30AM SE REQUIEM MASS—STELLA MARIS LUND CONLON RIP
			7.00PM SE ELLEN ANDERSON RIP (F)
			12.15PM SJ DENNIS & ANTHONY KELLY & FAMILY RIP (F)
			7.00PM SE ROSA ROGERS RIP (F)
			11.00AM SE HAYES INTENTION (F)
			6.15PM SJ GEORGE & SIGNE PLOMER (F)
			7.00PM SE MASS IN POLISH
			9.00AM SE AGOSTINHO GONSALVES RIP (MG)
			10.00AM SJ LUIS CYPRIAN & ADELINA RODRIGUES RIP (SR)
			11.00AM SE PETER SCOTT 70TH BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS (ANUSHKA & FRANCIS)
			7.00PM SE PAST & PRESENT HOPKINS & FACCHINO FAMILIES (F)

CONFESSION TIMES: St. Edmund's Saturdays 11.30am • St. Joseph's Saturdays 5.45pm Thursdays 11.45am

Contact Details: Parish Priest: Mgr. Vincent Harvey VG
 E-mail address: vincent.harvey@gsy.org.uk
 Assistant Priest : Fr. Paul Leonard
 E-mail address: pleonard@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Presbytery Tel. No.: 023 8033 4891
 Presbytery Address: 14 Rockstone Place,
 Southampton, SO15 2EQ
 Parish Secretary: Anne Wheeler
 Parish Office: St. Edmund's Lodge
 (next to St. Edmund's Church)
 The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1XJ
 Tel. 023 8033 3589
 Email: catholic14@btinternet.com
 Parish Website: http: www.southampton-city-catholics.org.uk
 Hospital Chaplain Fr Michael Cronin 023 8079 8517
 Apostleship of the Sea: Rev. Roger Stone Tel. 079 6334 5618
 E-mail: rogerstone@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk
 Retired Priest: Fr. Paul Spellman
 Polish Chaplaincy: Fr Wojciech Stachyra SChr
 Tel. No.: 023 8022 4418
 e-mail: parafia@naszaparafia.co.uk
 Address: 15 Languard Road, Southampton,
 SO15 5DL
 S'ton Uni. Chaplain: Sr Catherine: 078 1110 7046
 Solent Uni. Chaplain: Sr Liliana: 079 6776 1714
 Catholic Home Care: Anne Monaghan 023 8033 3589
 Safeguarding Rep: Ursula Clarke 023 8026 6210
 Martha's Gift Shop: 023 8033 3400
 EU Welcomers Project: Dave Adcock 07786 392 886
 e-mail: euwelcome@yahoo.co.uk
 Youth Co-ordinator: Peter McGeady 077 6925 8378
 e-mail: pmcgeady@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Blog: http://youngcatholicssouth.blogspot.com

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Psalm Response

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am
with you always; yes, to the end of time.
Alleluia!

Prayer of the Church Week 3

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 12 JUNE PENTECOST SUNDAY

1st reading: Acts 2:1-11

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-23

2ND COLLECTION TODAY **WORLD COMMUNICATIONS**

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK **CHURCH BUILDING FUND**

Collections	29/5/11	2nd Collection Medaille Trust
Total	£2559.68	£340.60
Cash	1019.28	150.60
S / O	1232.30	190.00
Gift Aid Tax Rebate	308.10	-

Thank you for your generous contributions. Please note, the Gift Aid tax rebate on the 2nd collection is retained by the Parish. Your donations make the life and work of the Parish possible.

Our Catholic Schools: Springhill Catholic Primary 8033 3954;
St Anne's 8032 8200, St George 8032 2603