

Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi

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Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: **Father Anthony Ikhenoba**
 Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke



24th June 2007

Birth of St. John the Baptist

• **Offertory collection**
17th June:

Envelopes & loose cash
 £494.04

St'g Orders £546.00

Total: £1040.04

Thank you very much for
 your generous donations

• **Second collection TODAY**
24th June for
Peter's Pence

• **Second collection NEXT**
 Sunday 1st July for
Day for Life

• **Reminder:** Fri. 29th June is
Holy Day of Obligation:
 feast of **Sts. Peter & Paul**
 - **9.45am/7.30pm**
 Masses, or St. John Bosco
 has a Vigil Mass at 8pm on
 Thursday 28th June

• **5pm readers - new**
rota is now available
 from Advent Room for
 the new rota starting
 from 1st July. So all 5pm
 readers please pick up
 your copy - thank you!

• **ALTAR SERVER training:**
 for new children who wish
 to become altar servers,
 please attend training on
 the following Sundays:
24th June (i.e. **STARTING**
TODAY!), **1st July** and
8th July, from 3pm - 4pm
 on each day. Thank you

• **Confessions** available by
 appointment; please
 contact Parish Office to
 book a convenient time

Loddon Valley Pastoral
Area SUNDAY MASSES:

- **St. John Bosco:** Sat.
6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- **Christ the King:** Sat.
6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- **St. Thomas More:** Sat.
6.30pm, Sun. 10.30am.
- **Our Lady of Peace,**
Wargrave: Sun. 9am.

God calls you to testify

Each new day brings us new challenges, so much so that we can feel we are being stretched beyond our limit. What is God calling me to do today? Who am I that God should even think of me?

You may not be called to the sacrament of holy orders, the religious life; the sacrament of matrimony or a single life - you may not even be called in the same way as Isaiah, David, Jeremiah, John the Baptist and other prophets. The fact remains that you are called to play a certain role.

God was already aware of this role that you must play; "Before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb He named me" (Is. 49: 1). So you see there is no running away from your responsibility.

John the Baptist opened the way to Jesus in order to testify to the light. Likewise as Christians we are called to testify to the power of Jesus; to herald the good news of Christ, to bring hope to those who see no meaning to life. God has done a whole lot of good things in your life and in the world. People need to know this. Through these testimonies, people will come to God. Above all, God is calling you to be promoters of the message of salvation.

Father Anthony

*Lord, give your Church joy in spirit
 and guide those who believe in you into the way of salvation and peace.*

Thank you! - to everyone who helped with the painting of the church windows over the last two weekends. Everyone's help was most appreciated and we were very lucky with the weather holding off until we had finished on the second weekend. There will be more planned maintenance projects in the future and we will keep you informed, as volunteers are always most welcome! One project for July is the Club "paint in" session on **Saturday 21st July** from 8.00 am onwards. If you can assist then please contact Terry Pocock on 0118 926 7633 (or put your name on the list in the Club room). Note - food & refreshments will be provided!! Thank you again, from David Cowan



COUNTDOWN - 3 WEEKS TO GO... On 15th July we will be having a **celebration of the parish to which our neighbours are invited.** It will be **after the 11am Mass** and will continue till 4pm. The bar will be open, there will be a BBQ, bouncy castle, skittle alley - so please come along - it's not just for our neighbours but a chance for us to get to know each other better too. If you'd like to be involved in the day, or beforehand in delivering invitations to our neighbours, please contact Mary Wells through Parish Office. Thanks

Picnic in the Park on Sunday 17th June went very well - thank you to all who helped in any way, and to all who came along and joined in the fun!

Singers/musicians for Confirmation service
 joint choir: our service of Confirmation is on 10th July and the **first practice** for singers and musicians is on Wed. **27th June** at 8pm here at OLOP!

A reminder to all Pantomime people that our much delayed get-together will be in the Hall **next Sunday, 1st July** from **5.00pm**. Look forward to seeing you then!

Parish Baptisms: if you wish to have a child baptised, please complete a baptism form (available in Advent Room) and return it to Parish Office. We will contact you as soon as next dates are set for more baptism preparation sessions!

☆ We nearly didn't have a newsletter this week! - The parish computer didn't like the storm we had, so **thank you very much to Rick Wallis** for saving the day!

MASS TIMES 24th JUNE - 1st JULY

DATE	MASS TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTIONS	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 24 th June	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Birth of St. John the Baptist	Peter Cameron RIP Charles Sealey RIP Maria Maestranzi RIP & Raymond RIP	Baptisms of <u>Lewis and Billy Brophy</u> 3pm: Altar server training (Church)
Mon. 25 th	NO MASS			
Tues. 26 th	9.45am			
Wednesday 27 th June	9.45am	St. Cyril of Alexandria		8pm: Singing & Music practice for Confirmation Mass
Thursday 28 th June	9.45am	St. Irenaeus	Thanksgiving: Peter Gunasekera's birthday	
Friday 29 th June	9.45am 7.30pm	Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles	Tony Durkan & the Durkan family	
Sunday 1 st July	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Luigi Fiorentini (8 th anniv.)	Reception & Baptism of <u>Victor Vanni Jr.</u>

*** CHILDREN'S LITURGY during 9am and 11am Masses each week ***

*** BEAVERS Thursdays 5.45pm/ CUBS Mondays 6.45pm/ SCOUTS Fridays 8pm, each week ***



Please keep in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:
Constance Mason (1995), Ivens Colaco (2001), Derek Forbes (1997), Charles Sealey (2006),
Robert Walton (1989) and Dennis Sullivan (1982).



Churches Together in Reading: AGM Thurs. 28th June at 7.30pm, Council Chamber (Civic Centre next to Hexagon).
Topics: future of Regenerate, how churches work together & serve Reading, elections (incl. new chair). All welcome

★ See notes from **latest CTEER meeting** in Advent Room on PPC board (on pink sheets!)

St. Joseph's Convent School - Year 5 day, "**The Rhythm of Life**" **Friday 29th June** 9.15am-2.30pm.
To register, go to: www.st-josephs.reading.sch.uk or
call 0118 966 1000.
See poster (Advent Room) for more information

OLoP Theatre Club - reminder: don't forget to book to see
Martin Guerre on Saturday 4th August!
And those who have not yet paid for coach for Sound of Music
on Wed. 19th September, **please pay**
by 1st July! Thanks - Fran & Ann

★ **Blessed Hugh Faringdon** newsletter - see purple sheet in Advent Room for latest news from the school

Job vacancy: Youth Ministry Coordinator for Salisbury Deanery, South Wiltshire. Position would suit a practising Catholic with a real passion for working with young people, seeking to enable them to reach their spiritual potential & to live life fully. See notice in Advent Room for full details of how to apply. Closing date: 4th July

Celebrating 60 Years! Next weekend, St. Nicolas Church in Sutcliffe Avenue will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee and has a weekend of activities & worship planned. Includes a **Barn Dance**, 7.30pm on Saturday 30th June, and **Barbecue**, 12pm Sunday 1st July, followed by "The Big Sing"! See poster and leaflets in Advent Room for full details

Bric-a-brac Sale: On the morning of Saturday 7th July the **Scout Group** are running a bric-a-brac sale at pagoda in the Woodley Shopping Precinct. Also includes games stalls for the kids. Please pop along! For the sale we would welcome bric-a-brac donations - an opportunity perhaps to clear out hoarded bits & pieces, such as old books, games, videos, toys and clothes, whilst helping the Scouts to raise funds. If you have any items to donate please contact David Sinclair (961 7500). Thank you

Remember the collection we had in March for the **Asian Student Christian Trust?** They have recently sent us their latest newsletter - see it in Advent Room, on notice board near Traidcraft cabinet

Thank you from Duchess of Kent House: they have kindly written to thank the parish for the donation made recently after the UCM plant sale we had - read their letter in the Advent Room

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: our neighbouring parish in Twyford is organising a trip, **11th-18th Sept.** Cost for the 8-day trip: £395 + insurance. Includes flights from Gatwick. If interested please contact Jane Kelly at parish of Saint Thomas More, Twyford, on 0118 934 0854

Parish Office is open this week Tues.- Fri. from 9am-2pm

Justice and Peace - You can make a difference!

***When all the prisoners in a country are crushed underfoot,
when human rights are overridden in defiance of the Most High,
when someone is cheated of justice, does not the Lord see it?***
(Lamentations 3, 34-36)

The "Justice and Peace" group from Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Dominic Barberi parish have chosen the following case from Amnesty International for our prayer and support this month. We hope you can join your prayers with ours and consider writing a letter or sending a fax to the appropriate authority which is listed below.

NEPAL: Sanjiv Kumar Karna, a 24-year-old student, was picnicking with friends in Janakpur, Nepal, on 8th October 2003, when he and 10 others were arrested. On the way to police detention, they were brutally beaten before being interrogated. Six were subsequently released, but Sanjiv Kumar Karna and four friends – Durgesh Kumar Labh, Pramod Narayan Mandal, Shailendra Yadav and Jitendra Jha – were never seen again. Sanjiv Kumar Karna's arrest is believed to be linked to his interest in student politics.

According to the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal, the police and the Home Ministry deny any police involvement in the arrest while the Nepal Army says that the five missing young people were killed in a "police action" on the day of their arrest. There has been no confirmation of these claims.

The Nepal Army told Amnesty International that it was not involved. Amnesty is seeking clarification about the reports that Sanjiv Kumar Karna was seen in army custody.

Please write, calling on the authorities to establish the whereabouts of Sanjiv Kumar Karna and his four friends and to make their findings public. If they are found to be alive, they should be released immediately. If they have been killed, the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

Please send polite appeals to one or both of the following:

Om Bikram Rana
Inspector General of Police
Police Headquarters
GPO Box 407
Naxal
Kathmandu
Nepal

Fax: +977 14 415 593 or 594

(Salutation: Dear Inspector General)

Mr. Dipendra P. Bista,
Nepalese Embassy
12A Kensington Palace Gardens
London
W8 4QU
Fax (020) 7792 9861

Optional helpful tips on writing appeals are available at:

<http://www.amnesty.org/campaign/letter-guide.html>

You can check for updates on the status of previous appeals at:

<http://web.amnesty.org/web/www.nsf/activebycountry>

Thank you.

Your parish Justice and Peace group.

Today's second collection is for **Peter's Pence**.

This is the only collection in the whole year which is to support the Vatican directly.

From our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Crispian Hollis:

"It is with great sadness and alarm that we have seen a marked rise in the violence directed against Iraqi Christians. Within the past few weeks, the murder of Fr. Ragheed Aziz Ganni and three sub deacons in Mosul and the kidnapping of Fr. Hanni Abdel Ahad along with five young people in Baghdad show the grave risks that Christians face because of their faith. In these terrible circumstances, I want to express publicly my support for the Christian community and for the heroic witness that priests, lay people and religious are giving throughout Iraq. The people of Iraq need our prayers and practical support and I commend to you those Catholic agencies working to support the Church within Iraq. I ask the people of the Portsmouth diocese to join me in prayer for all those suffering in Iraq and particularly for Christians as they face persecution because of their faith."

Rt. Rev. Crispian Hollis

Chairman of International Affairs Department of the Bishops Conference of England & Wales



Next week: Sunday 1st July is **Day for Life**. As in previous years, the Bishops have authorized a special collection in parishes for Day for Life.

"Blessed is the fruit of your womb" is the theme for this year's Day for Life – dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition.

Day for Life 2007 will mark the 40th anniversary of the Abortion Act in England and Wales, the 10th anniversary of Cardinal Winning's Pro-Life Initiative in Scotland and the 30th anniversaries of Cura in Ireland and of Life Care and Housing in England and Wales.

There will be a second collection in parishes on 1st July to support Day for Life. Proceeds of the collection will go principally to the Life organization and the Linacre Centre for Healthcare Ethics. There is a Gift Aid form which can be obtained online at www.dayforlife.org Donations can also be made online. Thank you

A Bag of Tools

*Isn't it strange that princes and kings
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
And ordinary folk like you and me
Are builders of eternity?*

*To each is given a book of rules,
An hour glass and a bag of tools.
Each must build 'ere their time has flown
A stumbling block... or a stepping stone.*

R.L. Sharpe
