

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW
THE YEAR OF LUKE THE YEAR OF MERCY
DEVELOPING POSITIVE STRATEGIES

14th February 2016 Psalter Week 2

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

Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

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

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk

Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07712048695

How do compassion and respect underpin the decisions we make, the conversations we have and the thoughts we think about others?

When we pay close (contemplative) attention to the Gospel texts, they can help us to be more definite about what we mean when we use general terms like love or mercy or kindness or compassion or respect.

In the first temptation of Jesus, satan suggests that people are only happy when their bellies are full. Bread and Circuses are a proven form of manipulation. People can be attracted and kept on board if you just give them what they want. Fill them up and they will let you get away with anything. We see a lot of this in political speeches and in personal relationships.



In the second temptation of Jesus, satan, the first spin doctor, suggests that accusation and division is a sure fire way to power and glory. Look out the window at the enemy, but never let the window become a mirror in which we might see ourselves. Do all you can to keep people fighting with each other. In this way, you can plunder at will without attracting attention to yourself.

In the third, satan suggests that status is more important than integrity. Judge and promote people by their wealth, style or cleverness. Always prefer show over substance.

The devil did his best to seduce Jesus into using tactics that looked like they might further his ambitions. But Jesus saw them for what they were - betrayals of His true identity as the Beloved Son of God - and he rejected them. It is a constant challenge to us, and it remains to be seen, if we will do the same.

St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	13 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Rita Maxwell
Sunday	14 th	8.30am	Mass	Michael Devlin†
		10.30am	Mass	Gerald Reardon
Monday	15 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	16 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Michael Hoey†
Wednesday	17 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Maura Holt
		10.15am	Rosary	
Thursday	18 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Theresa Mercieca†
		10.15pm	Mothers Prayers	

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

Friday	19 th	11.00-12.00	Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Eileen O'Shaughnessy
		7.00pm	Rosary	
Saturday	20 th	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Jolanta Gowing†
		10.45am	Confessions	

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	20 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Martin Patrick Walsh†
Sunday	21 st	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Anthony Golden†

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: Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Eileen Collins, Una Mair, Esther Brophy, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy and Nora Cronin.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE BISHOP ON THE SACRAMENT OF GOD'S MERCY – This week our Bishop has written to us to invite us to reflect and promote mercy in our community. At the same time, he has sent every family a gift which will be given to you as you leave the Church.

ALMS GIVING DURING LENT – The two projects selected for our Lenten projects are the Bracknell Life House, a local project providing temporary accommodation for pregnant women and unsupported mothers aged between 16-25 years. Currently there are 7 women housed. The house has a financial deficit of £11,000 this year. AND the second is Bamenda, our sister Diocese in Cameroon, where there are 3 different projects that are desperate for cash. There are displays for each in the Porch, so you are encouraged to take a look to help visualise what we will be financing. Second offertory every weekend during Lent. I will design special envelopes by next weekend to allow Gift Aider to donate efficiently so that we can claim an extra 25% from the UK Government.

CAFOD & UK AID MATCH FUNDING – Good news! The UK Government has promised to match every pound and penny you give to CAFOD's Lenten appeal (from **10th February – 9th May**) up to the value of £3.5 million. Your donations can be used to bring water to more villages of the world's poorest families, meaning girls do not have to walk miles every day to collect it. You can also text 'LENT16 £5' to 70070 to donate £5. Thank you for your generous compassion for those living in poverty and for fasting in solidarity with them on Lent Fast Day (Friday 19th February). Hugh Gibbons is retiring as our Parish Rep at CAFOD and we need someone to step up and take this on.

PEGGY HART FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS – Peggy Hart's funeral will take place over two days, starting on **Wednesday 17th February** at 4.00pm with a reception into St. Mary Church at Alton with Rosary, Exposition and Benediction followed at 8.30pm with the Vigil Funeral Mass. The funeral will take place on **Thursday 18th February** with a Requiem Mass at 11.00am, followed by refreshments in the church hall at 12.15pm and a Service at Basingstoke crematorium at 2.00pm. All are very welcome to attend any or all of the services. Please reply to stmarysalton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk if you intend to come in order to facilitate catering arrangements.

YOU ARE CALLED, YOU ARE GIFTED! Do you want to understand better what God wants you to do with your life and how best to serve Him? If so, consider signing up to the Called and Gifted workshop coming to our Parish hall on **Friday 4th March** (7pm-9pm) and **Saturday 5th March** (9am-4pm). It is necessary to attend both sessions. After that, if you are interested, you can sign up for a personal one to one conversation to help you start discerning your gifts and then, finally, join a small group for further meetings. For more information, pick up a leaflet from the porch. **Places are limited and booking is essential!** Book your place on-line at: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted or pick up a booking form from the porch and return to the parish office.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN – Please help mothers and sign SPUC's petition against Buffer Zones, which are boundaries around abortion clinics preventing pro-life campaigning. There is a form in the porch or visit www.spuc.org.uk.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - It would be wonderful if, in this year of Mercy, we would join in this event, which takes place **19th August – 26th August**. If you have never been to Lourdes, it is beautiful. Please let the office staff know if you are interested.

St VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY – is in need of bunk beds for a needy family, please ring 07731 862349 if you can help. With thanks.

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

DURING LENT: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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. Limited spaces so apply soon!

MASS OF CHRISM - Tuesday of Holy Week 11.00 a.m. Please let the office staff know if you would like to attend this beautiful event. If we get enough support, we will hire a coach.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE IN CROWTHORNE IN THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT – on **Wednesday 9th March** at 7.30pm at the Holy Ghost Church in Crowthorne.

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.

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.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET –will be on **Sunday 21st February** at 2.30pm.

WORLD YOUTH EVENT IN POLAND 2016 – Thank you to everyone who supported us last weekend in our efforts to raise funds to go to the World Youth event in Poland this summer. A HUGE thank you to those who donated cakes, cupcakes and cookies and a HUGE thank you to those who have returned filled smarties tubes. The Youth Fundraising Team

VACANCIES AT CORPUS CHRISTI – Corpus Christi is seeking to employ a Parish Secretary/Administrator and a Parish Bookkeeper. Diocesan website or by contacting Fr David at : Wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or by telephoning the Parish on 0118 9780348. Closing date for applications is **Monday 15th February**.

BRACKNELL FOODBANK - We would welcome donations of long life fruit juice, long grain rice (1kg or 500g), sponge puddings (long life/tinned/twin packs), rice puddings (tinned), jam, tinned tomatoes. Additionally we always accept unused toiletries for men, women and children. Thank you for your continued support.

SOUP AND ROLLS – We would like to put a team together to help with the Friday soup and rolls. If you can help by making soup or cakes or help with the setting of tables and clearing up afterwards, please contact the Parish Office, and all help will be gratefully received. Thank you.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Loose Cash	£660.23
Envelopes & Cheques	£344.80
Direct Debits	£510.00
Total	£1515.03

Thank You

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES
PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph



**For supporting our young
people last week**