



## Parish of Saint Joseph and Saint Margaret Clitherow

St. Joseph's Church, Stanley Walk, Bracknell, RG12 1HA

[www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk)

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No. 246871



### THE YEAR OF MATTHEW: ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

#### ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN - WORKING ON OURSELF

Will the day ever come when we don't have to keep chiselling at our own statue?

Saying, 'Jesus loves me' is never enough. Only the least in the Kingdom of Heaven are unable to connect the dots that join Jesus to the Law and the Prophets.

Yet, the teaching of the Divine Master must come first. He not only completes the Great Charter for Justice and embraces all the Prophets, He lifts them up to a higher plane.

Loving and doing Compassion come first, and He lets others considerations fall away. Still, the heartbeat remains steady. The prohibition against killing and adultery are strengthened and shot into the heart. Then again, anything that is useless in our present situation is dismissed.

Notice how the Divine teacher fixes his gaze on those fixated by externals. Instead, He calls them to go inside themselves and make the connection between Justice, Love and Mercy. Sin will only be halted in its tracks when the seeds, sown in the heart, are not allowed to grow.

Praying, and, for us, coming to mass, are no substitute for the real work of making Peace and seeking Forgiveness from those we have wounded. In answer to the claim that, "I can just tell God I'm sorry!" Jesus says, "The person you have hurt has found a great lawyer (God) who has never lost a case, and your date in court has been set!!!" Move!!!

Matthew says, 'Do whatever it takes to make things right' and don't hang around.

So we must keep chiselling at our statue. The commandment, KNOW YOURSELF is a great starting point and a hard one. When we enter the path of self-discovery, and set up listening posts in our hearts, we begin to see the Truth. We come to know how anger and lust arises, comes to expression and then subsides in ourselves. How they can grip us by the neck and hustle us along paths we later regret. So too, we notice how we want shortcuts to forgiveness and how we hesitate and stop ourselves from starting the necessary work of Reconciliation.

The Gospel which we take to our hearts this week is not just a list of things we can't do. It is an invitation to engage in that facet of the work of Love which may be the hardest. Yet worth it when we consider that putting the light of Love out in another persons heart might be the worst thing we could do.

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr. Daniel McAvoy

**Secretaries:** Mrs Mary McNab & Mrs Christine Cole

Office Hours: Mon to Wed 9.00am till 1.00pm Thu and Fri 9.00am till 3.00pm

**Tel: 01344 425729** Email: [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Representative:** Lisa and Alan Greenhow

**Coordinator for the Sick & Housebound:** Mrs Liz Carpenter

## **MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

(To receive free text updates, text: **churchtext bracknell main** to 84555)

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

*(Psalter Week 2)*

<b>Sat 15<sup>th</sup></b>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Eulalia Pereira
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup></b>	8.30am	Mass	Mrs McGrath
	10.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>Tue 18<sup>th</sup></b>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Michael Walsh†
<b>Wed 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Anna Maria & James Johnson
<b>Thu 20<sup>th</sup></b>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Johanna Moriarty†
<b>Fri 21<sup>st</sup></b>	11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12.10	Mass	Jesusana Grace Lee†

### **THE CHAIR OF ST PETER**

<b>Sat 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.40am	Rosary	
	10.00am	Mass	Sr Margaret Mary OSB
	10.30am	Confession	

### **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

*(Psalter Week 3)*

<b>Sat 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Joseph Higgins†
<b>Sun 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	8.30am	Mass	Sarah Davis
	10.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions

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***Just and loving God,  
May my yes be yes and my no mean no.  
Open my eyes to see the consequences of my actions,  
and inspire my heart to put right what I have done wrong.  
Amen.***

## PARISH NEWS

**WE WELCOME** – Fr Adrian who will be here at St Josephs to say Mass this week.

**MASS OF HEALING** – The Sacrament for the Sick will be celebrated on the 1st Friday of each month. For all of our Parishioners who are unwell. ‘Lay your hands gently upon us O Lord let their touch render your Peace’.

**DAY OF REFLECTION** - “Not Lent Again”, **Saturday 22nd February**, 10am-1pm, at St Francis Church, Ascot. Bring a Bible. To book your place, phone 01344 620591 or book on Parish website [www.stfrancisascot.co.uk](http://www.stfrancisascot.co.uk)

**4 WEEK STUDY COURSE** - There will be a 4 week Study Course on **Evangelii Gaudium**, The Encyclical of Pope Francis, at St. Francis Church, Ascot on **Tuesday 11th, 18th, 25th March, 1st April**. To book your place, phone 01344 620591 or book on Parish website [www.stfrancisascot.co.uk](http://www.stfrancisascot.co.uk)

**ARE YOU INVOLVED IN PARISH CATECHESIS?** – The Portsmouth Diocese Department for New Evangelisation: Formation for Mission invites you to an information evening to meet the Formation for Mission team, and to discuss resources and upcoming events. **Thursday 20th March 2014**, 7.30-9pm: Our Lady, Fleet.

**SICK AND HOUSEBOUND** - If you are ill or unable to get to Mass and would like a Eucharistic Minister to bring you Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office (Tel 425729).

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** - It will be possible to meet members of our Parish Pastoral Council after all Masses this weekend.

**SUPPORT THE HOLY SEE** - You may have heard recently that a UN Committee launched criticism against Catholic moral teaching. Please support the Holy See, in particular its presence at the UN, by signing the online petition at <http://defendtheholyse.org/>

**PRAYER GROUP MEETING** – The next meeting is on Tuesday 18th February, 8.00pm-9.30pm in the Parish Room. Everyone is welcome to join us in Praising God in Song and Prayer. The Group meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Please contact Anne D’Souza on 01344 420465 for more information.

**Please pray for the aged, sick, housebound and hospitalised of our community and for those who care for them.**

**“Take care of God's creation. But above all, take care of people in need”  
Pope Francis**

**If you know of anyone who is sick, in hospital or housebound and unable to get to Mass, or just needing a priest, please tell Fr. Danny or contact the Parish Office.**

**SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES** - The Diocese's sixth Significant Anniversaries Mass and Reception will be celebrated at 11 am on Saturday 28th June 2014 at St Bede's, Basingstoke for those celebrating their **25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2014**. Bishop Philip will preside at the Mass. Attendance is by invitation; if you are celebrating one of these anniversaries, please contact the Bishop's Office on 023 9282 0894 or by email at: [bishopspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bishopspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**FAIRTRADE** - Fairtrade is a simple way to make a difference by thinking carefully about our everyday choices. It's about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for small-scale farmers in the developing world. At our Parish Pastoral Council meeting last Wednesday, we agreed to apply to become a Fairtrade Parish and we want to start meeting the Fairtrade requirements by 1) using Fairtrade tea and coffee after Mass and for all meetings 2) moving forward on using other Fairtrade products and 3) promoting Fairtrade in our Parish during Fairtrade fortnight (24 Feb – 9 March) and during the year.

**BIG BREW** - We are marking Fairtrade fortnight by having a 'Big Brew' weekend on Saturday **1st & Sunday 2nd March**. Teas and coffees will be served after all Masses. If anyone out there could make/buy a cake, please contact Theresa McDougall 01344 427556 who is co-ordinating this event.

**FREE WEIGHT LOSS PRAYER GROUP** - If you need support in dealing with your weight and would like to combine it with Christ-centred prayer beginning and ending with brief periods of meditation, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**BRACKNELL LIFE HOUSE** - Bracknell House received £6,651.14 in subscriptions and donations in the 2012-2013 year. For the current financial year, July 2013 to now, there has been £6,752.80 donated/subscribed so far, with a further £1,154 expected from regular donations for the remainder of this year. We are particularly grateful for regular donations which we can rely on; the more there is in the account, the better we can be secure about continuing to give the help which is needed. Very many thanks to all concerned.

**FOODBANK** - The following items are urgently needed: Tins of rice pudding, sugar, fruit juice, rice and sponge pudding.

**THE RETIRING OFFERING THIS WEEKENDS** – Is for Catholic Education Service.

***JUST TO SAY  
THANK YOU TO***

**Our group of Ladies who  
help keep the Church  
clean**

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS**

Envelopes – £396.97  
Loose Plate - £586.47  
Cheques - £202.50

**Total £1186.03 - Thank You**  
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO  
**PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**