

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

**THE YEAR OF MARK: EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM**  
**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**ONLY SAY THE WORD AND OUR SOULS WILL BE HEALED**

**26<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Psalter Week 1**

*Parish Office:* Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA  
Monday – Friday 9am-3pm

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

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Jesus now has a large following. Healings which always attract are meant to be seen through rather than just seen. If these followers are only looking for thrills, their vision will remain on the surface. If they come as Contemplatives, they will receive Revelation.

Mountains earth's highest point. People ascend to them and God descends to them. Jesus is the meeting place of the Human and Sacred. It is here that He sits. It is here that He Teaches. What follows is a lesson in how Sacred and Human work together.

Jesus looks 'up' to see how Spirit reveals itself in flesh. He invites Philip and Andrew into the moment, but all they can see is that there are too many people, not enough money and not enough bread. They live by the law of scarcity, Jesus by the spiritual law of abundance. Physical consciousness (I can only see what I don't have) can only do division. Spiritual Consciousness (I see I have everything) works by multiplication. Five barley loaves, two fish and a small boy are a starting point. For Philip and Andrew they are not enough. For Jesus they are already becoming too much. All are invited, in the banquet that follows, to stand in a new place. But will they see beyond their limited understanding?

As it was for them, so it is for us. As a wise parishioner said the other day, "It's always something". Taxes are raised and our wages reduced. A child calls in the wee small hours from the police station. Our doctor's office calls with the news that the blood test has to be repeated. A job is lost and so on and on and on. Faced with life's challenges and disappointments, we check out what resources we have. When we've run out we turn to God! And God has been waiting all along. Hoping that we might make that healing connection with our soul which puts Him as our first and best resource.

Jesus points to a well whose resource is inexhaustible. We don't need to look far to find it. It's on the inside. Each time we drink from it, its influence multiplies and we slowly realise that there is no scarcity of Spirit. (John, 3, 34) The disciples who gather up the abundant fragments help us to remember the One who restores our soul.



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

## **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
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tuesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayers	
		9.30am	Mass	Briane Gourlay
<b>ST MARTHA</b>				
Wednesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayers	
		9.30am	Mass	Veronica Quijalvo
		10.15am	Rosary	
Thursday	30 <sup>th</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Layla Yebaile†
		10.15am	Mothers Prayers	

## **ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA**

Friday	31 <sup>st</sup>	11.00-12.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Mrs Neilson & Family
		7.00pm	Rosary	

## **ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI**

Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Sr Celsus
		10.30am	Confessions	

## **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Austin Grey†
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Maureen & David Barney
		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

**PROCLAIM' 15** – Maura represented the Parish at the **PROCLAIM' 15** Event in Birmingham recently and has written a short summary of the day which you will have been given along with this Newsletter.

**BISHOP'S DAY FOR LIFE** – There will be an offering after all Masses this weekend for the Day for Life. The proceeds of which assist the work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life related activities supported by the Church. More information at [www.dayforlife.org](http://www.dayforlife.org)

**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) please note the closing date is **next Friday 31st July**.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – The next meeting is on Monday **27<sup>th</sup> July** 7.45pm in the Parish Room.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016** – Please bring completed application forms to the Parish Office by **next Friday 31st July**.

**DONATIONS OF RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED!** - The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) is looking for donations of suitable prizes for their raffle that will take place in September as part of their annual SVP Fundraiser. If you or the business or company that you work for is able to donate a prize, please call 07731 862349. Thank you.

**OVER 50 CLUB** – A daytrip by coach to the seaside town of Weymouth on Tuesday **4<sup>th</sup> August**. All are invited to join club members for this trip, depart the Church car park at 8.30am. Details are in the Porch – Please contact Graham through the Office.

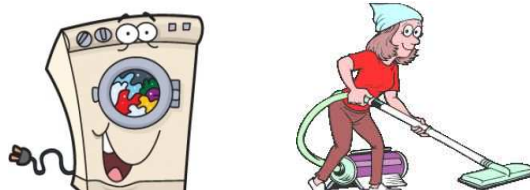
**WORLD YOUTH DAY** - Back by popular demand! Cake Sales after all Masses next weekend. Donations of cakes/cupcakes would be very much appreciated and may be brought to the Hall before Mass. In September we will have a fundraising event, including a raffle and tombola, if anyone has any unwanted gifts or presents we would be happy to receive them as donations. There will be a box in the Porch for donations. Thank you again for all your support- The Fundraising Team.

**NEWSLETTER** – Please note: this will be the last Newsletter produced until the beginning of September. All weekly Mass Times and Mass Intentions will be displayed on the Church Door and also in the Porch. We wish you all a happy and peaceful 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 £1127.78 - Thank You**  
**PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES**  
**PAYABLE TO**  
**PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**

**As Rita returns home we**  
**thank her for all her help.**





**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 supporting out Bishop. Look at the updated homepage on the website for a copy of the speech, advertising material, and a pledge form.