



Parish of Saint Joseph and Saint Margaret Clitherow

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

www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk

South Berkshire Pastoral Area

Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No. 246871



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN: THE ETERNAL KISS

Poor old Nicodemus! Life has taught him to rely only on externals. If you get to sit at the top table, dress well, have time to polish the outside of the cup and be treated as special, and a little better than everyone else, you've got it made! But the internal will not be ignored. Like a child in need, calling day and night until her need is met.

Under cover of darkness, he moves hungrily towards the Teacher of the World. The Teacher tries to move his gaze to the inside, but nothing in his experience can let this happen. Jesus suggests he spends some time in the company of the wind to loosen him up a bit.

Watching Nicodemus wrestling with God might allow us the chance to be more open to the Master. Others claim to have ascended to heaven, and without fail the teaching they return with is about judgement and condemnation. But the Son of Man only descends with a graciousness that is hard to take in at first.

We are all bitten by losses and death. The Son of Man comes down and becomes death. Lifted up so all can see Him. Like a poultice, he draws the toxin and hurt from our hearts, for all who gaze upon Him. And seeing the beautiful truth they could never have imagined, they begin to believe, to risk their heart to the One who enters human life at the exact point where life has failed us. He kisses all who must go through the dark door and holds them till their eyes open on the other side.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who (gives their heart) to Him may not perish but may have eternal life!

Indeed, God did not send His Beloved Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that through Him the world might be made safe"



So there it is! God is Love. And in Love He sends his Beloved Son to enter human death and carry us beyond it!

In Christ there is NO condemnation. This sentence will give light to even the most darkened of places and awaken us to the true movement of the Holy Spirit in whom we live, move and have our being. Perhaps that is why the Eastern image of the Spirit is neither fire nor dove. They speak only of the eternal kiss

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 15 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Gerry Berry†
Sun 16 th	8.30am	Mass	Georgette Kheir
	10.30am	Mass	Soane Family
Mon 17 th	NO MASS		
Tue 18 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Linda Adlad†
ST JOSEPH			
Wed 19 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Hugh & Connie O'Neill†
Thu 20 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Johanna & James Moriarty†
Fri 21 st	11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12.10pm	Mass	Robin Cousens†
Sat 22 nd	9.00am	Rosary	
	9.30am	Mass	Patrick Cregan†
	No Confessions		
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT		<i>(Psalter Week 3)</i>	
Sat 22 nd	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Camba Family
Sun 23 rd	8.30am	Mass	Doris Robinson†
	10.30am	Mass	Frank Ducasset†

Parish Priest: Rev Fr. Daniel McAvoy
Secretaries: Mrs Mary McNab & Mrs Christine Cole
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9.00am till 3.00pm
Tel: 01344 425729 Email: stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Safeguarding Representative: Lisa and Alan Greenhow
Coordinator for the Sick & Housebound: Mrs Liz Carpenter

PARISH NEWS

BISHOP PHILIP'S LENT CATECHESIS - The Second Sunday of Lent – Bishop Philip reflects on the Transfiguration of Christ. Online catechesis is offered each week to help you take a spiritual pilgrimage with Christ this Lent. The video is available on www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk each Monday which includes the Gospel for the coming Sunday, followed by Bishop Philip's catechesis. There are also accompanying discussion questions which can be downloaded. You may wish to use these materials individually, or in small groups within the parish. For more information, see the poster in the Porch.

EWTN LENT REFLECTIONS - Bishop Philip & Priests of the Diocese Don't miss Bishop Philip accompanied by priests of Portsmouth Diocese on EWTN Global Catholic Television this Lent as they offer special seasonal reflections. Starts this Sunday. See poster for details.

CHRISM MASS - This year's Chrism Mass is being held in the Cathedral on Tuesday 15 April at 11.00am. If you wish to be considered to sing, please email Chris Olding at colding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by **24 March**. Singers should be reasonable sight-readers and must attend a rehearsal in the Cathedral on Saturday 5 April 10.00am-14.00pm. Membership will be on first-come first-served basis, subject to achieving a suitable mix of voices.

ASCOT/BRACKNELL ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) - We are in the process of setting up a joint SVP with Ascot. The SVP is an international Christian voluntary organization dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to those in need – irrespective of ideology, faith, ethnicity, age or gender, visiting the sick and the lonely is a large proportion of the Society's work. The Society operates in small groups called "Conferences" based in local parishes, The Joint Ascot Bracknell SVP will meet every 6 weeks in St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow and subsequently at St Francis Church, our aim is to help and support those in need locally in our community. If you would like to help support the work of the SVP please contact the Parish Office.

CHILD PROTECTION AND VULNERABLE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

to be held here in the hall at St. Joseph's on **Saturday 22 March 2014**. Child Protection training will take place between **10am and 12.30pm** followed by Vulnerable Adults Training from 1.30pm-4pm.

TRAINING/RETRAINING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - There will be training/retraining of **all** Eucharistic Ministers on **18 March 2014 at 7pm** in the Church.

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

SPRING UP EVENING - 7.30-9.30pm Thursday 20 March in the Church Hall. Acclaim Social Justice Campaigners/Spirit of Romero Gallery from St Margaret Clitherow Primary/On a 1943 Wing and a Prayer to Thanksgiving Field. Collection for CAFOD. Contact hughgibbons@just1.org.uk for details

PLEASE PRAY FOR – for those preparing to be received into the Church this Easter: Elaine Williams, Breslau Meyer, Louise Doyle, Ome Nwanze and Danny O'Brien.

THIS YEAR'S LENTEN PROJECT IS FOR TWO PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE CHARITY AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED – They are for youth camps in Zambia and the Philippines. Please look at the display about these projects on the noticeboard in the narthex. These projects are for developing the spiritual life of young people who are the future of these countries. For more information please call Renata Clayton (01344 484495). **Donations after all weekend Masses during Lent.**

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 fill out the online form available on www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk by clicking 'Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass 2014' or alternatively, email anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

OXFAM - Catherine Hannan is again walking 100km in July 2014 to raise money for Oxfam. As part of fundraising she is holding a quiz on the evening of **22nd March** here at St Josephs. Please contact her on 07941 603002 if you are interested in attending either as a team or individually. £5 per adult, £3 per child or teenager. if still at school. Bring your own snacks and drinks!! There will also be a raffle on the night.

LIFE - Reading and District LIFE's annual Easter quiz is now in the church shop, price £1. Good cause, good fun, many prizes.

BRACKNELL FOOD BANK – A big thank you for the generosity for the food donated to the Bracknell Food Bank. On Friday the total food weighed in was 138.8kilso, doubled last week's donations enough to feed a person for over a month.

TEAS AND COFFEES AFTER MASS - Teas and Coffees will be served after all Masses on Sat evening and Sunday morning. If you go to 6pm Mass and you would like to go on a rota for serving teas and coffees, please sign up on Saturday evening after Mass.

***JUST TO SAY
THANK YOU TO
Shaun and Dominica for
all their support to
those on the RCIA***

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS

Envelopes – £ 435.13

Loose Plate - £759.07

Cheques - £203.00

Total £1397.20 - Thank You

LENTEN PROJECT

£35.78 – Thank You

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**