

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

THE BEAUTIFUL SHEPHERD

22 April 2018 – Mass Book Page 261, Psalter Week 4



The Beloved Son of God, loves without regret, loves without end, loves to breaking point. His life is 'given' into the life of His friends. He loves unconditionally and has the safety of His friends always in His Sacred Heart. His love does not recede or vanish when trouble arrives. The Shepherd dies. The sheep live. This is what makes Him the Good Shepherd.



His disciples know well what it is like to be carried by hired hands; who really have no care for their sheep and abandon them when trouble arrives. They are only interested and concerned with themselves and are motivated by rewards. The appearance of the wolf is like a bright light which shows them in their true colours. The sheep die. The shepherd escapes.

The Good Shepherd has seen that when He is "lifted up" He "will draw" other sheep to Himself. What is so attractive about Him? Is it not that He reveals the kind of loving that transforms death into life. The power of this truth will be a magnet that will create one community from the vast diversity of people on the earth. This is how His Fathers' life works in and through His Beloved Son. Jesus freely enters the realm of death. On the surface, it might look as if His life is in the hands of His enemies. But at a deeper level, the act of, "laying it down" and "taking it up again" has always been His choice, His work.

Two lovers gaze into each other's eyes on their wedding day and say without any reserve in their hearts that their love will be true, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health. A mother and father hold their new-born baby in their arms for the first time, and from some vastness of Love within themselves say, "I would lay down my life for you." A friend sits at the bedside of a friend who is dying and says, "I'm not going away". Life presents us with many moments, large and small, where we commit ourselves without reserve to another person's life. But these are not moments that we choose. They are simply something we are. We do not boast of this love since it does not appear to be something of our own making. We can only humbly accept it for what it is. We can only accept to be unconditional love. We might say, this love chooses us.

It seems that Jesus had many ways to try and give us an insight into who He is. Perhaps this week you could look at some of these themes which always begin with the words "I Am"..... the Bread of Life, the Light of the World and so on. But perhaps there is no image as clear as the one offered in this week's Sunday Gospel. He is most Himself when He is laying down His life for His sheep. His "I Am." is carried on the same breath as a "May you be."

And so, it is with us. Perhaps the glimpses we catch of our true self are rare. But we do see them, and they are real. The joy this brings makes us attractive. It is the magnet Jesus said it would be. If you are drawn to this revelation, you might be interested to know that the Greek word for good, 'kalos', can also be translated as Beautiful.

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Saturday	21 st	6.00pm	Mass	Karl Smith, RIP
Sunday	22 nd	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	C Mathew Chandy & Elsie Chandy RIP
Monday	23 rd	No Mass		
Tuesday	24 th	9.30am	Mass	Veronica Quijalvo

ST MARK, Apostle, Feast

Wednesday	25 th	9.30am	Mass	Helen Breen O'Grady
Thursday	26 th	9.30am	Mass	Serafina Delmundo and Filipino Community
Friday	27 th	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Pro-Life, Abortion Act Anniversary

ST LOUIS GRIGNION de MONTFORT, Founder

Saturday	28 th	10.00am	Mass	Montfort Fathers in the Diocese
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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

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**Tuesday to Thursday During Lent:** 11.00am Exposition; **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 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 - APRIL** – 23<sup>rd</sup> St George; 25<sup>th</sup> St Mark; 28<sup>th</sup> St Louis Grignion de Montfort;  
**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 3rd Saturday 2pm in the Hall.



**MASS OFFERINGS: £1,666.94 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 - APRIL: 21/22 Clergy Training Fund; 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, Tim Roberts, Tess Johnson, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Eileen Ing.



# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**THANK YOU!** My heartfelt thanks for your overwhelming kindness, generosity and love, I was stunned by the very generous offerings you made over the Easter Season, both in terms of personal gifts and the Easter Offering. It is a privilege and an honour to be your Parish Priest, my love always. Fr Danny.



**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**



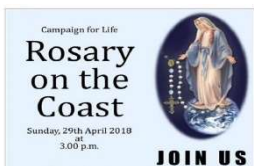
**BINGO NIGHT – Saturday 21 April 2018** commencing **7:30pm** in the Church Hall. Bar facilities from **7:00pm**. Prize money to be won and free pizza. First game free then 50p per game. Come enjoy and meet new people. Please see the poster on the porch noticeboard.



**RELIC OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE – 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018**, the Relic will be visiting the Polish Church of Divine Mercy at Slough. Please see the poster on the porch noticeboard.



**CLOTHES BANK** - The Clothes Bank Giveaway, held every quarter in St Joseph's Church Hall and coordinated by St Mark's Church Binfield, will be on **Wednesday 25 April 2018**. The ClothesBank would appreciate donations of good quality used clothes for adults (men and women) and children of all ages and children's trainers, especially sizes 10 – 2. Some clothes cannot be passed on though: pyjamas, underwear and socks, for example, need to be new. Please leave your donations in the ClothesBank container that will be in the porch at St Joseph's Church at all weekend Masses, **21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> April** but please not before that weekend. Help will be needed with sorting of clothes at St Mark's Binfield on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018**, from 9.30am and with setting up at St Joseph's on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018** at around 9.15am ready for the Giveaway to start at 10.15am finishing at 1pm. Also, if you would benefit from help of this kind please contact the parish office.



**ROSARY ON THE COAST:** Bishop Philip asks us all to join in praying the Rosary on during the week and up to **Sunday 29 April 2018 at 3pm**. Please join us to say the Rosary in the church on Sunday 29 April at 3.00pm, 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> (Look at "Spiritual preparation" and "View Document" for suggestions.)



**BRACKNELL FOODBANK** – The FoodBank is running low on some items: fruit juice (long life 1l), sponge puddings (long life tinned or twin pack), tinned rice pudding, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, tinned meat. All donations can be handed in to the parish office. Thank you.



**KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA**.- Are looking for men to join their order, for more information, please email [thamesvalley25@talktalk.net](mailto:thamesvalley25@talktalk.net)



**NEW THEATRE ROYAL, PORTSMOUTH – SATURDAY 5 MAY 2018, 9.30am to 5.00pm**, Diocesan Day in Preparation for Eucharistic Congress! Workshops with Keynote speakers. **A day for all to come and Adore!** Free event, booking essential via [congress@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:congress@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or 07780 221686



**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)