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A “New Normal”...

Jesus says we must do three things if we want to be a Follower of His:

- (1) Renounce the self
- (2) Take up the Cross
- (3) Follow Him

We cannot simply skip to the end.... We cannot just declare ourselves as a ‘follower’.....

First of all, we must renounce the self. This renunciation is an act of faith; remember that faith is a submission of the will and the intellect; that’s the renunciation.

Secondly, the Cross. This is not a self-imposed complication in life, it’s not just a difficulty we experience, or something we don’t like doing: the Cross is something that glorifies **God the Father**.

We cannot choose our Cross, we find it. We find the Cross through the renouncing of self, when we submit our will and our intellect to God.

Then, and only then are we ready or able to follow.

Having imitated Jesus in our self-renunciation, in our accepting the Cross, then we are ready and able to Follow Him, then we’ve imitated Him.

Let’s ask the Holy Spirit to increase the gift of faith we have been given so that we will be able to renounce the self **AND** take up the Cross **AND** follow the Lord....



FROM
Community
TO
Communion

“We are here to make Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament better known, loved, honoured, worshiped and adored. All of our efforts in this parish will be geared towards helping every individual to discover the Lord waiting for them to approach Him in the tabernacle”.

“THE PARISH WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN”



Converting structures before converting hearts....

As you know, we are making our way through the latest instruction from Rome, issued by the Congregation for the Clergy, on the need to reflect on the Pastoral Mission of the Parish.

In the two paragraphs opposite we read how the document calls for a 'conversion of structures' to help the parish in its mission to convert hearts to the Lord.

We have been looking at this for some 18 months already.....!!!

34. In the process of renewal and restructuring, the Parish has to avoid the risk of falling into an excessive and bureaucratic organisation of events and an offering of services that do not express the dynamic of evangelisation, but rather the criterion of self-preservation.

Quoting Saint Paul VI, Pope Francis, with his usual parrhesia, stated: "The Church must look with penetrating eyes within herself, ponder the mystery of her own being (...) There are ecclesial structures which can hamper efforts at evangelisation, yet even good structures are only helpful when there is a life constantly driving, sustaining and assessing them. Without new life and an authentic evangelical spirit, without the Church's "fidelity to her own calling", any new structure will soon prove ineffective".

35. The conversion of structures, which the Church must undertake, requires a significant change in mentality and an interior renewal, especially among those entrusted with the responsibility of pastoral leadership. In order to remain faithful to the mandate of Christ, pastors, especially Parish Priests who "are co-workers of the bishop in a very special way", must resolutely grasp the need for a missionary reform of pastoral action.



FROM Community TO Communion

Our parish structures are already being converted. We are moving from three separate parishes to one Holy Family Cluster.

Paragraph 35 reminds us that this moving from three to one 'requires a significant change in mentality and an interior renewal'.

Thinking within the old boundaries, confining ourselves to the one church needs to be challenged. The Holy Family Cluster is one holy family, 3 in 1 and 1 in 3.

This is an important change; one we need to adapt to slowly. **Paragraph 36** reminds us of this:

36. Taking into consideration the profound emotional and nostalgic bonds within a Christian community, parish priests ought not to forget that the faith of the People of God is interwoven with familial and communal memories. Often, a sacred place can evoke important milestones in the life of past generations, where faces and occasions have influenced personal and familial journeys.

In order to avoid trauma and hurt in the process of restructuring a Parish or, at times, diocesan communities, it is imperative that it be carried out with flexibility and gradualism.

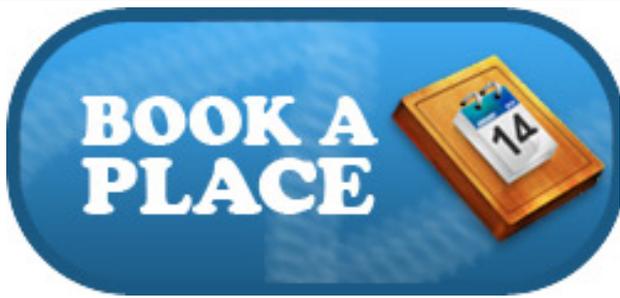
Being 'careful'.... 'taking our time'.... Doesn't mean 'doing very little'. These structural changes are necessary; we need to do this, it must happen but we can be sensitive in moving forward.

We're not losing anything; we are instead gaining a lot.

A Parish is a 'territory, an environment for hearing God's Word', Pope Francis reminds us, and we have a huge territory and a fantastically varied environment.

Paragraph 27 reminds us of this and how we all have a part to play in making the parish become what it is supposed to be.....

27. The subject of the missionary and evangelising action of the Church is always the People of God as a whole. The Code of Canon Law emphasises that the Parish is not identified as a building or a series of structures, but rather as a specific community of the faithful, where the Parish Priest is the proper pastor. Pope Francis recalled that "the parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration", and affirmed that it is "a communion of communities".



Booking a place at Holy Mass:

Booking a place at Mass is a legal requirement. Not only does the booking system help us to ensure that everyone has a place, but it also acts as a register. Should any outbreak of Covid-19 be traced to the local area, we will be required to contact those who attended Mass and inform them.

So please book a place, either online, by email or telephone.

Financial assistance:

Thank you so much to all of you who have managed to increase your usual giving to help us to recover. Your generosity is humbling. Thank you.

First Friday devotion:

This Friday (4th) is the First Friday of the Month, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Confessions will take place from 12 Noon at Sacred Heart Bordon.

Weekly Mass in Liphook:

For those who cannot travel to Mass in either Bordon or Grayshott, a weekly Mass will be offered every **Thursday at 10:30am** in Liphook. The numbers in the church there are restricted to 6 and these spaces will be strictly reserved for those without transportation. This will mean that the Thursday Mass in Grayshott will be cancelled. The first Mass in Liphook will be on **Thursday 10th September** at 10:30am. (Places must be booked through Fr John).

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



First Confession and First Holy Communion 2020 / 2021

One great sadness, caused by the 'lockdown' was that we missed the Solemnity of Corpus Christi and therefore our First Holy Communion Children (who had been working so hard to prepare for the day) have not yet had the chance to receive the Lord in Holy Communion.

But we have a plan!.....

Preparation sessions for children wishing to make their First Holy Communion in June 2021 (who must be aged 7) can enrol now. Sessions will begin in October.

Those who were already preparing for June 2020 will join the new group in February and pick up with them, where they left off earlier this year.

Both groups of children will join together for Corpus Christi on Sunday 6th June.

If you would like to enrol your child, please email Fr John.

Sunday 30th Aug

22nd Week in Ordinary Time

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to the Resurrection

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Laura Mason RIP

Holy Mass: 12 Noon

(Sacred Heart, Bordon) (SH)

People of the Parish

Monday 31st Aug

Joyful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Spirit

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Philomena Swatton Int.

Tuesday 1st Sept

Sorrowful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Angels

Holy Mass: 7pm

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Charles & Aida Virtue RIP

Wednesday 2nd Sept

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to Saint Joseph

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

James Woods RIP

Thursday 3rd Sept

Luminous Mysteries

Dedicated to the Eucharist

Holy Mass: 7pm

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Paul Nwune Int.

Friday 4th Sept

Sorrowful Mysteries

Dedicated to the Holy Cross

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Fr Peter Hart Int.

Saturday 5th Sept

Glorious Mysteries

Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Mass: 10am

Streamed on Facebook (SJ)

Helena Galvin RIP



A parish is not a community centre.
It's here for the greater glory of God.
We are actively working here in this parish to make sure we keep the emphasis on God and not on Man.

