

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN: SEEING IS BELIEVING

Another time, Jesus smeared mud like mud on the eyes of a man born blind and pushed him toward the pool of Siloam. The blind man splashed his eyes and stared into the rippling reflection of the face he had only felt.

First he did a handstand, then a cartwheel and rounded off his Joy with a series of summersaults. He ran to his neighbours, singing the News. They said, "You look like the blind beggar but we cannot be sure."

The problem was never that he was blind and could not look out, but that they could see and did not look in.

"I am the one, the seeing blind!"

They seized him in mid cartwheel and dragged him to the authorities.

"What do you think of the man who made the mud?"

But the man born blind was staring at a green vase, his mouth slightly open as if he was being fed by its colour.

"He is a sinner," said the priest who knew what pleased Gods eyes.

"Can One who lights candles in the eyes of night not have the fire of God in His Hands?"

The priests murmured and sent for his parents who looked their son straight in his new eyes and said, "Looks like our son but he is old enough to speak for himself." Off the hook they hurried home.

"All I know," said the man with the green vase tucked under his robe, "is that I was blind and now I see."

But with his new eyes came a turbulence in his soul, as if the man who calmed one sea turned another to storm,

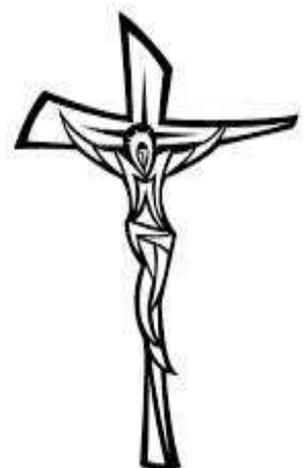
So, before those who locked knowledge in a small room, and kept the key on a string around their neck, he launched into a theology of sin and salvation. It was then that the full horror of the miracle visited the priests. "You, steeped in sin, lecture us!!"

They tore him from the podium and threw him into the street where a man was rubbing mud from His Hands.

"How did it go?" "I talked back."

The man with new eyes took in every laughing line on the face of the Son who was as happy as a free man dancing on the far side of the Red Sea.

(A snapshot from 'The Son Who Must Die' by J Shea)



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(Psalter Week 4)

Sat 29th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Frank Baxter†
Sun 30th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
	10.30am	Mass	Maire Mair†
Mon 31st	NO MASS		
Tue 1st	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Thanks Giving Mass
Wed 2nd	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
	9.30am	Mass	Annakatty Abraham†
Thu 3rd	9.15am	End of Term Mass at St Margaret Clitherow School	
Fri 4th	9.30am	End of Term Mass at St Joseph's School	
	10.45-11.45	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12.00pm	Requiem Mass	Bradley Stronach†
Sat 5th	9.00am	Stations of the Cross	
	9.40am	Rosary	
	10.00am	Mass	Sean Finney†
	10.30am	Confessions	

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(Psalter Week 1)

Sat 5th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Ernie Johnson†
Sun 6th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
	10.30am	Mass	Mary & Jeremy Grant

Parish of Saint Joseph and Saint Margaret Clitherow
St. Joseph's Church, Stanley Walk, Bracknell, RG12 1HA

www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk
Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No. 246871

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Safeguarding Representative: Lisa and Alan Greenhow

Coordinator for the Sick & Housebound: Mrs Liz Carpenter

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE PRAY - For the repose of the soul of Bradley Stronach†, who's Requiem Mass will be held on Friday 4th April at 12.00. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

BISHOP PHILIP'S LENT CATECHESIS - The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Bishop Philip reflects on the meeting of Jesus with Nicodemus. 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.

NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST JUDE FAVERSHAM – The Carmelite Friars are holding a Summer Celebration on Saturday 31st May, starting at 11.00am with Devotions and Anointing, 12.00-13.00pm Picnic in the grounds (bring your own picnic), and at 13.30pm open air Mass followed by a St Jude procession and prayers. If enough people in our parish want to go we will arrange transport.

Please contact marie-danielle.tichbon@globalknowledge.net

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 Porch. 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.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Stations of the Cross will take place in Church every Saturday at 9am during Lent.

QUIZ NIGHT - We had a very successful Quiz Night on Saturday last in aid of Oxfam and The Ghurkha Welfare Trust. We raised £415. A huge THANK YOU to everybody who came and those who donated prizes, to Fr Danny for giving us the venue and those who donated to our justgiving site. All I have to do now is walk 100km over the South Downs in less than 30 hours. If anybody else would like to make a donation my justgiving page is www.justgiving.com/Catherine-hannan1/

SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARIES MASS - 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.

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

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING - Thank you to all those who attended the Diocesan Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults training last Saturday. The next Child Protection training for anyone unable to attend last weekend is 10am-12.30pm on Sat 26 April at Christ the King, 408 Northumberland Avenue, Whitley, Reading RG2 8NR. **To book your place, please contact Soraya Ciccarone on 023 9282 5430 or email soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Thank you to our young people who came to speak at our last PPC meeting. You are an inspiration to us all and we welcome completely all your ideas and promise to put them into action. Our next meeting will be at 7.15pm on Weds 9th April in the Church Hall.

ENVELOPES – Please collect your Envelopes from the Porch – they were in alphabetical order!!

GIFT AID – We are just about to move into a new tax year. If you are a UK Tax Payer and part of the Gift Aid scheme we would gain an extra 25% of your donations. For example, if you look below at the loose offering; imagine if we got an extra 25% per week that would amount to an extra £9,000 per year. There is no catch and just 1 form to complete. Please contact Peter Hancock on 01344 412506.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS BRACKNELL - Seven Tuesdays starting 6th May 2014. Featuring renowned speakers. Time; 8:00–9:30 pm. Venue; St Joseph's Church, for more information contact Ann D'Souza on 01344 420465 or the Parish Office.

PRAYER GROUP MEETING – The next meeting is on Tuesday 1st April 8.00-9.30pm, please contact Anne on 01344 420465 for more details.

SECULAR FRANCISAN ORDER – The next meeting is on Thursday 3rd April at 2.00pm in the Parish Room, please contact Margaret on 01344 454462 for more details.

TEAS AND COFFEES AFTER MASS - Teas and Coffees Rota: More volunteers required for the 8.30am & 10.30am Masses. Please contact Theresa McDougall on 01344 427556.

LIFE Quiz: Please note: "phobia re kissing" should begin with a P. Sorry for the misprint. A few copies left in the Church shop at £1 each. Send in by April 15th. Good cause, good fun, good prizes.

THE LONDON MARATHON - Is on 13th April 2014 Guy Shore (son-in-law to June and John Ellerton from the parish) is running the marathon in memory of his father who lost a very long fight against cancer 15 months ago. His chosen charity is Macmillan as they were a huge support to his family. His 'just giving page' can be found at www.justgiving.com/Guy-Shore where donations can be made.

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

***All those who gave up
their Saturday to attend
Safe guarding Training***

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS

Envelopes – £3867.00

Loose Plate - £695.02

Cheques - £240

Total £1322.02 - Thank You

LENTEN PROJECT

£143.65– Thank You

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