



# Portsmouth Parish News Easter 2007

On top of the hill, at the heart of the Community



## Easter message

This greeting comes from your local parish Church up on the hill. Easter gives us an opportunity to remember that it was on a hill on a cross that the greatest man that ever lived gave his life for us all. Jesus suffered and accepted more rejection, hurt, pain and humiliation than most of us will ever experience. Sadly society has chosen to reject God just as they did back in Roman times when they committed his Son to die on a cross. God does not force himself upon us and if we reject him from our lives how can he give us his protection and blessing. We only have to reflect on our world and consider what is happening to our beautiful planet and the people who inhabit it to recognise that we need help and guidance. On that cross Jesus died arms open for each and every one of us. The glorious resurrection that we as Christians celebrate on Easter Sunday means that Jesus *is alive* and continues to stand ready with arms open to receive each and everyone who is willing to accept him into their lives.

May I extend an invitation to you to come and join in our services this Eastertide. The Church is not an exclusive club it is here for everyone. May the peace and hope of Easter fill your hearts with joy.

Love and Blessings

*Revd. Sandy Phillips Assistant Curate*

## Parish Magazine

Once a month we publish our magazine "Portsmouth Post". If you would like to receive a copy at the modest price of 35 pence per month (£4.20 per year) please drop a mail to [magazine@christchurchportsdown.org](mailto:magazine@christchurchportsdown.org) or call our parish office on 023 9237 9992 and leave a message on our answering machine.

## COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2007

Christian Aid Week is seven amazing days of fundraising, prayer and action across the UK to help fight against global poverty.

We would like to extend our grateful thanks to all those who gave money and time last year - As we prepare for this years effort we would ask that you watch for the red envelope dropping through your letterbox and join our Church as we seek to support those who are in desperate need across the globe. If you pay tax then don't forget to fill in the Gift Aid form so we can claim back the tax you paid from the government.



## A Portsmouth Parish Centre Update

As you may be aware our Vicar Revd Paul Norton has been off sick for some time and has now decided to take early retirement on health grounds. With this lack of Priestly leadership we have decided to put our plans for the Portsmouth Parish Centre Project and our building development 'on hold' until the leadership is re-established. The PCC and Church remain committed to the vision and, once leadership is re-established, we will continue our journey towards that vision.

The project was launched on it's journey by Revd Canon Stephen Palmer in 2000 when he encouraged the Church to look at the 'bigger picture' beyond much needed domestic facilities; to look to the future of the Church building and respond to the challenges facing the Church in relation to the changes in society today. The vision for the building and the aim of the project were then formed on sound Christian principles and biblical teaching - reaching out to those outside our Church community; sharing what we have; making better use of our resources in the service of others; providing opportunities for many other people (who might not otherwise come to the building) to experience and benefit from the spirituality of the place.

Contact us at [parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org](mailto:parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org) or 023 9237 9992