

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
BEING AT PEACE, BEING AT REST
SUNDAY 5 JULY 2020

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Jesus found out that, no matter what you do, you just can't please some people. His beautiful teaching is rejected by the religious and political elite. They bypass the beauty of His Word because they prefer to sit in cafes and bars making dark judgements. They are learned and clever about the 613 dictates of the Law. They tithe herbs to God but ignore the justice God longs for. They like being in charge. They like to be seen and seen as movers and shakers. They like telling other people what they ought to be doing. But they are only interested in the outside of the cup. They are masters of the detail, obsessing over surface rather than depth.

If anyone should come to them with a new idea, it is rejected if it doesn't fit in with how they see things. And surely how they see things is the only way to see things. Experts at categorising others for exclusion, they are clever enough to maintain their own position of privilege. They argue endlessly about God, Morality and Theology, not because they want to Grow in Wisdom, but to keep God at a distance. They never ever come to Jesus seeking the truth. They come to compete and to try to trap Jesus in a maze of their own making.

But Jesus teaching is being accepted by those who are not 'learned' or 'clever'. Jesus praises His Father for working in this way and decides that, if the Father hides and reveals in this way, this is how the Mission of the Son should unfold.

The mind of a child is eager and open. It is not cluttered or defensive. The mind of a child is always changing and growing and adapting to novelty. But most importantly, the mind of a child is relational. This openness gives the Father huge pleasure, so He pours life and love into the hearts of those with a child mind. If they find pleasure in God, they will effortlessly walk the pathways of Justice and Peace.

Jesus exemplifies this child mind. He stretches out His hands to those who struggle to be good by conforming to the endless petty laws that defeat, rather than nurture, the human spirit. He calls all who have lost their taste for life to the banquet. He has a special place in His heart for those who are suffering, especially those whose suffering have caused them to lose heart. He offers them the rest which unfolds from a profound intimate relationship with His Father.

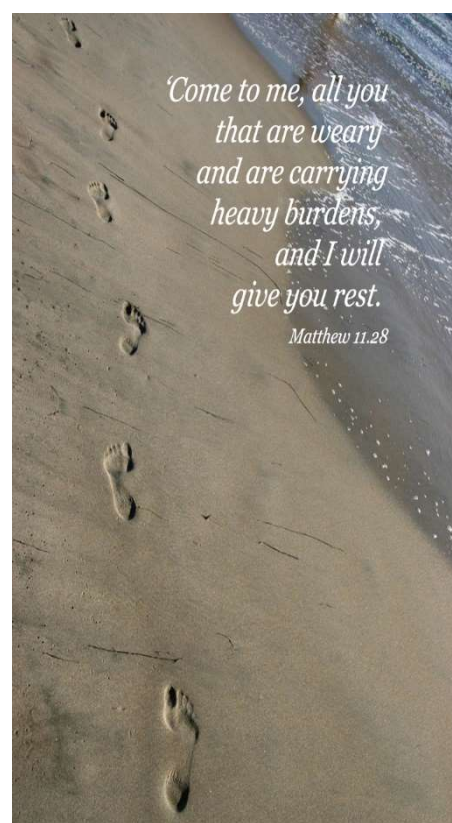
I do believe that Jesus still speaks to the many who are weary and exhausted today. Those who have to work too many hours. Those who are so anxious that they cannot rest. Those who believe they have to always be in control, and who can't trust enough to let go. He teaches that we can rest by disengaging from our mighty egos and becoming like children who are pleased to be carried. It's like your starting in Footsteps, but this time, you know you are!

Many poets have played with this experience of inner rest. Rainer Maria Rilke, in his 'Selected Poems' reflects on the experience of inner rest. He describes the awkward labouring steps of the swan walking on land. Who then,

.... let's herself down into the water,  
which receives her gaily and which flows joyfully under,  
and after her, wave after wave, while the swan,  
unmoved and marvellously calm, is pleased to be carried,  
each moment more fully grown. (p.141)

And DH Lawrence in his 'Pax', speaks of -

... a cat asleep on a chair, at peace, at peace ...  
Sleeping on the hearth of the living world,  
yawning at home before the fire of life  
feeling the presence of the living God  
like a great reassurance  
a deep calm in the heart. (p.700)





## WAYS TO MAKE AN OFFERING TO OUR PARISH

### Direct Bank Transfer

The easiest way to make your Offering is by making a direct transfer into our account via a Standing Order or Direct Debit, also complete a Gift Aid form. The Standing Order, Direct Debit and Gift Aid forms are on our website in the "Planned Giving" section and a copy of each form attached to the newsletter email.

#### 1. Standing Order

If you use on-line banking, probably the best way is by a regular standing order. For many banks you can set it up yourself on-line and change it as required. The account details for the church are;

|                                                          |                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Account Name:</b> PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph          | <b>Sort Code:</b> 30-93-04      |
| <b>Bank:</b> Lloyds Bank Plc, Palmerston Road, Southsea. | <b>Account Number:</b> 00875520 |

Or, if you prefer, you can complete a Standing Order form **and take the form to your own bank**. If you wish to change the amount donated you just inform your bank. Please complete and return a Gift Aid form to the Parish Office.

The electronic forms are on the website.

#### 2. Direct Debit

An alternative method is to use Direct Debit. To set up a Direct Debit complete the Direct Debit form **and take the form to your own bank**. You will need to fill in a new form each time you want to change it. If you have not already done so and are able, please complete and return a Gift Aid form to the Parish Office.

#### 3. Non-Regular Transfers

If you do not want to make a regular payment you can use on-line banking to make a payment at any time. Use the account details shown in 1. above. Please use the reference section of the on-line payment to state what money is for. For example, for general offering put "Offering" for the hardship fund put "Hardship" or whichever is appropriate.

#### 4. Weekly Envelopes

Due to the Lockdown we have not been able to distribute the new envelopes but hope to be able to make them available soon. These help, as with your envelope number we can claim back the tax if you Gift Aid your Offering. These envelopes are expensive to have printed and means that you have to remember to place your offering in the envelope for Mass, less convenient than Standing Order or Direct Debit.

#### 5. Gift Aid

Whichever method you use, please Gift Aid your offering. You only need to do it once. The government spends our taxes based on its priorities which don't always match our own. We can re-direct some of our tax money to better things. By using Gift Aid on your offerings, we can claim an extra 25% from the Inland Revenue. It does not cost you anything but there are two conditions:

- a. The person giving the offering must be a UK taxpayer.
- b. The person giving the offering must pay more in tax than they give to charity.

If you haven't already Gift Aided your offering all you have to do is complete a Gift Aid form and send it to the Parish Office.

## SOME OTHER WAYS YOU COULD HELP KEEP OUR PARISH SOLVENT

### Corporate Matching Gift Program

Matching gifts are when companies match donations that their employees make to charities. When an employee makes a charitable donation, they will request a matching gift from their employer, who then makes their own donation. Companies usually make a donation on a 1:1 ratio, but some will double, triple, or even quadruple your donation.

For example: if you donate £1,000 to the parish, and your company matches on a 1:1 ratio, the parish receives £2,000; £1,000 from you and £1,000 from your company. This is an excellent way of expanding your gift to the parish, and it doesn't cost any more than what you already give.

The list of companies who offer gift matching is extensive, and it includes most major banks, insurance companies, and other organizations, both large and small. If you would like to see your sharing go even further, why not ask if your company has gift matching programme?

## Legacy Giving

What we do with the gifts we have been given expresses what we believe. A legacy is a gift left for the benefit of future generations. Our Christian faith, even in death, calls us to witness the new life that God gives in Christ through his death and resurrection.

Your gift may take many forms such as:

- Lump sum bequests as stated in your will
- Beneficiary of Life Insurance or Tax-Free Savings Account
- Bequest of a specific asset such as real estate or securities

Gifts may be made by individuals, families, organizations and/or corporations. Giving to charity can earn significant estate benefits and provide tax advantages for individual and business owners. These gifts may be directed to the general revenues of the Parish or to any specific ministry within the Parish such as:

Debt reduction • Children & Youth • Music • Outreach • Adult Faith Formation • Sacraments • Evangelization • Alpha



**CAR PARK SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** – The 2020-2021 car park subscription forms are available to download from the website or emailed to you on request. The subscriptions are for parishioners **only** renewals and new subscriptions. The new subscription period is from **Wednesday 1 July 2020** until **Wednesday 30 June 2021**.

Although the church car park is not in isolation, only the buildings are, you can park here if you have paid a subscription. As an act of goodwill, we are reducing the car park fee to **£40.00** for 2020/2021, as many subscription parishioners have not been able to use the car park due to personal isolation. Disability Blue Badge holders are free of charge, valid Blue Badge details will be required. **Expired subscriptions, not renewed, will be removed from the system.**

Please complete the form and return it to the parish office, via Royal Mail please include a stamped addressed envelope for sending your new window sticker, or through the Presbytery letterbox, along with your cash or cheque payment. The new windscreen sticker is yellow this year and can be collected from the Presbytery, please be aware that you will be challenged if you park in the church car park without displaying a valid sticker. In accordance with new GDPR guidelines all 2019 subscription forms will be shredded.



## OPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION

Thank you to all the parishioners who have volunteered to Steward at the private prayer and contemplation sessions in our Church, we are most grateful.

**These quiet prayerful sessions are Monday to Saturday 10am to 12 noon.**

Our parishioner capacity is a maximum of 35 persons made up of 2 sets of one parent and one small child designated seats; 7 sets of one person designated seats and 12 sets of two persons from the same household designated seats. Two areas for the mobility impaired parishioners have 9 seats available, please let the Steward know on your arrival if you have limited mobility. The wooden pews are the only seating allowed to be used to enable cleaning when you leave your seat, the pink soft seats are all cordoned off. The "out of bounds" seating are marked off with red and white tape. Social distancing of 2 metres must be maintained throughout your visit.

Please enter the church via the usual front doors. You will be warmly greeted in the porch by a Steward wearing PPE who will administer hand sanitiser and advise directions to seats and exits, You will be asked your name and phone number (mobile or landline) on your arrival, this is to comply with tracking and tracing. **Able-bodied parishioners will exit the church via the hall front doors (please do not try to enter the church via the hall), mobility impaired parishioners will exit via the doors near St Anthony, into the porch and out of the main doors.** Hand sanitiser will be offered on exit. If you are "shielding", "self-isolating" or feeling the symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature, persistent cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell) we ask that you do not come to the church for private prayer to avoid possible spread of the virus. Thank you in advance for complying to the instructions from the Stewards.

**The toilets will be closed, please do not ask to use them as the request will be refused.**

## 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, Peter Dossett, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Angelina Ediale, Josephine Timms, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews, Derek Alexander, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Doreen Gladwin, Jerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Jenny Bashford, Donal Hanley, Jim and Frances McEvoy, Mary Murray, Thelma Briggs, Margaret Pearce, Audrey Lam, Pam Savage, Marie Swash, Terri Landmann, Jennie Tucker, Vilma Taborda, Zac Hoy, Terry and Mary Brennan, Brenda Lynch, Amanda Killestein, Doreen Pryor

*If you would like to add a name to this list with consent, or if you want a name removed, please contact the Parish Office.*



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

**Marie Hughes, RIP who died on Sunday 21 June 2020. Marie's funeral is on Tuesday 14 July at Easthampstead Park. Please also pray for her family and friends.**

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

**PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL**

**We are now open for Private Prayer,  
Contemplation and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**These quiet prayerful sessions are Monday to Saturday  
10.00am to 12.00 noon**

**You will be greeted at the door by one of our trained Stewards,  
who will give you help and guidance with sanitising,  
social distancing, directions to seating and exits.  
Please comply with the instructions from the Stewards,  
without their generosity of their time  
we would not be able to open the Church**

**Mass is livestreamed every Sunday at 10.30am  
please join us via the following links:**

**Facebook: <https://facebook.com/stjandstmcbrecknell/>**

**Website: <https://bracknellcatholicchurch.org>**

**If you need to contact us, the details are in the box below**

**You are all in our hearts and prayers**

**Look after each other  
be kind, be safe be well**

**“Mother Earth is the source of life not a resource”**

**Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA**

**Telephone: 01344 425729**

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

**Pastoral Care: 07394 440938 email: [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**

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

**Follow us on Facebook**

**DIRECT DEBIT, STANDING ORDER AND GIFT AID FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM  
THE PARISH WEBSITE (drop down menu “Planned Giving”)**

**BANK DETAILS: Account Name: PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**

**Sort Code: 30-93-04; Account Number: 00875520**

**Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Palmerstone Road, Southsea**

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO (FULL NAME):**

**PRCDTR BRACKNELL ST JOSEPH**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Daniel McAvoy**

**Deacon: Rev. Aidan Lynch**

**Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Fisher**

**Pastoral Assistant: Mary McNab**

**Safeguarding Representatives: Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read**

**Safeguarding email: [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**