

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

THE YEAR OF LUKE THE YEAR OF MERCY

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A

STAYING AWAKE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

27 November 2016 - Psalter Week 1 – Missal Page 82

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel McAvoy

Parish Office: Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA
Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

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The Advent of God, even when we are expecting it, is always a wonderful surprise. This is why, in the first Gospel for the year of Saint Matthew, Jesus invites us to nurture our interior life so that we will have the eyes to see what is in front of us. God our Father is always close to us, creating, judging, saving and calling us to a fuller life. It is only through pondering the teachings of the Beloved Son that we can prepare ourselves for what is to come. The breakthrough can happen at any time. When it does, and our attentiveness receives its gracious presence, we are dry in Noah's' Ark, taken into the Kingdom, safe in our own House.

The Season of Advent is important. It is meant to be a time of preparation for the astonishing wonder of Christmas. Instead, it has become a time when busy people become even busier. Frantic worry and preparation can put us to sleep spiritually. The world, always experts at stealing what is ours and turning it into a money making racket, pulls us to start buying and celebrating Christmas before Advent has hardly begun. Some people give up longing for Christmas Day and long instead for the day when it is all over and they can finally relax!



You will be sure to meet someone, over the next four weeks, who will tell you that they are stressed, maybe even distressed, by all that is still to be done. If they do, you might suggest some little tricks, to help them keep their hearts gaze on what really matters. If you're sitting in a traffic jam, or stuck in a car park, why not sing your favourite Carols. Pause before a Christmas tree or a well decorated shop window. A friend said that when he does this, he remembers the sacred connection and that his life belongs to God. He notices then that the day goes better as he sees something more in the people rushing around him.

These little spiritual exercises help us to stay awake and alive to the amazing celebration to come.

ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	26 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Cyril Ford, RIP
Sunday	27 th	8.30am	Mass	George Lansley, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	Mary Philomena Galloghly, RIP
		5.00pm	Taize Service	
Monday	28 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	29 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Napoleon Manaois, Snr, RIP Napoleon Manaois, Jnr, RIP

ST ANDREW, Feast, Apostle

Wednesday	30 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Peggy McNeill, RIP

ST EDMUND CAMPION, Priest and Martyr

Thursday	1 st	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Paddy Doherty, RIP
		10.15am	Mother's Prayers	
Friday	2 nd	11.00am	Exposition (until 12.00noon)	
		12.10pm	Mass	John Hayes, RIP

ST FRANCIS XAVIER, Priest

Saturday	3 rd	9.30am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Pro-Life
		10.45am	Confessions	

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	3 rd	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Paul Baker, RIP
Sunday	4 th	8.30am	Mass	Camba Family, Thanksgiving
		10.30am	Mass	Sarah Davis, RIP

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, Bridget Tanner, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone, Winnie Justice, Inge Walker, and Yvonne Gantzer, Jadwiga Butcher, June Cooper, Lilijan Rodenburg, Marjorie Brown.

Those who are unwell or in hospital: Bill Guilfoyle, Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Una Mair, Freda Edgington, Esther Brophy, Anne Hardy, Nora Cronin, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Teresa Bullock, Maria Bishop, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Serafina Delmundo, Veronica Jastrzebski, David McCann, Brian Mecklenburg, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Shaun Howard, Francis Robinson, Tom Corridan

DATES AND NEWS

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Please email your newsletter item to the parish office no later than midday on Wednesdays.

BEWARE: LIGHTING CANDLES – Adults must accompany all children at the candle trays when lighting candles. Please ensure your children are not playing 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.



THE PARISH NEEDS – CHILDREN'S LITURGY: We are in desperate need of volunteers to help with Children's Liturgy to satisfy Safeguarding adult/children ratios in the hall during Sunday Masses. If we cannot get enough helpers we will be unable to run Children's Liturgy in the future. If you feel able to help with this important ministry, please contact the parish office 01344 425729 or

stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SACRE - A Catholic Representative is needed for the Bracknell Forest Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) group. If you: - Are you interested in young people and their education? - Are you open to sharing your faith with other people? - Are you interested in what others believe? - Could you act as a bridge between the Church and the schools in your area? For further information or to express an interest please speak to Fr Danny or contact the parish office.

PPC MINUTES – Can now be viewed on the parish website.

TOILETRIES NEEDED - Berkshire Women's Aid runs 9 Refuges across Bracknell, Wokingham and Reading, for women who have been subjected to domestic violence and their children. Welcome Packs are provided in each room for new families arriving. These packs include shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, single bedding, nappies, children's vests pants and socks (NEW), nighties and pants (NEW). There will be a box in the porch for donations next weekend.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – Will resume at all weekend Masses on the weekend of **26th and 27th November 2016**.

SAFEGUARDING – VULNERABLE ADULT TRAINING – **Tuesday 29 November 2016**, 7.00pm to 9.00pm in the parish hall. This is especially for those ministering to adults, e.g. night shelter and taking communion/visiting sick and housebound of the parish. If you are unsure that you need to attend Please phone or text Marion McGuire to discuss and let her know you wish to attend 07712048695

DEATH CAFÉ, CROWTHORNE - **Tuesday 29th November** at Beaton's Tea Rooms. Please see the poster in the porch for more details.

PILGRIM HEARTS PRAYER EVENING - **Wednesday 30th November 2016** 7.30pm at Easthampstead Baptist Church, South Hill Park Road. All are welcome.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS RE-LAUNCH - To all young persons aged 12-17 years, St Joseph's Parish Youth Group an invitation to an all-inclusive fun-filled experience in the Parish Hall on **Friday 2nd December 2016** 7:00pm to 9:30 pm. Come celebrate the end of an era that marks the beginning of a new direction. Discover what is to come in the first quarter of next year. Please see the flyers in the porch.

THE YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEER AND SPONSORS APPEAL - A youth community needs ongoing activities to support youth initiatives and thrives on adult presence for safeguarding intents and purposes, requires expertise and know-how occasionally. We appeal to adults who can contribute to contact the parish office or bkmaimo23@gmail.com. We aim for a model where volunteers do a little bit some of the time in an area of interest as opposed to an isolated few doing everything all the time.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS FAYRE – At St Joseph's School **Friday 2 December 2016**, 3.30pm to 6.00pm. Please support the school and the children.

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS FAYRE – At St Margaret Clitherow School **Saturday 3 December 2016**, 12.30pm to 3.00pm. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all weekend Masses.

DEPUTY MANAGER: NIGHT SHELTER - 2 nights per week, commencing **Friday 2 December 2016** Fridays and Saturdays from 7.00pm to 7.00am until end of March 2017. This is a part-time paid role for up to 4 months. Training will be provided. Details contact pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com

ADVENT VIGIL – On **Friday 2 December 2016** from 8.00pm until midnight, the Prayer Group will hold an Advent Vigil in the Church. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with prayer and later a talk and refreshments in the hall.

CAFOD RETREAT - PROCLAIMING THE MERCY OF GOD - Saturday 3 December 2016. As this Year of Mercy draws to a close, join CAFOD for a special retreat at St Mary's parish hall, 59 Normandy Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1DN from 10am to 4pm. Booking is essential via 01252 329385 or portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

BRACKNELL FOREST CATENIANS FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVENING – **Tuesday 6 December 2016** at The Hilton Hotel, Bracknell. We meet at 7.00pm for 7.30pm dinner. The cost of the 3-course meal is £24 per person. All are very welcome, to book please contact Richard Taylor on **01344 566956**, we need to ensure your meal prepared and ready for you!

CHRISTMAS BELLS - Thames Voyces Chamber Choir invite you to an evening of Christmas carols and readings with them. Interval drinks and mince pies available and we hope that you will join in with the audience carols! The concert is on **Saturday 10 December 2016** at 7.30pm (after 6.00pm Mass). Tickets £12 or £10 (concessions) U16's free, available on the door or our website www.thamesvoyces.org.uk

ST JOSEPH & ST MARGARET CLITHEROW JOINT CAROL SERVICE - Our two primary schools will be gathering on **Wednesday 14th December 2016** at 6.00pm for a Carol Concert outside the Church, town centre. Please come and support our children as they embrace the final part of their Advent journey.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES – Will be held at Corpus Christie Church, 60 Sturges Road, Wokingham, RG40 2HE on **Wednesday 14 December 2016** at 7.30pm and at Immaculate Conception Church, 63-67 Yorktown Road, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS on **Thursday 15 December 2016** at 7.30pm.

BRACKNELL CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT - On Saturday 17 December 2016, performing Handel's Messiah in St Joseph's Church, starts at 7.30pm. **No 6.00pm Vigil Mass on 17 December 2016.** Tickets are £15, accompanied under 18s are free, includes free glass of wine and mince pie. Contact Fiona Hardman [07922 662740](tel:07922662740) or fionhardman@gmail.com to reserve your ticket. Tickets will be available on the door on the night. For more information please visit our website www.bracknellchoral.org.uk

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – “Longing for the Messiah”. Please join us at Gospel Challenge if you would like to reflect on the beautiful Advent scripture readings. We'll meet on the Monday evenings, **28th November** at 58 Qualitas and **12th December 2016** at 86 Qualitas. More information from Anne Gibbons or Louise Birley through the Parish office.

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

TODDLER GROUP – Resumes **Tuesday 29 November 2016.**

PRAYER GROUPS -The Evening Prayer Group 7.45pm - 9.30pm 1st/3rd Tuesday Church Hall. Daytime group 10.30am - 11.30a.m. 1st/3rd Wednesday Church Hall.

RCIA – Sessions every Thursday 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Hall.

SOUP & ROLL – After 12.10pm Mass every Friday during term time.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING – *Thank you.* Total amount £1434.12. Please make cheques payable to “PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph”.



The RCIA team who give of their time, knowledge and nurturing support to the candidates who are on their journey of faith to join our community.