

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

1 October 2017 - Psalter Week 2 – Missal Page 134



We are on the edge of Autumn and, all around us, summer is shedding its verdant robes, as nature prepares to find a way through winter into springtime. Contemplating nature opens us up to the great rhythms of life. In life, everything arises, everything endures and everything fades. And perhaps there is a Parable here for us, as we stand at the edge of a new beginning in our Parish Community. Pope Francis, Bishop Philip and life itself, are calling us to a new vision that will transform our parish community, passionate about the Gospel and choosing to become intentional disciples of Jesus. Disciples who proclaim, in communion with the Catholic Church, a global message of Peace and Reconciliation.

The journey of faith cannot be travelled alone or in isolation. It is vital that friendship and communion are the two arms that hold us, and the two hands that guide us. As we travel together, we notice that the path is marked by touchstones which are there to strengthen, support and nourish us. Baptism, Reconciliation, Communion, Confirmation, Marriage, Ordination and the Sacrament of the Sick are given to us as gifts which are to be cherished. They are so precious, so necessary to our vocation as disciples of Jesus. If we were without them we might lose our way completely.

Any yet, our lived experience in our Parish has not been so good. So many people ask for Baptism and vanish without trace. A huge percentage of the children who make their first confession and first holy communion vanish without trace. Most of those who are confirmed vanish without trace. Couples who marry in our Church vanish without trace. Their invisibility is very visible! Their absence, a declaration that they have little or no understanding of what it means to belong to a community, to be part of the mission of the Catholic Church to follow Jesus, and to bring the Gospel of Life to a world shattered by violence, selfishness and greed.

Standing before this absence, we realised that what we are doing isn't working. It is true that we would always say yes to anyone who asked to drink from the sacramental well in our church. It is equally true that we also need to discern first, if the person asking to receive a Sacrament, is ready to do so.

'Being ready' means that the person belongs to the community and has an active presence in the life and mission of the Church. 'Being ready' means that they are trying their best to deepen their understanding of what they are asking for. 'Being ready' means bearing the weight of the responsibility which each Sacrament lays upon the heart of those who receive it, precisely as a deeper commitment to the work of Love, Justice and Peace. 'Being ready' means struggling with us to live the Love which lays down its life for others. 'Being ready' is not for the faint hearted or for those who think that saying, 'Jesus loves me' is a sound basis for a life, still less a life of discipleship.

My mind is clear. To those who think they have an automatic right to Sacraments. To those who imagine that they can receive Sacraments on their own terms. To those who think that they are consumers at a 'pick & mix' counter in the Catholic shop. To those who demand everything and contribute little or nothing to our Community and its Mission. To those who choose to walk away and remain silent in the face of the suffering of others. To those who abuse the church in any of these ways, what should I say?

It is my hope that by challenging and ending this permissive culture, our Parish Community will be better placed to fulfil its vocation to be a leaven for goodness in Bracknell and, side by side with the Universal Church, the World.

You want to receive and celebrate a Sacrament. Yes, but - are you ready?

DID YOU KNOW...?



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – NEW DEADLINE: Midday on Tuesdays, please email your newsletter item(s) to the parish office stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.



OCTOBER – THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act. During October, please make time to say a decade of The Rosary each day to pray for an end to abortion.

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary – pray for us.



World Day of the Poor

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR - At the end of the Year of Mercy in November last year, Pope Francis in his message *Misericordia et Misera* instituted a 'World Day of the Poor' to be marked on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, which this year is **Sunday 19 November 2017**. The Holy Father urges that parishes and other Christian communities "make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance" with the poor.



SEASON OF CREATION – From Friday 1 September 2017 until the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on Wednesday 4 October 2017 we are called to focus on the

wonders of God creation, our impact and the responsibility to care for it as resource shared by everyone. See if you can take action to celebrate the beauty of creation, take a photo of nature that inspires joy and post it to Twitter using the hashtag #beautyofcreation or post to Facebook page. For more information and ideas go to <http://seasonofcreation.org/>



OPEN MORNINGS - St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School are holding Open Mornings on the following dates for any prospective parents who would like to have a tour of the school:-

Wednesday 4th October - 10.30am to 12.00pm
Thursday 7th December - 10.30am to 12.00pm
Tuesday 9th January - 10.30am to 12.00pm

To book please call the school on 01344 424030 to book your space. For more information about the school please visit their website <http://stmargaretclitherowbracknell.co.uk/>



First aid

ARE YOU A FIRST AIDER AT WORK? –

First Aiders needed for each weekend Mass, if you wish to volunteer for the Mass you attend, please contact the Parish Office with all your details.



ARE YOU A FIRE MARSHALL AT WORK? –

Fire Marshalls needed for each of the weekend Mass. If you wish to volunteer for the Mass you attend, please contact the Parish Office with all your details.



ALTAR SERVERS – The definition of "Millionaire" is someone with an abundance of So a massive **THANK YOU** from the hearts of our community to all our "Millionaires" who have shown an abundance of generosity and love for the sanctity of our Mass. Your very kind donations have helped us purchase the beautiful cassocks and cottas, our Altar Servers will wear them with pride and dignity.



LITURGICAL CALENDAR - OCTOBER – 2nd The Holy Guardian Angels; 4th St Francis of Assisi; 7th Our Lady of the Rosary; 17th St Ignatius of Antioch, 18th St Luke; 28th Ss Simon & Jude

BEWARE: LIGHTING CANDLES – Adults must accompany all children at the candle trays when lighting candles. Please ensure your children do not play around the candle trays, in the sand or with the lighted candles. Care must be taken when reaching across lighted candles wearing loose clothing etc. It is important to remember that they can be the cause of major fires and serious injury.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – Monday 9 October at 86 Qualitas. Meets every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. All are welcome.

KEEP FIT CLUB – Every Tuesday 2pm-3pm in the Hall.

TODDLER GROUP – Every Tuesday 9.30am to 11.30am in the hall during term time.

PRAYER GROUPS – Evening Group: 1st/3rd Tuesdays 7.45pm – 9.30pm Hall. Day Group: 1st/3rd Wednesdays 10.30am – 11.30am Hall.

SOUP & ROLL – Every Friday after Mass during term time.

YOUTH GROUP – Closed until further notice.



MASS OFFERINGS – THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY

Please make cheques payable to "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph". **Gift Aid envelopes and bankers/standing order forms available in the porch.**

SECOND OFFERINGS FOR OCTOBER: 22nd Foreign Missions

We pray for the Sick and Housebound of our Community and for those who care for them.

Sick and Housebound:

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Adrian Sweeney, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Jadwiga Butcher, Lilijan Rodenburg, Josephine & Maurice Timms, Robert Mulcahy, Robbie McDonald, Eddie Moore.

Those who are unwell or in hospital:

Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Nicholas Powell, Kathleen Brosnan, Blanche Shap, Emma Flavelle., Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Win McDermott, Angelina Ediale, Mary Phelan

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY – Baby Ethan Birch who is being baptised on **Sunday 1 October 2017** at 12 noon at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church. Please pray for Ethan and his parents Robert and Michelle.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – The parish office will be closed from **Monday 25 September 2017** until **Friday 6 October 2017** inclusive. Telephone coverage during this time.



TALKS ON SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES – We had a very positive response to the synopsis of the talks at last weekend's Masses.
All Talks are from **7pm to 9pm** in the church hall:

UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC ABUSE
Thursday 5 October

UNDERSTANDING TALKING THERAPIES COUNSELLING
Thursday 12 October

ADDICTION : Yendall Manor Treatment Centre
Thursday 19 October

SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS : Shelter
Wednesday 25 October

Please attend as many or as few of the talks as you wish, just turn up on the night, especially informative for Night shelter volunteers.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS –

The Life in the Spirit Seminars will be every Tuesday evening from **26 September** until **7 November 2017** 8.00pm to 9.30pm in the church hall.

PRAISE – TALK – DISCUSSION

3rd October – Salvation

10th October – New Life

17th October – Receiving the Gift

24th October – Inviting Him into our Lives

31st October – Growth

7th November – Transformation in Christ

If you wish to attend but need transport, or can offer transport to someone wishing to attend please contact the parish office on 01344 425729 or email stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AUTUMN MEETING – Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 7.30pm St John's Church, Waterloo Road, Crowthorne, RG45 7NT. An interdenominational meeting with a speaker from a local charity "Children of the Dump" helping the children of the Phillipines, all welcome.



DEATH CAFÉ – Thursday 5 October 2017, 7.00pm at Beatons Tearooms & Bookshop, 241 High Street, Crowthorne, RG45 7AH. A group of people sitting together and talking around the theme of

death and dying. The idea is to make it easier to communicate about death and increase awareness of death, dying and making the most out of life. Book your place at deathcafecrowthorne@gmail.com.



CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY - FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER

- This Harvest fast day we are standing with Eldemira, a farmer in El Salvador as she works to provide for her family. With your help CAFOD has given her fruit trees, training and strong seeds. Please help us to give this support by giving whatever you can to other farmers, Fast Day envelopes will be available in the next few weeks. Many thanks.



CLOTHESBANK –

ClothesBank Giveaway, held every quarter in our Church Hall and coordinated by St Mark's Church Binfield, will be 10.15am - 1pm on **Wednesday 11 October 2017**. The ClothesBank need donations of good quality used clothes for children of all ages and trainers, especially sizes 10 – 2. Some clothes cannot be passed on though, e.g., pyjamas, underwear and socks, etc, need to be new. Please contribute new packs of children's socks or underwear would be appreciated. Please leave your donations in the ClothesBank container in the porch weekend **7th/8th October**. Help will be needed on **Monday 9th October** at St Marks sorting out the clothing and from 9am-1pm in our Church Hall on **11th October**. If you feel able to help or interested in knowing more about the ClothesBank, please contact the Parish Office or contact Gisele at St Mark's Binfield.



FACING DEPRESSION TOGETHER AWARENESS DAY

- Learn about depression and how to support those living with depression. Includes a clinical, a personal and a pastoral perspective of depression, a dramatic perspective to challenge stigma and an introduction to the work of **PeerTalk**, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church. This free event takes place on **Saturday 14 October 2017**, 10am – 3.30pm, at The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford. Lunch is provided. Booking essential. More details contact admin@peertalk.org.uk www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events



DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET - The October Chaplet will be on **Sunday 15 October** at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church at 2.30pm. All welcome

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD TRAINING DAY **Saturday 4 November 2017** - 9.30 am to 3.00 pm, St Bede's, Basingstoke. Register online and check the diocesan website for other training days:

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING: Saturday 18th November 2017, Refresher Training – 10.00am – 12.30pm; The Holy Trinity, Bowenhurst Road, Church Crookham, GU51 3ST (Trainer – Sue Smy)

For reservations please contact Soraya Ciccarone, PA to Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator & Diocesan Financial Secretary, tel: (Direct Dial) 023 92 836511/023 92 816396/023 92 825430 soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	30 th	6.00pm	Mass	Eileen and Lance Perkins
Sunday	1 st	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Abdon and Leonora Arriba, RIP
Monday	2 nd	No Mass		
Tuesday	3 rd	9.30am	Communion Service	

ST FRANCIS of ASSISI, Founder

Wednesday	4 th	9.30am	Communion Service	
Thursday	5 th	9.30am	Communion Service	
Friday	6 th	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Communion Service	

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Saturday	7 th	10.00am	Mass	Pro-Life
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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	7 th	6.00pm	Mass	Ashley and Errol Flynn, RIP
Sunday	8 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Rita Robinson



Tuesday to Thursday: 9.10am Morning Prayer; **Thursday:** After Mass Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help, 10.15 am Mother's Prayers; **Saturday:** 9.30am Rosary, 1st Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary. **Confessions** every Saturday at 10.45am or by prior appointment.

Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1BE
Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

Telephone: 01344 425729 **Email:** stj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk

Please make cheques payable to: "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel McAvoy

Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Fisher **Pastoral Assistant:** Mary McNab

Safeguarding Representatives: Marion McGuire, Sarah Birch, Paula Read
Safeguarding email: safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH