

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A
TRUSTING IN LOVE

2 April 2017 - Psalter Week 1 - Missal Page 170

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Grief is a wild ride. We might map its face, predict its stages and guess how long it might last. But this is the luxury of those who, for now anyway, have not been pulled into the land of loss. They have the luxury of observation. But when the loss of a loved one takes up residence in our heart and soul, we become occupied territory.



Perhaps that is why I like the emotionally distraught Jesus being swept on a tidal wave of grief towards the tomb of his friend Lazarus. Only love could have caused the grief in His heart and in the hearts of Martha and Mary. We are all eager for love but in our eagerness we forget that every affectional bond we make will be broken by death. The truth we realise is - the deeper the love, the deeper the grief.

Of course, we don't think about this when we are giving our hearts away. Within our short lives, the advent of Love carries the seed of grief. Gabriel Marcel said, 'To love someone is to say, 'Thou shalt never die.' Even if we do not say it out loud, even if we only whisper it in the cellar of our heart, love readies us for tears. The first kiss and the first tears are linked.

It is here we must not forget that this same love will console us. But we must trust this love to take us all the way. It must reveal to us that there is more than meets the eye here. This love which holds us at the bedside of the dying and takes us to their graves after they die, is telling us something very important about God's love. Our reluctance to let loved ones go makes sense as we watch Jesus raising Lazarus from death. The Love that distresses Jesus, that makes Him weep uncontrollably and makes Him go after Lazarus and free him is worth pondering. Love will not let him go so death has to set him free.

The Song of Songs 8,6 sings of the Love that is stronger than death. In the face of the stench of death, this insight may not come easily to us. We might find ourselves being drawn to other solutions to our pain. But it does seem to me that the more we grow our contemplative heart (Mary) and integrate what we find there into our busy lives (Martha) we will find an enduring strength that will bring us through to the other side of grief.

Love brings grief and consolation. St. Paul put it best of all when he wrote, "Do not grieve as others do who have no hope." It is the weeping Jesus who cries out, 'Lazarus, come out!'

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A

|           |                 |                |                       |                                      |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Saturday  | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass                  | Ann Chapman, RIP                     |
| Sunday    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass                  | Kenneth Knight, RIP (Foundation)     |
|           |                 | 10.30am        | Mass                  | Sarah Davis, RIP                     |
| Monday    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |                       |                                      |
| Tuesday   | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass                  | Bridget Tanner, RIP                  |
| Wednesday | 5 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass                  | Yvonne Inije, RIP                    |
| Thursday  | 6 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass                  | Ozohu Adoh, Thanksgiving             |
| Friday    | 7 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am        | Stations of the Cross |                                      |
|           |                 | 11.30am        | Exposition            |                                      |
|           |                 | 12.10am        | Mass                  | Shaun Howard, RIP                    |
| Saturday  | 8 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am        | Mass                  | Jean-Marc Bouchereau – Memorial Mass |

### PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord – YEAR A

|          |                 |         |      |                                  |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 8 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Anthony and Bridie Campbell, RIP |
| Sunday   | 9 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am  | Mass | George Harold, RIP               |
|          |                 | 10.30am | Mass | Maura Holt                       |



**Tuesday to Thursday:** 9.10am Morning Prayer; **Thursday:** 10.15 am Mother's Prayers; **Saturday:** 9.30am Rosary, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary and Confessions every Saturday at 10.45am or on request

**Parish Office:** Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA  
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:** "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

**Parish Secretary:** Elizabeth Fisher **Pastoral Assistant:** Mary McNab

**Safeguarding Representative:** Marion McGuire 07712048695

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

## DID YOU KNOW...?



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** – Please email your newsletter item(s) to the parish office [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) no later than midday on Wednesdays.



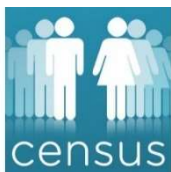
**CAFOD – EAST AFRICA CRISIS APPEAL** – Second Collection weekend **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017**. We need your help to end the urgent crisis in East Africa - over 16 million people are facing starvation, on the scale of the disaster of 1980.

**EASTER CARDS** – We have a selection of beautiful Easter Cards for sale in the shop.



**CAR PARK SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** - The annual renewal is deferred until further notice for those who paid their £50 subscription last year and have the blue windscreen stickers may continue to park. We are experiencing opportunistic parking by a range of visitors, those who did not pay last year and are not attending services should not park. The car park is monitored by CCTV.

**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 when reaching across lighted candles wearing loose clothing, etc.



**PARISH DATABASE CENSUS** - Our parish is currently implementing a new database system. The new Pastoral Administration Management Information System (known as PAMIS) has already been successfully implemented in many parishes across the Diocese. So that we have the most up-to-date information available about our parishioners and our parish, we are asking that you complete our new Parish Census Form (one per household) online via our parish website; just follow the link: <http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/parish-census-form.html> please complete

the census by **Monday 17 April 2017**.



**LENTEN PROJECT : MEDAILLE TRUST** – All offerings can be gift aided so please use the envelopes provided which will be available at all weekend Masses throughout Lent. We do all this to set someone free.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Every Friday morning during Lent at 11.00am to 11.30am, followed by Exposition at 11.30am.



**BRACKNELL FOREST CIRCLE OF THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION** - We are looking for new members. Our aim is to strengthen family life through friendship and faith. Membership is open to all practicing catholic men. For further information please contact our membership team, Richard Taylor or Tendayi Gumbo details on <http://www.thecatenians.com>.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** - Monday 10 April : 27 Ardingly, Bracknell

**KEEP FIT OVER 50's CLUB** – Every Tuesday 2.00pm to 3.00pm in the Hall.

**TODDLER GROUP** – Closed Tuesday 28 March until Tuesday 25 April 2017

**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.

**RCIA** – Closed **Thursday 13 April 2017**, resumes **Thursday 20 April 2017** 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Hall.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Closed resumes **Friday 19 April 2017**.

**YOUTH GROUP** – Closed **7, 14 and 21 April**, resumes **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April**



**LAST WEEK'S MASS OFFERINGS – THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS:** Total amount £1,288.66. Clergy Assistance Fund £48.60  
Please make cheques payable to "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".



**CAFOD – Africa Famine Appeal** – A **BIG THANK YOU** for your generosity, donations so far of £676.08

**We pray for the Sick and Housebound of Our Community  
and for those who care for them.**

**Sick and Housebound:**

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Adrian Sweeney, Thelma Briggs, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, and Yvonne Gantzer, Jadwiga Butcher, June Cooper, Lilljan Rodenburg, Marjorie Brown Josephine & Maurice Timms, Andrea Brown, Blanche Shap, Chris Curtis.

**Those who are unwell or in hospital:**

Bill Guilfoyle, Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Una Mair, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Nora Cronin, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Teresa Bullock, Maria Bishop, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Serafina Delmundo, Brian Mecklenburg, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Francis Robinson, Tom Corridan, Allan James, Nicholas Powell, Peggy O'Sullivan, Caroline Nirmalan, Kathleen Brosnan, Jackie Shaw

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

### SOUTH BERKS PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Fr Danny McAvoy, Fr Kevin Bidgood, Fr David Sullivan, Fr Marcus Brisley

**St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5 April 2017**

**St Francis of Assisi, Ascot at 7.30pm on Thursday 6 April 2017**

Private Confessions at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell at 10.45am Saturdays 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April after 10.00am Mass. Also at Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS on Tuesday 11 April from 7.00pm to 8.30pm



**CHRISM MASS, CATHEDRAL PORTSMOUTH – Tuesday 11 April 2017** Mass at 11.00am. The bus will be departing from St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church at **8.00am SHARP**, therefore, you must be at the church **NO LATER THAN 7.45am**, returning approx 4.00pm. There is no charge and no donations for the bus. **Please note, the Parish Office will be closed on 11 April 2017. No 9.30am Mass.**



**'REBUILDING MARRIAGE: BEHIND 'AMORIS LAETITIA' ('The Joy of Love') by POPE FRANCIS** - On **Wednesday 12 April 2017**, 7pm - 8pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Bracknell a talk on this subject will be given by Dr Austen Ivereigh, author of The Great

Reformer, a book about the papacy of Pope Francis. All are welcome to attend.



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 13 April : Solemn Renewal of Commitment for Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers of the Word - 7.30pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION 14 April : Service at 3.00pm.**

**HOLY SATURDAY MASS 15 April : 8.00pm – Those 'Elect' being received into the Church: Christopher Apana, Denise Knight, Claudia Machado and Mitchell Wing.**

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION 16 April : Masses 8.30am and 10.30am**