

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

THE YEAR OF MARK: EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM AFTER THE BAPTISM

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
11th January 2015 Psalter Week 1

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

Telephone: 01344 425729 Email: stj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk

Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07593 065 526

After the Baptism, we were back at the house. The baby was sleeping, food was being served and glasses filled.

Her daddy raises his glass, "To Amy and to all of you who love her so much. Be good to her as she grows up". Her mummy continues, "And for the world. Let's make it a place where Amy and every child can grow up in peace, free from fear and filled with love". Amen to that the guests shout as the champagne flows down their throats.

Everyone moves happily towards the buffet and I am left alone with Amy. The Amen has woken her up. She starts crying. I put my finger in the palm of her hand. She grasps it and I let her hold it until her distress, like all distress, eventually passes away.



As Catholics, we don't celebrate the individual seeker, the lonely exile walking in search of God. We're all in this together. Everything is relationship. No one excluded. No one.

And as I stand with my finger in this little girl's hand on the day of her Baptism, I ponder the water, the oil, the candle and the baptismal gown. These invite me to see what the camera can never capture. To see from the soul. And I say to Amy in the silence of my heart. "Never forget that the touch of the flesh is spirit. Embrace what others will push away. Bless whatever seeks you out. Lay hands on the heads of the young. Because it is their day that is dawning. Go to other Baptisms, they will help you to understand your own".

Perhaps she can hear me. Her free hand is waving up and down. She smiles as she conducts an orchestra only she can hear.

Laughter explodes from the next room. Her grandfather is doing one of his tricks. "Stay close to them," I whisper to her. "They will teach you how to drink from the sky".

St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday	10 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Patrick O'Brien†
Sunday	11 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	James & Johanna Moriarty†
Monday	12 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	13 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Daphne Channing
Wednesday	14 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Dennis Coleman† & Frances Glen†
		10.15am	Rosary	
Thursday	15 th	9.00am	School Mass at	St Margaret Clitherow School
		11.15am	Requiem Mass	Mary Gourlay†
Friday	16 th	9.00am	School Mass at	St Joseph's School
		11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Robin Cousens†
		7.00pm	Rosary	

ST ANTHONY OF EGYPT

Saturday	17 th	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Felix Villahermosa†
		10.30am	Confessions	

SECOND WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	17 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Peter Thomas Golden†
Sunday	18 th	8.30am	Mass	Stephen Lee†
		10.30am	Mass	Michael Watts†

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

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Audrey Dunne, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Sue Beasley, Adrian Sweeney, Thelma Briggs, Johanna Lenz, Nancy Curtis, Peggy Prendergast, June Bartlett, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Tim Brierley, Bridget Tanner, Teresa Mercieca, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone, Marjory Vermuelen and Patrick Holmwood

And those who are unwell or in hospital

Peter Bentley, Kenneth Maimo, Freda Crookall, Kate McGrath, Anne Adams, Yvette Briggs, Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Sheila O'Neill, Eileen Collins, Eileen Green, Carol Clarke and Alex McCall

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PLEASE PRAY FOR – The repose of the souls of David Hancock†, Dermot Murphy†, Mary Margaret Gourlay†, Gloria Carmen Marriot† and Margaret Turner† who have died recently. Please also remember in your prayers their families and friends. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE - If you would like to know more about the scripture readings we hear at Mass, you are very welcome to join us on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, when we prepare for the coming Sunday. We will meet in the Parish Room on Mondays **12th and 26th January** from 7.45 to 9.30 pm. Just turn up (to the Brown front door) or, if you'd like to know more, call Anne on 01344 451847

CARERS AND TODDLERS GROUP - Each **Tuesday** in the Hall 9.30am-11.30am.

JOURNEY OF FAITH – Every **Tuesday**. You are invited to join any of our weekly sessions to deepen your Catholic Faith from 7.30pm-9.00pm in the Church Hall. The week's topic for 13th January is **The Eucharist & Confirmation**.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Our first meeting of the New Year will be at 7.15pm on Wed 14 January. This is one area where we constantly need new blood, people who can give us a fresh perspective on the Parish and who are willing to use their gifts and talents for the benefit of the Parish. Why not come along and join us next Wednesday?

SOUP & ROLL – After the 12.10pm Mass every Friday. Everyone is welcome.

QUIZ NIGHT – Back for its 3rd year Catherine Hannan's super Charity Quiz and Raffle. On 17th January 2015 at 7.15pm in the Church Hall. Cost £6 per person. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Tea, coffee and cakes will be available. All money raised this year will go to Child Bereavement UK. To donate or pay for tickets please go to UK Virgin Money Giving and type in Catherine's name.

STUDY DAY FOR CATECHISTS – "Come Follow Me" is a catechetical programme for children ages 7-11. There will be a study day for catechists at **St Mary's, Alton** on **17th January 2015** 9.30am-4.30pm. The day is primarily aimed at those leading Children's Liturgy on Sundays. Refreshments will be provided and soup for lunch. Please bring some sandwiches. Mass will also be celebrated. The cost of the day is £5 per person. If you wish to attend, please book your place by emailing St Mary's Parish to assist with catering: stmarysalton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

ECHOES – PARISH BASED CATECHISTS' FORMATION – Echoes is a parish based formation for catechists and those involved in handing on the Faith. It builds on a sense of parish community and shared responsibility for the work of catechesis. A special training day for Priests and Catechists will be held at **St Edward the Confessor, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2DU** on **24 January 2015** 10.00am - 3.00pm. (bring a packed lunch). **CONTACT:** Sr. Veronica @ 01590 681874 or e mail dominican.sisters@talk21.com

CAFOD PORTSMOUTH SUPPORTERS' MEETING - CAFOD Portsmouth will be holding a meeting for all supporters on Saturday **31 January 2015** from 10am until 1.30pm at St Bede's RC Primary School (Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX Booking essential. Please ring 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk by 26 January 2015.

PARISH NEWS

WE WELCOME FR JOHN TAYLOR – From the Mill Hill Missionaries this weekend while Fr Danny is on holiday.

BRACKNELL LIFE HOUSE – Very many thanks from the mothers and babies in the LIFE House for the very generous gifts at the Children's Christmas Mass. They gave great pleasure.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR COMMUNITY – Charlotte Austin-Aldatz and Joshua Sanna. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

FOODBANK CHRISTMAS APPEAL – Heartfelt thanks for your generous offerings.

TERIMA KASIH FOR TSUNAMI GIVING - For their 10-years-on review, CAFOD asked Hugh Gibbons to reflect on his 2005 visit to their recovery projects in Banda Aceh. It's at www.blog.cafod.org.uk/2014/12/27/tsunami-terima-kasih-thank-you - and centres on the Indonesian for thank you

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE LATEST NEWS! - The Diocese of Portsmouth now issues a weekly e-news with photos, news, and information from around the Diocese. Go to www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk and add your email address to receive these updates. Are you on Facebook? Like 'Diocese of Portsmouth' to get all the latest info as it happens. You can also follow @BishopEgan and @PortsmouthRC on Twitter.

THANK YOU – To all who contributed their time and talents to make our Church so beautiful for the Feast of Christmas, it was stunning.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND – If you would like prayers for anyone who is sick, housebound or in hospital and those who care for them, please contact the Parish Office on 01344 425729 or speak to Fr. Danny.

THE PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER – Is **07936 538 167**. Fr Danny can be contacted on this number by those who are very ill or needing viaticum.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Total £1258.62- Thank You

**PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**