

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW  
THE YEAR OF LUKE: THE RELENTLESS WIDOW  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NEW BEGINNINGS

29<sup>th</sup> November 2015 Psalter Week 3

*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)  
Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07712048695*

As we begin our new year celebration, the 1st Sunday of Advent, we say a fond farewell to St Mark and turn our eyes to St Luke. Once more, I invite everyone to find your copy of Luke's Gospel, the Gospel of Mercy, and to use it to nourish your contemplative heart through this year.

In today's Gospel, everything seems to be falling apart. The lamps in the sky are sending out alarm signals; the seas are threatening a comeback. In reality something new is happening, or, perhaps, it is better to say Someone New. Surviving the upheaval depends on knowing where to stand, how to find the higher ground. Luke invites us to draw closer to Jesus. The Son of Man, not only gives us courage when everything seems to be ending, He calls us to lean into it, holding one another with strength and unrelenting kindness through and beyond the inevitable collapses of life.

Fritz Perls once said that whatever we say about ourselves, the opposite is also true. I wonder if this is your experience. If it is, you will be aware that we don't just have a North and a South Pole. We are immersed in Polarities. We are rooted in the earth with our hearts in heaven.

A story. Two magnificent golden birds sat in a tree. The one above, serene, wise and sure of her glory. The one below restless, unsure and fixated on the fruit of the tree. She kept looking up at the other bird but then went back to eating. Little by little, as she searched for less bitter fruit, she moved higher. Without effort the lower bird came to the branch of the upper bird and lost herself in her. In that moment she realised there had never really been two birds.

In the most tragic and threatening moments of our lives, the Son of Man appears as a protecting nearness who does not permit final destruction. He frees us to engage with what is ending, to relate to it from our contemplative heart. The imagery in today's Gospel is magnificent. It has all the flavour of a dramatic last minute rescue. But there is another image which moves me. It is the Son of Man taking to Himself all our heartbreak and tears and making us safe as he breathes His last.



# *St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow*

## *THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Molly & Christy Campbell†
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Angela, Jimmy & Suzanna Moloney†
		10.30am	Mass	Deceased Catenian Brothers†
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		

## *ST EDMUND CAMPION*

Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Communion Service	
		1.30pm	<b>Requiem Mass at St Francis, Ascot</b>	Luke Howes†
Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Patrick Doherty†
		10.15am	Rosary	

## *ST FRANCIS XAVIER*

Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	William Wright†
		10.15am	Mothers Prayers	
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.45-11.45	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>Requiem Mass</b>	June Bartlett†
		7.00pm	Rosary	
Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.40am	Rosary	
		10.00am	Mass	Paul Baker†
		10.45am	Confessions	

## *THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Ken Breadmore†
Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	John Cole
		10.30am	Mass	Peter Meeham†

**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, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Bridget Tanner, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Frances Dyson, 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, Nuala Eacott, Anne Hardy and Nora Cronin.

## DATES, NEWS AND VIEWS

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** – The repose of the souls of Maureen Groves†, Luke Howes† and June Bartlett† who have died. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

**FR JAYA** - Would like to thank everyone who made him so welcome during his stay.

**MARY McNAB** – After years of amazing care of our community as parish secretary, Mary finishes in the office this week to take up her new post as Pastoral Assistant in the parish. We welcome Sue Burn who takes up Mary's role from today.

**WYD2016 CAKE SALES** - Back by popular demand! Cake Sales after all Masses next weekend **28th/29th November** to raise funds to send 6 young people from our parish to the World Youth Event in Poland next summer with Pope Francis. Donations of cakes/cupcakes would be very much appreciated and may be left in the porch or brought to the Hall before Mass. Thank you for your continued support. Youth Fundraising Team

**THE BRACKNELL CATENIANS** – Are holding their Carols Evening and Dinner at the Hilton Hotel Bracknell on Tuesday **1<sup>st</sup> December** at 7.15pm. The tickets are £23.00 please contact BF318.secretary@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE** – The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.00pm in the hall.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS DAY OF REFLECTION** – Will be held on Saturday **5<sup>th</sup> December** 10.00am-1.00pm in the hall.

**ST MARGARET CLITHEROW SCHOOL - Christmas Fayre** is being held on Saturday **5<sup>th</sup> December** from 12.30 - 3.00pm. Raffle tickets on sale this weekend.

**THE ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS** - Christmas meal will be on Sunday **6th December** at 12.30pm in the hall. If you have not already done, so please remember to send in your meal choice.

**BRACKNELL FOODBANK** – Has made an urgent appeal for Tinned Meat and bags of 500g/1kl Sugar. If you are bringing your donations to the Church please do not leave them in the Porch but bring them to the Parish Office. Thank you for your help.

**THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP** – Will meet on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December** in the hall.

**YOUTH SOCIAL EVENT** - On **Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm-9.30pm** in the Church Hall. This is open to all those in Y7 and above, and promises to be a fun-filled evening including pizza, music, a quiz and party games. Please confirm attendance by emailing St Joseph's Parish Office at [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01344 425729.

**CHURCH CLEANING** – On Saturday **12<sup>th</sup> December** after the 10.00am Mass, you are very welcome join the team.

**THAMES VOYCES CHRISTMAS CONCERT** - Our choir will be singing their annual family Christmas concert at St Joseph's Church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December. The concert starts at 7.30 pm and the programme will include beautiful carols with a selection of short readings. Tickets will be available on the door £ 12/10 concessions children under 16 free. Other information [www.thamesvoyces.org.uk](http://www.thamesvoyces.org.uk)

**CHILDRENS LITURGY** – Now weekly at 8.30am and 10.30am Masses. To enable us to continue we welcome more people who are able to join the team. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help. **Please note:** There will be NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday **6<sup>th</sup> December**.

**THE CHURCH SHOP** – Will be open this Sunday after the 8.30am Mass until the start of the 10.30am Mass. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Danielle on 07754 206165

**CARER AND TODDLER GROUP** – Every Tuesday at 9.30am in the Hall during Term Time.

**OVER 50s KEEP FIT CLASSES** – On Tuesday 2.00pm-3.00pm in the Hall.

**MANAGER of NIGHT SHELTER** - For Bracknell Homeless. Can you manage a team of volunteers? Do you have experience in caring for the homeless? Are you OK with working nights on 3 or 4 days a week? This winter there will be a night shelter for the homeless in Bracknell based in local churches around the town. We are looking for someone with the right skills to run the shelter where up to 12 beneficiaries will be given a hot evening meal, a bed for the night and breakfast the next morning. This is a part-time paid role. For details contact David Chalmers-Brown, Chair of the Night Shelter Steering committee. 01344 307030 pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com

**CONSULTATION ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2017** – As required by new regulations the Governing Bodies of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School will be conducting a consultation on their proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2017-2018. The consultation period runs for a minimum period of 6 weeks from 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 until 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website [www.stjosephs.bracknell-forest.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs.bracknell-forest.sch.uk) or [www.stmargaretclitherowbracknell.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretclitherowbracknell.co.uk). Comments on the arrangements should be sent to the clerk to the Governing Body at the schools by 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016. [clerk@office.stjosephs.bracknell-forest.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@office.stjosephs.bracknell-forest.sch.uk) or [clerk@office.stmargaretc.bracknell-forest.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@office.stmargaretc.bracknell-forest.sch.uk). The Governing Bodies will consider all comments received before determining the policy by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL** - Is looking for an enthusiastic, reliable person who has some experience in maintenance work to become their **School Caretaker**. Hours are: 25 hours per week term time, they are also looking for two Cleaners to join our small team. For further details and application form contact the School Office (01344 425256) or go on-line to Bracknell Forest Council website and find full details under job vacancies.

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERING**

**Total £1223.88 - Thank You**

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES

PAYABLE TO

PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph

THANK  
You!

Mary