

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

**THE YEAR OF MARK: EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM  
WHAT KIND OF TEACHER IS THIS?**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**1<sup>st</sup> February 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**

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

In the great Metropolis of Capernaum, Jesus enters Sacred Space (synagogue) and Sacred Time (Sabbath) and Teaches. He is claiming His right to understand, interpret and practice Sacred Texts (scripture). But it is not clear yet what He is teaching.

His encounter with the man possessed makes it clear. It has to do with purity codes, a favourite topic of the Pharisee and Scribe. People and buildings can be contaminated by contact with 'unclean spirits'. So they teach 'avoidance'. For the Pharisee, people are holy to the degree that they avoid what is unholy. Certain actions, foods and people are to be excluded.

The unclean spirit is counting on this teaching, and is shocked to find that the Holy One of God is not only staying away but moving closer. Jesus trespasses and does not respect purity boundaries. He brings the higher Authority of Love to bear on the man's suffering.

The teaching is clear. Don't avoid impurity. Bring your purity to bear on it. The Higher Spirit of God who descended on Him at His Baptism will not allow lesser beings to harm those whom God Loves. He commands them to "Get Out and Shut Up!" And they do, taking all the pain they have caused with them.

So while it is true that we all need boundaries, we need more to cross those Boundaries which cause division and lead to exclusion. Jesus, in the name of a Holiness that we have to grow into, draws in what others would push away. He traces the Pathways of Love in a community that is torn by division. And you just know He will smile at the walls we build around ourselves, and step right through them.



The wonderful poem by Robert Frost, 'Mending Wall' captures some of this. He meets his neighbour to mend a wall that has been broken. In his mind he says,

Why do walls make good neighbours? Isn't it where there are cows?

But here there are no cows.

Before I built a wall I'd ask to know

What am I walling in or walling out.

And to whom I was like to give offence?

# St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	31 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Michael Devlin†
		10.30am	Mass	John McAvoy†
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		

## ST BLAISE

Tuesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Edward Sheppard†
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		

## ST AGATHA

Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Ciaran O'Reilly†
		10.15am	Mothers Prayers	

## ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS

Friday	6 <sup>th</sup>	11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Robin Cousens†
		7.00pm	Rosary	
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass	Becca Johnson†
			<b>No Confessions</b>	

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Bill Docherty†
		10.30am	Mass	Frank Ducasse†
		5.00pm	Youth Mass	Parish Intentions

### 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, Jenny Considine 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, Peggy Heasman and Alex McCall

## DATES, NEWS AND VIEWS

**EDUCATION SUNDAY** – We thank the Staff and Pupils from our wonderful schools for organising the 1030 Mass this Sunday. Please pray for all Catholic Teachers.

**PLEASE NOTE** – On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February, the Morning Mass will be at **9.00am** and **No Confessions**. There will be **No 6.00pm Vigil Mass** that evening. This Mass has been moved to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 5.00pm.

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH** - Bracknell Choral Society invite you to a performance of what is arguably the greatest choral work ever written - Handel's famous Messiah. The concert takes place on **Saturday 7th February 2015** at St. Joseph's Church, and will begin at **7.00pm**. Tickets are £10, with accompanied U18s free. Available from Michelle Hurst 01344 864755 or michelle.hurst2@hp.com. For more information about Bracknell Choral Society please visit their website [www.bracknellchoral.org.uk](http://www.bracknellchoral.org.uk)

**COULD GOD BE CALLING YOU TO HELP THE EVANGELISATION STRATEGY TEAM?** - Do you love Christ and his Church? Do you have a passion for others to come to know Jesus? Do you have basic skills in organisation, collaboration and communication? Are you keen to find new and creative ways to help others discover Christ and build a relationship with him? You could be just the person we need for our Pastoral Area's Evangelisation Strategy Team! The commitment would be one meeting a term, in addition to assisting with simple, realistic evangelistic projects. To find out more, go to [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/evangelisation-teams](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/evangelisation-teams). If you feel God might be calling you to join the team, please contact Fr Danny.

**FEAST OF ST BLAISE** – At the 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February we will pray the Blessing of the Throats.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> February is **Moral Action and 'Life'**.

**PRAYER GROUP MEETING** – Is on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 7.45pm-9.15pm in the Church.

**OVER 50 KEEP FIT** – Are recommencing on **TUESDAYS** from 2.00-3.00pm

**SECULAR FRANCISAN ORDER MEETING** – Meet on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2.00pm in the Parish Room.

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING** – To book a place please telephone Soraya on 023 92 836511 or email [soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

Child Protection Training – 10.00am – 12.30pm

Vulnerable Adult Training - 1.30pm – 4.00pm

Venue: St Joseph's, Berkshire Drive, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5JJ

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Refresher Training – 10.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: St Joseph's, Berkshire Drive, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5JJ

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Refresher Training – 10.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: St Joseph's, 171A St Michael's Road, South Ham, Basingstoke RG22 6TY

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

Child Protection Training – 10.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: St Edmund Campion, 40a Altwood Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 4PY

**RCIA** - Our four Catechumens will request The Rite of Acceptance into the 'Order of Catechumens' during the 1030am Mass on Sunday **8<sup>th</sup> February**.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)** - Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to contact the PPC and thank you to those who attended our January PPC meeting. Our next meeting is on Wednesday **11<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.15pm in the Church Hall. Please forward your thoughts, ideas or concerns about any aspect of Parish life to the Parish Office by Wed 4th February or come along in person to our next meeting.

**T.O.M. TIME OUT MINISTRIES 'LET'S MAKE THIS LENT WORK!'** - Time of Reflection led by Fr Tom Taaffe at St Francis Church, Ascot on Saturday **14th February** from 9.30am–1.00pm. Booking essential – please phone St Francis Parish Office 01344.620591

**KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA RACE NIGHT** - The Knights of St. Columba are holding a race night and raffle on Saturday, **14th February** 2015 at 7.30pm in the Church Hall in aid of Mary's meals, a charity that provides meals for children at schools in poor areas of Africa. Raffle tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses from 1st February to win up to three prizes even if not attending on the night. Entrance is £1 with an option to order fish, chicken or sausage and chips (at prices ranging from £6.50 to £4.00.)

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 7.30pm** - A Taize Service of Meditation, Singing, Silence and Readings by Candlelight here at St. Joseph's. Whilst this is for Parents of First Holy Communion Children all are welcome to this unique experience of reflection and renewal.

**FLAME 2 - Saturday 7th March 2015 – 14 years +** - The biggest national youth gathering will take place on Saturday **7th March** at Wembley Arena. We would like to organise a group of young people to go from our Parish. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office.

**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 £994.50**

**Thank You**

**PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES**

**PAYABLE TO**

**PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**

**Thank you**

**To the Sick and  
Housebound for praying  
for us.**