

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW
THE YEAR OF LUKE THE YEAR OF MERCY
THE RELENTLESS WIDOW
THE BAPTISM OF JESUS: MAKING IT CLEAR

10th January 2016 Psalter Week 1

Parish Office: Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA
Monday – Friday 9am-3pm

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In the Books of the Tannach – the ones we call the Old Testament – God never seems to stop talking! Yet, in the Gospels, the Abba of Jesus only speaks twice, with only one sentiment, "This is my Beloved Son, listen to Him". Jesus Baptism and Transfiguration make His identity (Beloved Son) and His mission (Bringer of Good News) crystal clear. Yet, after His Baptism, the Holy Spirit drives Him into the desert where he must reject a false understanding of what it means to be the Beloved Son of God.

The Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke comment on the problem of Jesus asking for John's Baptism of Repentance for the forgiveness of sins. For Matthew, Jesus Baptism creates an unbroken relationship with those He will have to seek out, especially those who will make Him suffer. Mark and Luke, have John simply fulfil his lesser role and stay in it.

Perhaps this Feast provides a wonderful moment for each of us to reflect on the meaning of our own Baptism. What does it mean to us that those who loved us brought us to this community? What does it mean to us to have been enrolled in the school of Love? What does it mean to us to know that we are eternally held by the Love which is our Life? What does it mean to us to be Blessed, Forgiven and Sealed with the Fire of the Holy Spirit? What does it mean to us to have been robed in Light and to discover, over time, that this Light never fails? And how does all of this shape the story we tell about ourselves and empower our commitment to bringing God's Dream into reality?

At a recent post baptismal 'do', Champagne was spilled into glasses. The little girl's father raised his glass to the guests and said, " To my little girl, and to all of you who love her so much. Be good to her as she grows up!" Her mother raised her glass and added, "And for the world. Let's make it a place where every child can grow up in safety and peace!"

Identity and Mission, Identity and Mission, Identity and Mission.....



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St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday	9 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Sydney & Mary Egan†
Sunday	10 th	8.30am	Mass	Joan Healey†
		10.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
Monday	11 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	12 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday	13 th	9.30am	Mass	Joolz & Family
		9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Gerard Dineen
Thursday	14 th	10.15am	Rosary	
		9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	St. MC School
Friday	15 th	10.15am	Mothers Prayers	
		11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	John & Anne-Marie Bowler-Reed†
Saturday	16 th	7.00pm	Rosary	
		9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Bereavement Service
		10.45am	Confessions	
<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</i>				
Saturday	16 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Agnes O'Farrell & Family†
Sunday	17 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Elizabeth & Frank McManon†

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

Sick and Housebound: Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Audrey Dunne, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Sue Beasley, Adrian Sweeney, Thelma Briggs, Johanna Lenz, Peggy Prendergast, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Bridget Tanner, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Winnie Justice, Inge Walker, Bill Guilfoyle and Yvonne Gantzer.

Those who are unwell or in hospital: Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Eileen Collins, Una Mair, Esther Brophy, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy and Nora Cronin.

THANK YOU WITH ALL MY HEART - I was astonished and delighted by the generosity of the parish at Christmas time. Thank you so much for all your gifts and prayers, they are appreciated more than words can express.

PLEASE PRAY FOR – Simon Poile, his wife and three teenage sons. Simon is under the care of the local hospice and is being nursed at home. I assured his wife and sons that we would not forget them as they make this most difficult journey. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

PAX CHRISTI – Next **Sunday 17th January** is Peace Sunday. The theme of this year's day of prayer is, "Overcome Indifference And Win Peace". Pope Francis urges us to reflect on how we can challenge the causes of injustice and violence in today's world. We are greatly heartened by the outpouring of empathy and action in the face of the current refugee crisis. But unless we combine this with work to stop the causes of war we will not win peace. For further insight into how this might be done please visit info@paxchristi.org.uk. This is a wonderful Catholic organisation with only four staff members and with no charitable status who are very deserving of our continued support.

CARITAS – DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH – The new website of Caritas has recently gone live – please see www.caritasdioceseofportsmouth.org.uk. There is information here about recent initiatives, including a trip to 'the Jungle' migrants' camp in Calais and a monthly newsletter from the Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility Team. There are also ways to get involved detailed on the website.

NIGHT SHELTER – Thank you very much for the generous donations. We have now everything we need to do this work well. Thank you once again. This Sunday 10th January we open our doors to the homeless for shelter for the first time.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – Will continue to meet every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on **Monday 11th January** at 75 Qualitas, Bracknell. Venues for the subsequent meetings in January, February and March will be published later this month.

SVP – The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 12th January** in the Hall at 10.15am.

PARENT & TODDLERS GROUP – This recommences on **Tuesday 12th January** from 9.30am – 11.30am in the church hall. All are welcome.

CRAFT GROUP – will meet on **Wednesday 13th January** in the Hall from 11.00am-12.00am.

PPC – The next meeting is in the Hall on **Wednesday 13th January** at 7.15pm.

JUSTICE AND PEACE – The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 14th January** from 7.00pm-8.00pm in the hall.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET – is on **Sunday 17th January** at 2.30pm.

THE CHURCH SHOP – Will be holding a January sale **throughout January**. Items will be marked at **UP TO 50% OFF**, so come along and grab that bargain!

ADORE (Alton Day Of Renewal) - Please join us for a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on the Year of Mercy, on **Saturday 23rd January** at St. Lucy's Convent, Medstead Manor, Medstead. GU34 5LL. 11.00am *Rosary*; 11.30am *Mass*; 12.15 *Adoration* of the Blessed Sacrament; 1.00pm Shared lunch; 2.00pm *Praise & Worship*; 2.30 *Talk* by Derek Williams, Catholic Evangelist on "Our participation in God's Mercy"; 3.30 *Prayer for healing*; and Tea. We end about 4pm.

There is no need to reserve places, and no charge (though a collection will be taken to cover costs). For more information see website: www.altonrenewal.com Or telephone Deacon John Foley on 07769 251747.

Following meeting – Saturday 27th February 11.00-4.00. Guest speaker: Charles Whitehead.

CAFOD - Could you help CAFOD here at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow? CAFOD is currently looking for people to help us thank parishioners here in Bracknell for their support and assist with Fast Days (twice a year). If you could spare any time to help fight poverty and injustice please contact Lynda Mussell for more information on 01252 329385 or portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

CAFOD PORTSMOUTH SUPPORTERS' MEETING - Join us at our next meeting on **Saturday 23 January** from 10am until 1.30pm at St Bede's RC Primary School (Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX) where we will explore our Lenten resources and hear more about CAFOD's water programmes in Uganda. To book a place, please ring 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk by 15 January 2016.

SOUP AND ROLLS – Now back on the menu and serving every Friday after the 12.10 Mass!

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING
Total £1101.13 - Thank You

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES
PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph



**For all you do for the
poor**