

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

**THE YEAR OF MARK: EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
LOOKING FOR THE ONE YOU DO NOT KNOW**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 14th December 2014 Psalter Week 3

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

There is a little piece of Wisdom that goes, 'Just because someone has asked you a question doesn't mean you have to answer it.' In today's Gospel, St John the Baptist is a great example of this!

Perhaps a story, in this year of Mark, will explain. It is the story of a parish that had begun the fall apart. The young people had voted with their feet, those left behind barely spoke to one another and people had stopped believing that the direction offered was the right one.

Once upon a time, in the streets that surrounded the parish church, there lived a Rabbi. The parishioners would see him from time to time walking their streets and would say to each other, "The Rabbi is walking the streets."

The Parish Priest was worried about the decline in the parish. He had prayed and worked to change the situation but to no avail. One day, he saw the Rabbi walking the streets and decided to ask his advice. He walked up behind the Rabbi, who turned and hugged the parish priest and whispered that he knew the situation.

When the Parish Priest asked for his advice, he was astonished when the Rabbi said, "Someone in your community is the Messiah!" Then he turned and went on his way.

The Parish Priest met some parishioners who had seen this encounter and they asked, "What did the Rabbi say?" "One of us is the Messiah," the parish priest said incredulously.

The news spread through the parish like wildfire. Parishioners began talking to one another. "One of us." "Which one?"

Slowly things began to change in the parish, as everyone began to search for the Messiah in each other and listen for the voice of the Messiah in each other's words. The Parish began to grow inside and out as people came to receive genuine solace and direction.

Of course, the truths in this story are not really about who was the Messiah. Instead, it invites a new level of respect in our dealings with each other. Remember the poem by Hafiz? "How do I listen to others? As if everyone were my Master. Speaking to me His last Cherished Words".



St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	13 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Roma Bembridge
Sunday	14 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Margaret Carey
Monday	15 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	16 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Sean Robinson†
Wednesday	17 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	James & Johanna Moriarty†
		10.15am	Rosary	
Thursday	18 th	9.00am	School Mass at	St Margaret Clitherow School
		6.00pm	Carol Concert	
Friday	19 th	9.00am	School Mass at	St Joseph's School
		11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Peter, Catherine & Mary Considine†
		7.00pm	Rosary	
Saturday	20 th	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Mary Blackmore
		10.30am	Confessions	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	20 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	George Chapman†
Sunday	21 st	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Maire Mair†

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, Bridget Eade, 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 NOTE – As we are having a Christmas Party for our elderly parishioners at 12.30 there are no refreshments after the 10.30am Mass this Sunday.

CHILDRENS CAROL CONCERT - THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER at 6.00pm in the Square.

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 16th December is **Mary and the Four Last Things**. The 2015 sessions will start on Tuesday 6th January.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP MEETING

Every first and third Tuesday in the month, 7.45-9.15pm in the Church. Everyone is welcome; the next meeting is on **16th December**.

SOUP & ROLL – Thank you to everyone for supporting Soup & Roll during the year. We will be back in 2015 on **9th January**.

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.

PARISH NEWS

PARKING IN SERVICE YARD D – If you were issued with a 'ticket' for parking in Service Yard D last weekend Bracknell Regeneration Committee has agreed to revoke any charges for last weekend only, you must bring the paperwork that you were given to the Parish Office by lunch time on Monday 15th December for this to happen. From now on you must not park in the Service Yard. Fr Danny is working with Bracknell Regeneration Committee to find a solution, we will keep you updated.

BRACKNELL LIFE HOUSE – Our Parish Community have pledged themselves to support the Life House, it's residents and staff, by praying for them every day and offering practical help. We are inviting the children to bring baby gifts to their Christmas Mass on 24th December at 5p.m. Gifts can include Tesco, Sainsbury's or Boots vouchers, baby toys, books, bibs, socks birth to 2 yrs, baby bathing products, Milky Bar white chocolate, crayons and colouring books. Thank You, Fr D.

BRACKNELL AND ASCOT SVP - Is very grateful for the recent donation of white goods. All the items requested have been received and given to needy people in Bracknell, many thanks.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – It is very important that parents sign their children into the Children's liturgy. At one session we had over 60 children in the hall and only 20 names in the book, for safe guarding reasons we must know how many children are in the hall. The children are always very welcome but we ask that a parent accompanies younger children if possible so that we have the required number of adults in the hall.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR COMMUNITY – Joshua Robert Davis, Miah and Oliver Halligan, Joshua John Doyle, Albert Freddie Roche, Bertie Peter Griffin, Alexander Ray Crawford, Lily Grace Walker, Holy Mae Jennings, Troy, Isla and Amber Gates. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

FOODBANK CHRISTMAS APPEAL – Heartfelt thanks for your generous offerings.

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.

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.

Living Our Faith
The people of the Diocese of Portsmouth



We need to de-emphasise the appeal during Advent and really concentrate on preparing for the *Wondrous Birthday of Jesus!*

So, no updates until after Christmas but you know, I'll still accept pledges! *Peter Hancock*

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING
Total £1155.97- Thank You

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES
PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph