

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER Year B - 7th April 2024

WAR IN OUR TIME In the midst of the horror engulfing the people of Gaza, the deaths of seven foreign nationals who were working to feed the starving population has brought international outrage and condemnation. Just how clearly marked vehicles, using a designated route, on a pre-arranged plan about which the Israeli Defence Forces had been aware came to be destroyed is difficult to understand. In the meantime, the death toll amongst Palestinians has topped 33,000, many of them children. The sheer scale of death and destruction is appalling. At some point it will have to stop and the concern is that not enough thought is being given to what happens next. Underlying problems and tensions are rarely solved by war and conflict.

Whilst this goes on in the Middle East, Ukraine continues to suffer daily attacks and assault by Russian troops using lethal drones and shelling. Pictures of whole landscapes that previously housed families and communities are apocalyptic – it looks like a barren wasteland. And this never needed to happen. As the conflict grinds on, loss of death on both sides continues and those injured will have to adjust to a different life for the years ahead. Once again, leadership is the key, and a failure of good and wise leadership results in disaster especially for those with voices seldom heard.

Faced with these and other situations, we can find ourselves wondering if there is anything we can actually do to make a difference. In Israel, the impact on Palestinians living in other parts of the country has also been severe. In Bethlehem, 80% of families who depended on visitors for their income are facing enormous hardship as no one is travelling there. One charity, based in the UK, which we already support through the Crib Offerings, is called **Friends of the Holy Land**. This is able to funnel practical financial support to those suffering and in dire need. The Charity has a website: **friendsoftheholyland.org.uk** where you can find information on its work. All contributions are welcomed and go to making a difference in the lives of people who are the casualties of a conflict which has wrecked their lives.

On a visit to Bethlehem a few years ago I got into a taxi intending to head straight to Manger Square (where all visitors go). The driver asked me if I'd first like to go and see the street art done by our very own Banksy. It turns out he has formed a bond with the people there and had visited a number of times. Who knew. But my driver spoke with pride about the connection, and what it meant to know that people who didn't live there still cared about them and were interested in their situation. That sense of solidarity felt by those who suffer can help them to bear the pain. *Fr John*

HOLY PLACES Thank you for your support for the Holy Places collection on Good Friday. You donated £504.97. Thank you again for your generosity.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND would like to thank all parishioners for the church collection of **£486.00** for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donation will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. *Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.*

<u>YOUR OFFERING AT EASTER</u> At Easter your Offering is for the personal use of the priest and forms a major part of his annual income. This is your way to make an offering of thanks for the work and support given by your Parish Priest. There are yellow Gift Aid envelopes at the back of the church. You can also donate online on website or directly at: https:// donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/bournemouth-corpus-christi-boscombe-easter-collection-2024 Thank you!



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The first session back after Easter will be on Saturday 20th April. Also a reminder that on Thursday 2nd May there will be a PARENTS' EVENING from 7pm in the Parish Centre. If • you have a problem, or any query, please email Deacon Greg on fhc.boscombe@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will take place on 14th & 28th April at 10am Sunday Mass. As a general guideline this Liturgy is for children between 4 and 7 years of age. Parents please remember to sign in.

MISSIO RED MISSION BOXES It's time to empty your red boxes. Please can you bring your red mission boxes to 6pm mass on Saturday 20th April or either 10am or 5pm mass on Sunday 21st April, so that we can empty them. I will be at the back of church before mass to empty your box. If you are unable to bring it on that day, please could you contact me on 01202 426779 to arrange a convenient time or leave in the parish office. Thank you, Sharon McAndrew.

REACHING THE UNREACHED APPEAL for pencils (any), crayons, writing pads & small light toys that will be taken by the Duffy Clan (13 in all!) to schools/children around RTU villages in South India. There is a box in the porch.

STAY AWAKE is taking place for the sixth year on Saturday 13 April, 2024 from 10:00 - 19:00 at All Saints Church of England Academy, Weymouth. Looking to go deeper with Jesus? Come along for some inspiring and thought-provoking talks, Holy Mass, kids' activities, praise and worship and pizza!

Stay Awake has been described as an all-age, all-day Catholic Christian Conference but it is way more fun than that description! Participants have said "Such an inspiring, fruitful and enjoyable day!" "Glorious!", "Such a joy!", "Encouraging!", "Awesome!", "Wonderful to see God's love in action!" "I offered to leave at lunch-time but the children didn't wanted to!" This is an event for everyone and anyone. Tickets are free for those in Year 9 and under, £10.00 for those in Year 10 – 13, and only £12.50 for everyone else! Tickets available now, from www.stayawakejc.com/stay-awake-2024

"PARISH COUPLE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND" An invitation to a Parish Marriage Encounter (ME) Enrichment Weekend presented by experienced ME Couples and priest: Russ & Deirdre Fairman, Dcn Roger & Jackie Carr (Including; refreshments, lunch and a Couples Mass) Venue: Corpus Christi RC Church (Boscombe) This ((+))

is your opportunity to take time out and explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, no matter how long you've been together. There's no group sharing, this is just about the two of you. Thousands of couples in the UK & millions worldwide, have benefited from a Marriage Encounter Experience, most say it is life changing. To find out more & book (please go to the ME UK website): email: enquiries@wwme.org.uk website: wwme.org.uk Or scan QR code.

ALL SAINTS DRAMATIC SOCIETY Present STEEL MAGNOLIAS in the Parish Centre. Thursday 11th to Saturday 13th April at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12. Box office 07548100770 or scan QR code. See poster

ST PETER'S COMMUNITY CHOIR Concert 'THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC' Sunday 28th April at 3.00pm in St Saviours Church, Colemore Road. Live music from the full ensemble of Hyde Brass Band. Tickets £12 from Ticket Source - https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-community-choir or £15 on the door (or scan QR code). Ticket includes a cream tea. See poster.

REFUGEES AT HOME - LOOKING FOR HOSTS The Refugees at Home network is in desperate need of new hosts within commutable distance of Bournemouth to join their short-term hosting scheme. Refugees at Home connects people with a spare room to refugees and asylum seekers in need of somewhere to stay. We recruit and support volunteer hosts who are willing to offer a temporary home and a helping hand. Our role is to carefully match each guest and host, to assess and prepare them ready for hosting, to advise on hosting arrangements and accommodation, and to provide ongoing support to hosts throughout each stay. Each placement is different, and the length of hosting can vary from a few nights to several months and anything in between. Hosting is entirely altruistic, and we do not pay hosts for giving up their spare rooms.

We are always looking for new hosts with a spare room or two, in cities and towns that are well connected and have good public transport systems. This enables our guests to travel to college, school, support groups or jobs, and retain their independence. More info at: https://refugeesathome.org/get-involved/id-like-to-host/

You can also contact the Caritas Diocese of Plymouth Refugee and Migration Project Lead, Alex Miranda, for more details: alexandra.miranda@prcdtr.org.uk

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES Named boxes of envelopes are now at the back of Church. If you would like to use our weekly envelope system, please pass your name, address and contact number to our Finance Administrator, Georgie Lockyer, in the Parish Office, email: accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk who will arrange for you to be issued with envelopes. Thank you for your continued support



VOCATIONS: Divine Mercy Sunday "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." If you are considering to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother who proclaims the truth and peace of Jesus Christ, talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

INTENTIONS: For all our priests and deacons whom God has sent in the name of Jesus to serve His people, that they are blessed with continued faithfulness to Him and inspire many more to consider a vocation to holy orders, we pray to the Lord.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS are Friday mornings 10.30-11.30am and at Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. Gifts may be dropped off in the church porch. TINNED FOODS always appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity.

TO SET UP A STANDING ORDER (Can be Gift Aided) Go to your bank: You will need the parish business bank details, which are: CDP BOURNEMOUTH CORPUS CHRISTI Sort code 30-93-04. 01786041 Parish Account number: Or donate online at our website: http://www.corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk/ or on our Facebook page or to donate via Give As You Live, click on the QR CODE

GIFT AID If you are a UK taxpayer please consider Gift Aiding your donation. The parish can reclaim 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. To join the Gift Aid scheme, or if you want an annual box of offertory envelopes, please send contact details to: accounts@corpuschristiboscombe.org.uk Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No.1199568





