

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW
THE YEAR OF LUKE THE YEAR OF MERCY
HOLDING ONTO SIN OR FORGIVING FOR LIFE

13th March 2016 Psalter Week 1

Parish Office: Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA

Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

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

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk

Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07712048695

This week we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation in three venues in our pastoral area. I hope and pray that, like myself, you will come and celebrate this beautiful Sacrament, and receive abundant graces by doing so.

Many people have asked what it was that Jesus wrote in the sand in today's Gospel story. I always answer that it doesn't matter what He wrote. What matters is that He wrote with His finger, that He wrote twice and that He bent straightened and bent again.

These actions would have taken everyone to Exodus, The amazing story of the Ten Commandments, written by the 'Finger of God' into the hardest of rock, which Moses smashed to pieces. God asks Moses to cut two more stone tablets. "I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which 'you' broke". This is the Truth of Twice. God always gives another chance. What about us?



Dorothy Parker is quoted as saying, "if you haven't got anything good to say about someone, come and sit beside me." Holding onto other people's sins is a popular pastime. Few can resist it. Mostly we mindlessly engage in it. Sin sticks. Ask anyone who has been caught, brought and made to stand there.

Perhaps this is why the Risen Christ brings the glue of sin to the awareness of His disciples. He breathes solvent on them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Those whose sins you forgive.....'

This is to be the first building block of the new community. We can hold each other in our mistakes or let go. We can be a prison to one another or the source of release. We call this release, 'Forgiving for Life'. It means seeing everyone as poised on the edge of possibility, of a future that is not shaped by their past. The new community will make it a priority to help make this happen. For and Give signify a total giving into the future that is emerging.

None of us want to be identified with our past but with the future we are moving towards. In this vision, the most beautiful word which comes from Jesus is the word, "Go!"

DATES AND NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sean Little†, his Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at St. Joseph's on **Tuesday 15th March at 11.30am**. Douglas Bishop† his Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at St. Joseph's on **Wednesday 23rd March at 11.00am** and Mary Scammerton†. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – The next meeting will be held on Monday **14th March** at 7.45pm at 9 Anford Place, for more information please call Anne on 01344 451847.

DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK - 12th - 19th March 2016. The national Dementia Prayer Week organised by the Pastoral Care Project is an invitation to everyone to pray for and with those who live among us with dementia. "Lord, thank you for your presence this moment, holding us in your love. Help us to share your love with those who live among us with dementia, that we may see your beauty in them. Amen"

LAY FANCISCANS (OFS) – Is this Sunday **13th March** at 2.00pm in the Hall.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET – This Sunday **13th March** 2.30pm-3.30pm. Please join us for tea or coffee after in the Hall.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Mother and Toddler Group meeting on Tuesday 15 March.

CONFIRMATION GROUP – Wednesday **16th March** 6.45pm – 8.15pm in the Hall.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday 23 April 2016 7.30pm for the next fundraising event to support our young people making the trip to Poland for World Youth Day in July. This time, a fun-filled evening of BINGO! More details to follow.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING – the next session is on **Saturday 9th April** at St Joseph's, Stanley Walk, Town Centre, Bracknell RG12 1HA - 10.00am – 12.30pm – given by Sue Smy. Those wishing to attend should register via email to soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or by phone on 023 92 836511/023 92 816396/023 92 825430. Anyone who is new to a ministry with children or anyone who has not updated their training through church child protection training should register to attend this course.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS 2016 – Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of Celebration. This will take place at St. Bede's Church on **Saturday 9th July**. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to marriage. If you would like to come, please visit the Cathedral website <http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries/> and complete the online form, or send an email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or contact Liz Murphy in the Parish Office on 01256 465214.

LENTEN OFFERINGS - For Bamenda and LIFE. LIFE is particularly grateful for regular donations, with tax relief if possible: see leaflets. The Bracknell House has not had lottery funding continued, and needs our help to provide housing for unsupported mothers and babies

BOOK DONATIONS - If you have old books at home suitable for children aged 11-19 I would be so grateful if you could donate them! I work at St Joseph's Catholic High School in Slough where over 40% of our children live below the poverty line and over 60% have English as an additional language, some having just arrived with no English at all. It is my aim that on the school day before our feast day of blessed Saint Joseph on Friday **18th May** all 750 of our children will receive a free book to hopefully start a lifetime of reading and open doors to their future that only literacy can bring. If you can help me by donating your old books I would be so grateful and it would truly be making a difference to some of these children's lives. Many thanks, Ellie Clark

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED – One of our parishioners is looking for accommodation, please contact the Parish Office if you know anyone who has a room. Thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS – If you would like to join the team of ladies who produce the beautiful displays in our Church please contact the parish office 01344 425729.

CAR PARK – Registration forms for the renewal period ending 31st March 2017 will be available in the Parish Office and the Porch from Monday 14th March 2016. For parishioners the cost of parking remains unchanged at £50.00 per registered vehicle.

OVER 50s CLUB - Would the Over 50s keep fit class members please set aside Tuesday **22nd March** for their AGM at 2.45pm to discuss the programme for 2016.

SOUP & ROLL – Every Friday after the 12.10pm Mass. If you would like to join the Soup & Roll team please indicate how/when you are available to help on the sign-up sheets on the noticeboard.

HELPERS REQUIRED – For the Tea & Coffee Rota after the 10.30am Sunday Masses. Please contact the parish office if you can help 01344 425729 thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING - Every second Saturday of the month after the morning Mass. You are always welcome to join the team.

NIGHT SHELTER - After 9 successful weeks this project has come to an end for this winter. A huge thank you to Fr Danny for his constant support, all the wonderful volunteers and everyone who contributed in many different ways. All your prayers and support were really appreciated.

PLEASE - **sign the petition** against the NHS spending taxpayers' money on abortions. We spend about £1 million a week on repeat abortions alone.
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/119229>

DURING LENT: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DR AUSTEN IVEREIGH TALK ON POPE FRANCIS & MERCY - Dr Austen Ivereigh, is coming to Wokingham to speak on 'Mercy: the key to Pope Francis's reform' on **Tuesday 15th March** from 8.00pm to 9.00pm at Corpus Christi.

PRAYING THE PARABLES OF MERCY IN SAINT LUKE'S GOSPEL - In this year of Mercy, using Lectio Divina to explore this theme as it unfolds in Saint Luke's Gospel. Every **THURSDAY** from 7.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – from **10th February** and every Friday during Lent at 11.00am.

INDESTRUCTIBLE JOY AND THE PATH OF LETTING GO - A Masterclass of six reflections, with Dr James Finley on the works of the Mystics. **Fridays** at 6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT St. JOSEPH'S BRACKNELL – on **Wednesday 16th March** at 7.30pm.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT St. FRANCIS, ASCOT – on **Palm Sunday 20th March** at 3.00pm

MASS OF CHRISM - **Tuesday of Holy Week** 11.00 a.m. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend this beautiful event.

SOLEMN RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND MINISTERS OF THE WORD - **Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm. One for your diary now.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Loose Cash	£655.46
Envelopes & Cheques	£622.79
Direct Debits	£510.00
Total	£1788.25

Thank You

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES
PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph



**Davina, Jo, Rita, Megan,
Jake & Joshua for an
amazing feast**

St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	12 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	13 th	8.30am	Mass	Tichbon & Harrison Families†
		10.30am	Mass	Padeak Walshire†
		2.30pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	
Monday	14 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	15 th	11.30am	Requiem Mass	Sean Little†
Wednesday	16 th	9.15am	Mass at St Margaret Clitherow School	
		7.30pm	Penitential Service here at St Joseph's	

FEAST OF ST PATRICK

Thursday	17 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Doris Robinson†
		10.15pm	Mothers Prayers	
Friday	18 th	11.00-12.00	Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	May Twohig†

THE SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

Saturday	19 th	10.00am	Mass	Kenneth Knight†
		10.45am	Confessions	

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Saturday	19 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Sean & Nora O'Donnell
Sunday	20 th	8.30am	Mass	James & Johanna Moriarty†
		10.30am	Mass	Michael Robinson
		3.00pm	Penitential Service at St Francis, Ascot	

**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, Sue Beasley, Adrian Sweeney, Thelma Briggs, Johanna Lenz, Peggy Prendergast, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Bridget Tanner, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone, Winnie Justice, Inge Walker, Bill Guilfoyle and Yvonne Gantzer.

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