



A "New Normal"...

Today marks a 'new normal' for the church.....

Since the Ascension, Mary and the Apostles have been gathered together in prayer. And we joined them in prayer. For the past 9 Days, we have shared in our Parish Novena.

The purpose of their prayer and our prayer has been to invoke God the Holy Spirit; we've been calling on Him to Come and to help us, to assist us and to renew us, to lead us....

Today, their prayer was answered, the Promised Holy Spirit arrived.

Our prayer will be answered too....but.... **are we ready for the answer?** Are we ready to become something new? Are we ready to grow and to change.....change is the hard part – no one likes it !!!

If there's no change, there is no life...The Holy Spirit is the Divine Changer, He changes those who cooperate with Him from what we were to what we are and to what we will become.

Let's give thanks today to the Lord and let's open ourselves up to receive God the Holy Spirit!

“THE PARISH WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN”



God the Holy Spirit works in & through the Sacraments

The Sacraments are the Work of God, in fact, they are God at work.

Jesus established the Sacraments, he gave them to us, it is His Passion, Death and Resurrection that makes them effective, but it is God the Holy Spirit who **applies them to us**.

We need the Sacraments if we are going to make it into heaven. We cannot do it alone.

We have heard Jesus tell us again this Eastertide that unless we believe and are baptised we cannot enter Heaven.....Unless we eat His Flesh and drink His Blood we have no life in us.

We received His Teaching from His Apostles (those chosen by Him and those He gave His authority to) that Confirmation completes our Baptism – we need the laying on of hands in order to receive and be sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus established the Sacraments and He established the way we receive them.

Jesus chose His instruments, His Apostles.

The way the church is formed, the way She operates was decided by Jesus and now, God the Holy Spirit continues His work in His Church.

This is the reality of the Church.

This is one of the foundation stones we will be using as we build the parish after lockdown.

As we slowly and safely open up the parish, we're going to make sure that each step we take is leading us in the right direction.

We have an opportunity now to start again and we are going to take it.

Our task, as we reopen is not to get back to what we were before the lockdown, but to get back to what the Lord designed for us to be: A vessel of His Holy Grace. A place where we come to meet Him and offer Him adoration, prayer and worship. We're going to put God First and rediscover all that He gives to us in and through His Sacraments.

Sacraments & Apostolic Succession

We need God the Holy Spirit if we are going to be able to celebrate the Sacraments.

We receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism, but Baptism is only the beginning! In order for our Baptism to be complete, in order for us to be sealed with the Holy Spirit, we need to be Confirmed.

It's through the laying on of hands (and the anointing with Chrism Oil) that we receive God the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. We receive His 7 gifts. Our soul is changed, we have a new 'Spiritual Character'. We are 'marked' by Him.

It's by the laying on of hands of a Bishop that we are directly connected to the Apostles who received the Holy Spirit today, at Pentecost.

Everyone 'Confirmed' by a bishop can trace their way back to the Apostles through the laying on of hands.

This 'tracing back' is called Apostolic Succession; the Church is Apostolic.

This is also true for the Ordination of priests and bishops. There is a laying on of hands in the sacrament of Ordination (Holy Orders) too.

If the Apostolic Succession is broken, there is no sacramental power or authority. If that succession is broken, they cannot trace their way back to the Apostles, it's not part of the One, Holy, Catholic and APOSTOLIC Church.



Fr John's Ordination by Bishop Crispian

The life of the Church is Sacramental. That's why the church exists, to share what Jesus entrusted to the church, to be handed on by the hands of the Apostles.

This Sacramental Foundation Stone is crucial to our building the parish moving forward. **We are firstly sacramental.** That's our focus, that's our purpose.

The phrase 'The Parish will never be the same again' might sound disturbing, challenging even alarming, but it's not negative!

We are going to become MORE of what we should be.... MORE Catholic, not less! We're going to be building on all that Jesus said and did and asks of us.

Let's take courage and hope in the Lord! Happy Feast of the Holy Spirit!



Social Media:

The Parish has a Facebook Page, a Twitter Account and a YouTube Channel. Daily Mass is available on each of these three outlets. Obviously, that's only helpful if you have those accounts or even a computer!!!! Unfortunately, given the situation we are in, we have no other choice. The Parish website is updated daily and anything important that needs to be transmitted will appear there too. So please do keep an eye on the Website: www.sacredheartbordon.co.uk

Parish database:

As you know, attempts have been made to update the parish database. What we currently have is woefully out-of-date. I would be very grateful if you could complete the parish registration form (available on the parish website). This will improve my ability to communicate with you on a personal level. THANK YOU!

Daily Mass Readings:

Every day I produce the Readings for Mass with a short commentary on them. You can find these on the Parish Website and on the Parish Facebook Page.

Electronic offertory:

If you haven't managed to set up your electronic giving yet, please can you do so as soon as possible. The Parish Bank Account details are:

Account Name: PRCDTR BORGA
Sort Code: 309304
A/c no: 01755138

Ann Gatenby RIP:

Of your charity, please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Ann Gatenby. May she and all the faithful departed rest in peace, AMEN.

Computer Lessons:

The social distancing regulations currently in place will probably mean that we will not be able to gather (physically) for Holy Mass for some time. We are going to become increasingly dependent on our computers! For some, this may be a daunting prospect! So, if you would like to take part in small classes on how to use a computer (really, really basic – ideal for beginners) please let me know. We will set up access to the Facebook Pages and the YouTube Channel for you and show you how to use them. I hope to begin the sessions in June. Please email me if you are interested: jchandler@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

First Fridays:

There is the opportunity to go to Confession and receive the Lord in Holy Communion every First Friday of the month. From 12 noon at Sacred Heart, Bordon. Strict social distancing policies are observed.



When the parish opens again, things are going to be different. The parish is going to become a real 'Mission Centre'.

Of course, there will be Holy Mass and the Sacraments, but the 'extra-curricular' activities will be focused on personal faith development and reaching out to make new disciples. **I would like to develop a devoted team to help me** with this task. It won't be easy, it is going to be hard, we shall meet all kinds of difficulties.... Are you interested?

Sunday 31st May

Pentecost

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to the Resurrection

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

People of the Parish

Monday 1st June

Mary Mother of the Church

Joyful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Spirit

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

Charles and Ada Virtue

Tuesday 2nd June

9th Week in Ordinary Time

Sorrowful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Angels

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

Louise Shaw RIP [F]

Wednesday 3rd June

9th Week in Ordinary Time

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to Saint Joseph

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

Eliel and Ivy Blackburn RIP

Thursday 4th June

Our Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest

Luminous Mysteries

Dedicated to the Eucharist

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

John Carroll RIP [F]

Friday 5th June

St Boniface

Sorrowful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Cross

FIRST FRIDAY: Confessions 12 noon. Sacred Heart Bordon

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

Peter & Linda Harper and Family [F]

Saturday 6th June

7th Week in Eastertide

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

Lady Alice Clifford RIP [F]

Sunday 7th June

Most Holy Trinity

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to the Resurrection

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook

People of the Parish

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

We pray to the Holy Spirit at the end of the Homily and we ask St Michael the Archangel to pray for us at the end of Mass:

"**Saint Michael the Archangel**, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.