

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK
EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

A NEW HORIZON

29 April 2018 – Mass Book Page 264, Psalter Week 1



Every day I give thanks to God for the blessing of serving as priest in our community. Every day, I am given many chances to be grateful again when I witness the wonderful works that are being done by so many, inside and outside of the Parish.

This weekend, your leadership team will be clearly visible and available. They are an amazing team. Working with them over the last six months has been very satisfying. I have been moved to tears at times by the depth of their understanding and their love for the Lord and for His church. I have been humbled by the amount of time they have given to bring a whole range of life giving opportunities to birth in the parish. This team is growing all the time as we ask the Lord to enrich our understanding of the real situation we are living in and respond to it with love.



The vision I am asking everyone to ponder and to embrace,

'To be with Christ and to be sent by Him to relieve the suffering of the world',

is not hard to grasp or understand. That each one of us chooses, really chooses, every day, to draw closer to Jesus and to ask Him to send us to relieve the suffering of our sisters and brothers. Here too we must include all sentient beings and Mother Earth herself who call to us for help. This vision has not been plucked out of thin air. It comes straight from the mouth of God. Jesus makes the first move. His horizon touches ours. We are elevated and begin to see everything with new eyes. This transformation doesn't happen automatically. It needs us to welcome the gift and to try to grow in our understanding of who Jesus is and what He is teaching. If you like, we have to choose to abide in Him as he chooses to abide in us. Jesus points to a wonderful possibility but it will only become real if we work with Him to make it real.

There is an old saying that goes, "Make all your cares into a single care and God will see to all your cares". In the fifth Sunday in Eastertide, Saint John's Gospel lays before us the image of the vine, the vineyard and the vinedresser! Just as the vine connects the plant to the nourishing earth, Jesus is the connection between God and Creation. He asks us to be more aware of this connection in our daily lives. He is the true vine because He never forgets or loses this flow of life from the Father. His horizon now and is Eternal, His gaze on us and on the face of God. Just as the vine grows, so He calls us to grow. Being a disciple is not static and it is not a status. It is a process, a journey. We have to want this horizon and we have to work hard with what we have been given.

The vinedresser knows the laws of spiritual and biological growth. He cuts away the dead and dying branches because He can see there is no effort to grow. But where people are trying to grow, His pruning shears are life giving. The possibility of more and better fruit is what guides the hand of the vinedresser. Anything that blocks the flow of life between us and Jesus will be cut away. He sets us free from competing agendas so that we can focus on the one thing necessary. The contrasting images of "branches bearing much fruit" and "withered and burned branches" set out the options.

The word of Jesus will, if we let it, create in us a single wish. The wish to be close to His Abba. The wish to mediate the flow of Love, which flows into us, out and into the world. He calls us to look up. To see more than we had ever seen. The new horizon grows and becomes even more attractive. Can fruit be far behind?

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Saturday	28 th	6.00pm	Mass	Tim Roberts, RIP
Sunday	29 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Gordon and Rose Lowden, RIP
Monday	30 th	No Mass		

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

Tuesday	1 st	9.30am	Mass	Perfecto Dagdag
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ST ATHANASIUS, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Wednesday	2 nd	9.30am	Mass	Josephine O'Grady
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Ss PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles

Thursday	3 rd	9.30am	Communion Service	
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THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Friday	4 th	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Shaun Howard, Private Intention
Saturday	5 th	10.00am	Mass	Pro-Life

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Saturday	5 th	6.00pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	6 th	8.30am	Mass	Richard Mackey, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	Mia Brennan

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**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, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary. **Confessions:** every Saturday at 10.45am or prior appointment.

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

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

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

**Please make cheques payable to (full name):** "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

**Parish Secretary (Director of Administration):** Elizabeth Fisher  
**Pastoral Assistant (Director of Evangelisation):** Mary McNab

**Safeguarding Representatives:** Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read,  
**Safeguarding email:** [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk)

**PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH**



#### SOUTH BERKSHIRE PASTORAL AREA

**Co-ordinating Pastor:** Fr Danny McAvoy, St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell, 01344 425729;  
**Fr Kevin Bidgood,** St Francis of Assisi, Ascot 01344 620591;  
**Fr Marcus Brisley** Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst & Holy Ghost, Crowthorne, 01252 876820;  
**Fr David O'Sullivan,** Corpus Christi, Wokingham 0118 9780348

# DID YOU KNOW...?



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

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



*PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF our beloved friend **TIM ROBERTS** who sadly lost his well fought battle for life on Wednesday 18 April, 2018. Our most deepest sympathy and prayers are with **Dominica, Charlie, Benedicta, Albertine, Felicity** and family.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: Hilda Flynn, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 9 May 2018** at 11.00am, followed by a burial at 12.45am at Larges Lane Cemetery. Please pray for Hilda and all her family.



**Give the gift of your time by joining one of the below ministries which are so important for the life of our church and parishioners. We need YOU.**

**WELCOMING MINISTRY** – Warm and friendly greeting to our parishioners and visitors before the weekend Mass that you attend. A chance to meet other parishioners and help those in need with their visit to Mass.

**OFFERING COLLECTIONS** – During the Mass and 2<sup>nd</sup> offerings at the end of Mass, teams are needed for each of the weekend Masses.

**CONFIRMATION CATECHIST, MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRIES** – Support and guiding those going forward to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

**FLOWER ARRANGING TEAMS** - We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join the team! No prior experience is necessary, just a desire to make our church look beautiful. If you think you would like to help with arranging flowers in church.

**BRASS CLEANING TEAM** – We need two more teams of 2/3 persons per team to clean the Tabernacle, candle sticks and bells. The teams can meet either after Saturday morning or weekday Masses. All equipment provided.

**Please contact the Parish Office with your details and which ministry you would like to join.**



**BOOKING PARISH HALL AND PARISH ROOMS** – If you wish to use the church hall or parish rooms bookings must be made with the Parish Office at least 6-8 weeks before requested date. Please note the regular events below before booking.

**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 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.



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR - MAY** – 1<sup>st</sup> St Joseph the Worker; 2<sup>nd</sup> St Athanasius, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ss Philip & James; 4<sup>th</sup> The English Martyrs; 10<sup>th</sup> The Ascension of the Lord; 12<sup>th</sup> Ss Nereus & Achilleus and St Pancras; 14<sup>th</sup> St Matthias; 17<sup>th</sup> St Dunstan; 18<sup>th</sup> St John I; 19<sup>th</sup> Dedication of the Cathedral of St John, Portsmouth; 20<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday; 21<sup>st</sup> St Christopher Magallanes & Companions; 22<sup>nd</sup> St Rita of Cascia; 25<sup>th</sup> St Bede the Venerable; 26<sup>th</sup> St Philip Meri; 27<sup>th</sup> The Most Holy Trinity; 31<sup>st</sup> The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 7.45pm to 9.30pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome.

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

**KEEP FIT** – Every Tuesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm in the hall.

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

**CHOIR PRACTICE** – Every Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm, in the Church, all welcome.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Every Friday after Mass during term time in the hall.

**FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY** - Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 2pm in the Hall.



**MASS OFFERINGS: £1,899.93 Second Offering: Clergy Training Fund £315.46**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY.**

Please make cheques payable to (full name) "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph". **Gift Aid envelopes and banker's/standing order forms available in the porch.**

**SECOND OFFERINGS - MAY: 12/13 Catholic Communications Network**

**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, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Jadwiga Butcher, Lilijan Rodenburg, Robert Mulcahy, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Emma Flavell, Angelina Ediale, Josephine Timms, Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews, Adrian Sweeney, Derek Alexander, Brenda Lynch, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Denise Rinzivillo, Sally Tarode, Babs White, Tess Johnson, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Eileen Ing.

## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**ROSARY ON THE COAST:** Bishop Philip asks us all to join in praying the Rosary at 3.00pm on **Sunday 29 April 2018**. Please join us at the church from **2.45pm - 4.0pm**. This is part of a weekend of Pro-Life prayer on the 50th anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into force on 27 April 1968. See <https://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk>

### ClothesBank

**CLOTHESBANK** - The Clothes Bank Giveaway, held on Wednesday 25 April 2018, helped to clothe 35 children and 22 adults, 57 clients in total which is amazing.

Huge thanks as always to everyone involved in the whole process from admin prior to the event, to the team involved in sorting on Monday and the Giveaway today. It's great to see the team working so well together at the Giveaway and to witness the happy faces of clients leaving with bags of much needed clothing and footwear.

Very many thanks once again to all involved with ClothesBank  
It's always a privilege to serve God alongside you all in this way



**DAY OF REFLECTION - Saturday 5 May 2018, 10 am to 4 pm** in Parish Hall. The Life in the Spirit Prayer group invite all our parishioners to join this event, it will begin with Mass and Father Danny will be giving a reflection during the morning. Teas and coffee provided, please bring a packed lunch.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - Please pray for the children and their families as they complete the preparations for their First Holy Communion day which are on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018**



**PULSE CATHOLIC FAMILY RETREATS - TWO DAYS TO MEET THE LORD - PULSE** is a charity which has been organising Catholic retreats for families run by families since 2014. The proposal is two days retreat, for all the family! While parents live their retreat about deepening of the prayer, through teachings and practice, their children are taken care of by volunteers and other parents (all DBS checked) who supervise the entire retreat. A bespoke school of prayer for children has been developed as well, where they get closer to Jesus, through various activities adapted to each age. For more information and registration, please view the website: [www.pulse-retreats.com/adults](http://www.pulse-retreats.com/adults)

**When:** 18 to 20 May 2018

**Where:** Ascot Priory SL5 8RT

**Led by:** Father Matt Blake, Carmelite



**PARISH QUIZ NIGHT - Back by popular demand on Saturday 9 June 2018** - how good is your trivia? £1 entry per person, great prizes. Licenced bar from 7:00pm.  
Quizzing starts at 7:30pm. Free food. A great, fun evening and a chance to make new friends.



**DIOCESAN DAY FOR READERS - SATURDAY 16 JUNE 2018** - The Day will start with Mass at 9.30 am, and will end at 3.00 pm. It is offered for everyone who is involved in reading at Mass, as an opportunity to meet, share, be formed, and pray together. Lunch and refreshments provided St Bede's Catholic Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9DX. For more details, and to register: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/readers](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/readers). Please see the poster on the porch noticeboard.



**SIGNIFICANT WEDDING MASS** - Are you celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or anniversary over 60 years? Bishop Philip has invited you to a celebration Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke on **Saturday 30 June 2018**. A wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please visit the Cathedral website and complete the on-line form, <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries> Or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** - Bishop Philip invites our young people to join him and 20 students and FOCUS missionaries from the USA on a pilgrimage retreat to Lourdes from **12 to 16 July 2018**. Costs £550; full-board and flights from Southampton. For more information please contact Father P J Smith at [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



### ABLAZE IN THE TRUTH: FANNING THE FLAME SUMMER CAMP 2018

This summer, from **20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018**, the Fanning the Flame Catholic Mission will once again be running their Summer camp for 10-25 year olds in the New Forest. Last summer was a great week with everyone really enjoying the many events: Fellowship, Football, Spiritual Direction, Horse Riding, Workshops, Games, Drama, Mass, Adoration, Confession, etc. There was good crowd of youngsters from all over the Diocese. The weather was good enough for an outdoor Mass.

Wherever you are in your Catholic faith, come and be refreshed and renewed in God's love for you!

Please see the poster on the porch noticeboard. For more information and booking forms visit the Fanning the Flame [website](http://www.ffcm1995@gmail.com) or e-mail: [ffcm1995@gmail.com](mailto:ffcm1995@gmail.com)