

**THE YEAR OF MATTHEW**  
**ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**  
**CORPUS CHRISTI (*The Body and Blood of Christ*), YEAR A**  
***GRATITUDE, TRANSCENDENCE AND SACRIFICE***  
**SUNDAY 14 JUNE 2020**

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We eat a piece of bread - We drink a glass of wine - it becomes part of us. Robert Nozick fills this out.

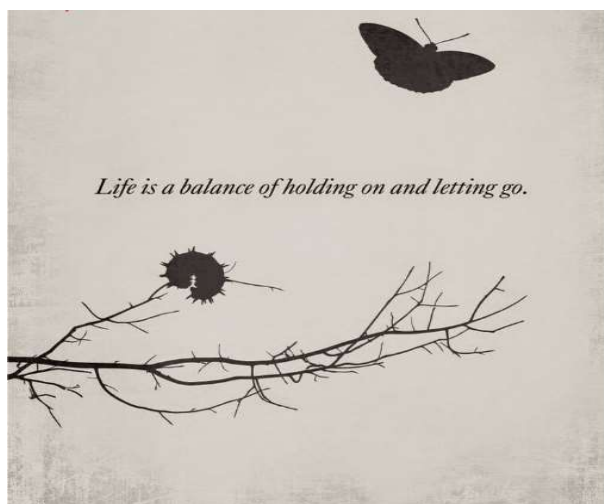
"We meet the food in the ante-room of the mouth and greet it there. We probe and explore it, surround it, permeate it with juices, press it with our tongues against the roof of the mouth along the hard ridge directly above the teeth, place it under suction and pressure, move it around. We know its texture fully; it holds no secrets or hidden parts."

(The Examined Life. 1989. Pp 56-57)

Whatever we eat demands a sacrifice from someone or something. Eating hints that we are all involved in Sacrifice - 'in making life holy by giving something back. There is no avoiding this. In his wonderful book, 'Scientific Proof of the Existence of god will Soon be Announced by the White House! Da Free John writes, (pp 33-34)

"Those who cling to one or another religious or spiritual way must realise that the foundation of all such ways is the disposition of sacrifice ... Such a disposition freely anoints the world with help and intelligent consideration ... The whole Earth, the Cosmos, and every separate being is a great Sacrifice! ... Let us give ourselves up, so that each temple - each bodily and mental person - may become a temporary and perishable altar of self-giving into the Mystery that pervades us."

Jesus gathers His Life in his Hands and gives Thanks. His Life is not His own, and since all is Grace, He turns to the Giver of Life in Gratitude. Now filled within, He flows without. The life freely given becomes the life He seeks to give away.



Jesus is a Great Teacher. Gratitude, Sacrifice and Transcendence must move as one Dance. If we just look up we risk being aloof and uninvolved. If we just give thanks but do not move to Sacrifice we risk we only counting our Blessings without realising they are separating us from the communion of love. If we Sacrifice without gratitude we risk the cul-de-sac of resentment. We pour ourselves out and find we are empty so we stop giving ourselves away.

Don't forget to consult the One who knows how to break bread and pour out his life blood.

**Pray for the end of the virus**

*Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation.*

*We come before you asking for control of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world.*

*Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus, in all parts of the world.*

*Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to bereaved families.*

*We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found.*

*We pray that the relevant governments and health authorities take appropriate steps, for the good of the people.*

*Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. Amen.*

**‘We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.’**



Pope Francis recently spoke these words and of his ‘great concern’ at ‘the disturbing social unrest’ in the United States following ‘the tragic death of George Floyd,’ which he attributed to ‘the sin of racism.’ He did so in a message addressed to his ‘dear brothers and sisters in the United States,’ meaning, a senior Vatican source told America, the entire nation and not just its seventy million Catholics. He spoke to them during his virtual public audience from the library of the Apostolic Palace on June 3rd and this was conveyed by Vatican Media.

His carefully chosen words leave no room for equivocation: any Catholic who claims ‘to defend the sacredness of every human life’ must combat racism and exclusion in all its forms. The Pope was also alluding to the fact that some Catholics and other Christians limit their defence of ‘the sacredness of human life’ mainly to abortion, but do not view racism, the death penalty or other forms of exclusion—like the mistreatment of migrants—as life issues. In today’s message, he underlined the full teaching of the church regarding ‘the defence of the sacredness of every human life’ as expressed in the Second Vatican Council. In a similar way, over 50 years ago, Martin Luther King Jr. observed three main evils in the world - racism, poverty and war. In an excerpt from a speech in 1967, originally titled America’s Chief Moral Dilemma, he spoke of:

‘... the evil of racism, the evil of poverty, and the evil of war. ... let us turn first to the evil of racism. We must face the fact that we still have much to do in the area of race relations. Now, to be sure there has been some progress, and I would not want to overlook that. Probably the greatest area of this progress has been the breakdown of legal segregation. But we must not allow this progress to cause us to engage in a superficial, dangerous optimism. The plant of freedom has grown only a bud and not yet a flower. We are moving into a new phase ... the struggle for genuine equality. Now we are in a period where it will cost the nation billions ... to get rid of poverty, to get rid of slums, to make quality integrated education a reality.’  
‘The second evil ... is the evil of poverty. Like a monstrous octopus it spreads its nagging prehensile tentacles into cities and hamlets and villages all over our nation. Some forty million brothers and sisters (in the USA) are poverty stricken, unable to gain the basic

necessities of life. And so often we allow them to become invisible because our society’s so affluent, that we don’t see the poor. Now there is nothing new about poverty. It’s been with us for years and centuries. What is new, at this point though, is that we now have the resources, we now have the skills, we now have the techniques to get rid of poverty. And the question is whether our nation has the will ...’

‘Now I want to deal with the third evil that constitutes the dilemma of our nation and the world. And that is the evil of war. Somehow these three evils are tied together. The triple evils of racism, economic exploitation, and militarism. The great problem and the great challenge facing mankind today is to get rid of war. During a period of war, when a nation becomes obsessed with the guns of war, social programs inevitably suffer. People become insensitive to pain and agony in their own midst ...’

‘For those who are telling me to keep my mouth shut, I can’t do that. I’m against segregation at lunch counters, and I’m not going to segregate my moral concerns. And we must know, on some positions, cowardice asks the question, Is it safe? Expediency asks the question, Is it politic? Vanity asks the question, Is it popular? But conscience asks the question, Is it right? And there are times when you must take a stand that is neither safe nor politic nor popular, but you must do it because it is right.’

Dr Martin Luther King, was a Baptist minister and a leader of the American civil rights movement. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for employing nonviolent civil disobedience to advance racial equality. He was assassinated in 1968.

“Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn.” Pope Francis, June 2020.



***“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”***

– Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom



**CAR PARK SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** – The 2020-2021 car park subscription forms are available to download from the website, a copy is attached with this email. The subscriptions are for parishioners **only** for renewals and new subscriptions. The new subscription period will be from **Wednesday 1 July 2020** until **Wednesday 30 June 2021**.

Although the church car park is not in isolation, only the buildings are, you can park here if you have paid a subscription. As an act of goodwill, we are reducing the car park fee to **£40.00** for 2020/2021, as many subscription parishioners have not been able to use the car park due to personal isolation. Disability Blue Badge holders are free of charge, valid Blue Badge details will be required.

Please complete the form attached to the newsletter email distribution list, on the website or emailed on request, and return it to the parish office, via Royal Mail or through the Presbytery letterbox, along with your payment, cash or cheque. The new windscreen sticker is yellow this year and can be collected from the Presbytery, please be aware that you will be challenged if you park in the car park without displaying a valid sticker. In accordance with new GDPR guidelines all 2019 subscription forms will be shredded.



**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** If you are going into hospital or know someone who is, please let the Parish Office know the name of the patient and which hospital, also ask the hospital staff to inform the Catholic Chaplain on arrival.



**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (the SVP)** - Do you need help, particularly at this difficult time, as a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic? The local Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) may be able to provide some assistance, as we have access to limited additional hardship funds from a variety of sources, including the generosity of local parishioners. If you would like to know more, please contact **IN CONFIDENCE** the local SVP on 07731 862 349.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, HOUSEBOUND OR IN HOSPITAL AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM**

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Peter Dossett, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Angelina Ediale, Josephine Timms, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews, Derek Alexander, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Doreen Gladwin, Jerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Marie Hughes, Jenny Bashford, Donal Hanley, Jim and Frances McEvoy, Mary Murray, Thelma Briggs, Margaret Pearce, Audrey Lam, Pam Savage, Marie Swash, Terri Landmann, Jennie Tucker, Vilma Taborda, Zac Hoy, Terry and Mary Brennan, Brenda Lynch, Amanda Killestein

***If you would like to add a name to this list with consent, or if you want a name removed, please contact the Parish Office.***

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THOSE WHOSE FUNERALS ARE IN JUNE:**

**Esther Peacock, RIP who died on Sunday 31 May 2020, Funeral on 17 June 2020 at 2.00pm**

**David Johnson, RIP who died on Tuesday 2 June 2020, Funeral on 24 June 2020 at 12.00 noon**

**PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS**

***May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.***

**PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL**

**We are temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus**

**Mass is livestreamed every Sunday at 10.30am  
please join us via the following links:**

**Facebook:** <https://facebook.com/stjandstmcbrecknell/>

**Website:** <https://bracknellcatholicchurch.org>

**If you need to contact us, the details are in the box below**

**You are all in our hearts and prayers**

**Look after each other  
be kind, be safe be well**

**“Mother Earth is the source of life not a resource”**

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**Website:** [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

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**DIRECT DEBIT, STANDING ORDER AND GIFT AID FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM  
THE PARISH WEBSITE (drop down menu “Planned Giving”**

**BANK DETAILS:** Account Name: PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph

Sort Code: 30-93-04; Account Number: 00875520

Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Palmerstone Road, Southsea

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO (FULL NAME):**

**PRCDTR BRACKNELL ST JOSEPH**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Daniel McAvoy

**Deacon:** Rev. Aidan Lynch

**Parish Secretary:** Elizabeth Fisher

**Pastoral Assistant:** Mary McNab

**Safeguarding Representatives:** Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read

**Safeguarding email:** [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)