

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

**THE YEAR OF MARK: EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM  
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
RESTING IN COMPASSION**

**19<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Psalter Week 4**

**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](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk)**

**Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07593 065 526**

Jeremiah tells an all too familiar story. The shepherds - the political rulers - have done it again, and brought disaster down on the people they were supposed to defend, shelter and protect. With no one else to turn to, the people begin to long for, and seek out, the True Shepherd who will teach them and lead them to richer pastures.

He comes, and when He does, The Beloved Son Of God is an irresistible magnet for the poor of the earth. The rich and powerful, who have learned nothing, still trapped in their own egos, are not interested in Him or His Teaching.

Today's Gospel is easily misunderstood. It looks like, - It's all a bit much, time for a break - it's never gonna happen - scream. But something wonderful is happening. The story is alive with signs and symbols which are worth a look. The disciples are invited into the Desert, to come cleanly into the presence of God. Rest here is not sleep but aligning themselves to the source of divine energy. An adjustment needs to be made, they must 'cross over' to a new way of living. On the 'other shore' everything begins with compassion, and this is the disciples banquet.

There is no such thing as compassion fatigue. If we're exhausted it's not compassion. The exhaustion, and indeed the cruelty and the terror, comes from living as if we were different from those we serve.

In his reflection, 'A Deeper pain than Dying' Levine calls us to recognise this 'sameness' as the wellspring of Divine Compassion. Katherine contacted the Dying Project and told them she had cancer. Over time, people began to wonder if she was faking it. In fact, she had a history of faking illness and abusing morphine. On being found out, she vanished. Stephen Levine, who led this wonderful ministry wrote, "Our work with Katherine is work on ourselves. Another teaching in helplessness, another opportunity to let go of ourselves, to be no one special, to gently watch the changes of the mind - going beyond hope and doubt until at last fear dissolves. Katherine's mind is no different from the minds of any of us. It was just that she held in fiery pain to her suffering... Her suffering is as real as anyone's we have worked with. We wish her Godspeed". (Meetings at the Edge: Dialogues with Grieving and Dying, the Healing and the Healed, p.199)



# ***St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow***

## **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Yvette Briggs†
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	Venerando Acusar
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Mass at St Margaret Clitherow School</b>	

## **ST MARY MAGDALEN**

Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayers	
		9.30am	Mass	Children & Staff of St Joseph's School
		10.15am	Rosary	

## **FEAST OF ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN**

Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Martin, Mary-Kate & Sylvester Tighe†
		10.15am	Mothers Prayers	
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Anna & Mirek Stein
		7.00pm	Rosary	

## **FEAST OF JAMES**

Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Chris & Lorna Owen
		10.30am	Confessions	

## **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Monika Stein
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Angela, Jimmy & Suzanne Moloney
		10.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions

**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, June Bartlett, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Bridget Tanner, Teresa Mercieca, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone, Kate McGrath, Frances Dyson and Yvonne Gantzer

### **And those who are unwell or in hospital**

Anne Adams, Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Eileen Collins, Carol Clarke, Una Mair, Anne Hardy, Ester Brothy, Winnie Justice, Freda Edgington, Edith D'Souza, Sally Torode and Nora Cronin

## DATES, NEWS AND VIEWS

**LIVING OUR FAITH** – On the page opposite you will find an update from Peter on this appeal. Living Our Faith packs can be found in the Porch if you haven't yet received one. Please place completed pledge forms in the Yellow Box provided.

**CONFIRMATION JOURNEY 2016** - To join this year's Confirmation journey, please apply online at [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/confirmation.html](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/confirmation.html) by the end of **July**.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP** – The next meeting is on Tuesday **21<sup>st</sup> July** 7.45pm in the Hall.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016** - Application forms for next year's journey are available in the porch for children who will be in Year 3 and above in September 2015. Please complete and return the form to the parish office by the **end of July**.

**OVER 50 CLUB** – Have organized a daytrip by coach to visit the seaside town of Weymouth on Tuesday **4<sup>th</sup> August**. All parishioners are invited to join club members for this trip which will depart from the Church car park at 8.30am. The application list/further details are on the Church noticeboard – for more information call Graham 01344 425040.

**KEEPING IN TOUCH** - Do you know any 'Resting' Catholics? Our Keeping in Touch (KIT) Ministry launches this July to those who have been away from the Church for a while. . Please take a 'Now May Be The Time to Come Home' leaflet from the porch to pass on.

**20ps FOR POLAND – WORLD YOUTH DAY** - Thank you to everyone who took a free tube of Smarties home with them. Please don't forget to save all your spare 20p coins in the empty tube and return it to us when it's full! - The Youth Fundraising Team

**KEYS** - Please note: All door locks to the Church, Presbytery and outbuildings have been changed. Parishioners whose duties around the church require them to have key access may now collect their new keys from the Parish Office.

**CHURCH SHOP** – Is re-opening on Sunday **9<sup>th</sup> August**, alternating Saturday/Sunday until a team is in place.

**MASS INTENTIONS** – Please ensure that you include a contact name and telephone number on the Mass Intention envelope.

**SOUP AND ROLL** – Will resume again in **September**.

**TODDLER GROUP** – There is **NO** Toddler Group this week. We have closed for the summer and will resume again on **8<sup>th</sup> September**. Happy holiday.

**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

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERING**  
Total £1062.63 - Thank You  
**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA**  
Total £85 - Thank You  
PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES PAYABLE TO  
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph

**Thank You**  
**To Our Two Wonderful**  
**Schools**



**Living Our Faith - A message from your Organiser** - The appeal was launched just 8 months ago, and it is with a great joy that your Organiser can advise that against a target set at £165,000 for pledges over the next 5 years, we have pledges committed of £154,907 from 99 families. On the face of it that overview looks good, that we have almost reached our target, but that does not tell the whole story. At the appeal launch, I stated that our benchmark was to end up looking like Andover parish. They had a £170,000 target, and their stats show a parish broadly similar to ours, but they managed to receive pledges from 173 families and raised £240,000. Using that as our goal, we are some way short. At our launch we handed out just over 500 packages and received back the 99 indicated. Your Organiser has been reviewing why the 400 packages have failed to bring pledges, and He thinks that there are 5 reasons;

1. A family on low income/benefits that just cannot afford to contribute.
2. Those that have searched their heart and just decided (for whatever reason) that the appeal was just not for them.

**Both perfectly reasonable and no more to be said.**

3. Those that have been described as "the dining room table families", who have always indicated that they will join, left the paperwork on the table but after the spring clean, the paperwork has ended up in the recycling box.
4. Those that were away for the launch and early weeks of the appeal, so missed the initial thrust and have never caught up the pace.
5. Those, clearly in the majority, that just leave things like this major Diocesan wide appeal to others.

So, assuming that the initial paperwork has gone astray, new envelopes are available after Masses this weekend and next, so that for all within categories 3, 4 and 5 they can join the silent minority who have already done their best to make this parish appeal successful. Remember the messages from Pope Francis and Bishop Philip that it our **duty to help those in need** through Evangelisation and this appeal, to finance Clergy training, lay formation and local needs, really goes to the heart of what we, as Catholics, should be about. As if you need any more encouragement to sign a pledge, when we reach our target, we receive back 80% of additional monies now pledged, and please believe that Fr Danny has some interesting projects that need financing, not least that facility for disabled.

Please do not allow the Living Our Faith appeal to simply pass you by. There is no reason why we cannot match Andover's success and get a further 60 or 70 families signed up. It is not difficult for your Organiser just to say that it is your duty to pledge, so that if you are not in the first 2 categories above you really should be involved in helping Fr Danny support his Bishop. Look at the updated homepage on the website for a copy of the speech, advertising material, and a pledge form.