

Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception of our Lady, Edith Avenue, Peacehaven

Newsletter Saturday /Sunday 9/10 February 2008

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention at Mass</u>	<u>Liturgical Day</u>
Sat 9	6.30 pm	The Parish	1st Sunday of Lent
Sun 10	10.30 am	Pauline Beyem RIP	
Mon 11	9.30 am	Gordon Chalk RIP	Our Lady of Lourdes
Tue 12	9.30 am	Jack Smyth RIP/Fr Pat Smyth CSSp RIP	Weekday
Wed 13	No Mass		Weekday
Thu 14	9.30 am	Welfare of John Weaver & Family	Cyril & St Methodius
Fri 15	9.30 am	Jennifer Adams RIP	Weekday
Sat 16	No morning Mass		Weekday
	6.30 pm	The Parish	2nd Sunday of Lent

Confessions Saturday 5.45—6.20 pm and any time by arrangement
Please see notice in porch about extra activities in Church and Hall

Monday (Our Lady of Lourdes) is the World Day of Prayer for the Sick.

We pray for the sick: Dennis Peacock, Phyllis Panerio, Eileen Foy, Cosmin Reid, Thomas Durrell, Gwen Davey, Eileen Weaver, Audrey Pereira, Barbara Ashford and Fr Christopher.

We pray for our dear dead: especially those who have died recently, those with anniversaries this week and those named in our Year's Mind Book.

Collections last weekend £ 441.87

Thank you for your generosity.

Counters: Michael Barwick/Gerry O'Shea

Next weekend: Brian Fernando/Mary Gore

Please do your best to fulfil your duties. Thank you!

Attendance last weekend: 255

Rota for this weekend

Reader—Saturday: Martin Klust

Ministers—Saturday: Blanche Watts/Anthony Firth

Readers—Sunday: Marita Wogan/Minoli Fernando

Ministers—Sunday: Breda Ashton/Michael Barwick
Ian Hodgson/Sarah Dook/Shrini Fernando.

Please do your best to fulfil your duties. Thank you!

Congratulations to the January £20 winners of our

ROMA Club: Mrs M. Lefkaridi, Mrs J. Simmons, Mrs O.Marrow, Mrs M Chedumbrun. There are still vacant numbers if you would like to join

This Thursday, as well as being Valentine's Day, is also the **Feast of St Cyril and St Methodius**. Cyril was born in Salonika and educated at Constantinople. With his brother Methodius he went to Moravia to preach the Gospel. They translated the liturgical books into the Slavonic language using the Cyrillic alphabet which they invented. They were called to work in Rome where Cyril died on 14 February 869. The Pope ordered that Cyril's Funeral Mass should be conducted with all the reverence and dignity—as though Cyril had been the Pope himself. Methodius was made a bishop and went to minister in Hungary. He died on 6 April 885 in Czechoslovakia. The brothers are Co-Patrons of Europe.

Our Lady of Lourdes *from a Pilgrim*

One hundred and fifty years ago on 11 February 1858 a fourteen year old girl, **Bernadette Soubirous**, the daughter of a poor miller of Lourdes was at the caves of Massabielle when she had a vision of a smiling '*beautiful lady*', dressed in white who beckoned her to come forward by opening her hands in a welcome gesture. At first Bernadette thought she was dreaming and when she took out her rosary to pray the Lady made the sign of the Cross. When Bernadette told others of her vision she was at first greeted with disbelief and ridicule though one or two, whose curiosity was aroused, resolved to follow Bernadette next time she visited the grotto. Word soon spread of the Lady who appeared to the little girl and on Bernadette's third visit the Lady spoke asking her '*Will you be good enough to come here for fifteen days?*' Between 18 February and 4 March Bernadette saw the Apparition thirteen times and the crowd of on-lookers increased to as many as eight thousand. At the sixteenth Apparition Bernadette asked the Lady for her name and received the reply '***I am the Immaculate Conception***'. Throughout all this time, though the crowds increased, many—particularly the church authorities—were highly sceptical of what Bernadette was seeing and hearing. Numerous books have been written recording what she had to endure as a result of the disbelief of some people and the old film *The Song of Bernadette* captures the atmosphere of that time. At the age of 22, in 1866, Bernadette left Lourdes for ever and entered the convent of Nevers where she remained as a nun until she died in 1879 after several long and painful illnesses, aged 35. After Bernadette's departure Lourdes grew as a popular place of pilgrimage where Our Lady's prayers remain loving and powerful and where Our Lord works many miracles in body, mind and spirit. The only real way to understand fully the message of Our Lady of Lourdes is to go there as a pilgrim. This 150th year hundreds of thousands will make that journey.

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