

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW
THE YEAR OF MATTHEW: ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**

THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS YEAR A
2nd November 2014 Psalter Week 3

The Holy Catholic Church: A Communion of Saints and Sinners

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

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Ask anyone what they want to be and they will hardly ever say they want to be a saint! Perhaps the way 'Saints' were presented was so 'holy' it was hard to understand or get near them. These people were the first victims of air brushing, where all their humanity was edited out of the story of their lives.

One line from Flannery O'Connor's short stories suggests that when the sun strikes the trees in a certain way, even the meanest trees sparkle. In this way all of us, no matter our shortcomings, say or do things that bring the light of love into the world.

Did you know, for example, that St Patrick was a slave in Ireland and the thought of going back there wasn't his first choice. He arrived carrying his hurt, his anger and resentment. But as he listened to the people's stories, he grew to love them. This is a Patrick who seized the opportunity to grow through his pain into Love.

Did you know, for example, that St Francis sought an audience with the Sultan Malik Al Kamil with the intention of converting him, or making him kill him as a martyr. The Sultan silenced Francis by insisting that it was irreverent for humans to speculate about God. Then told him he could tell the difference between a crusader and a holy man and he had no intention of killing a holy man. After this, Francis instructed his Friars to treat Saracens and Christians as equals. And each time he blew that Sultans gift of a horn, calling people to prayer, he was sounding the end of the Crusades.

Two stories of people constantly converting to Love. Both open to every opportunity that rose before them and rising to meet it. Is this readiness the heartbeat of true Sanctity?

When Blessedness knows it is poor in itself, the Kingdom of God is near.

When Blessedness mourns in the face of sin and death, comfort comes.

When the Blessedness of the meek does not resort to violence they outshine violence.

When Blessedness seeks a better world, it will not be denied.

When Blessedness shows mercy, mercy grows more quickly.

When Blessedness holds onto its interior communion with God, it will better see Gods activity in the world.

When Blessedness works for peace, Gods parenthood becomes clearer.

When Blessedness is persecuted because it threatens the rich and powerful it stands as a powerful ambassador for the Kingdom of love and service.

All Saints and Sinners struggle to live their spiritual communion in the tumult of the world. But we still have to answer the question, what do we want to be?

God Uses Ordinary People



St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

ALL SAINTS

Saturday 1st 6.00pm Vigil Mass Teresa Gillen†

Sunday 2nd 8.30am Mass Miss Smythe†

10.30am Mass Frank Ducasse†

ALL SOULS

Monday 3rd **10.30am** Mass Commemoration of the Faithful Departed†

ST CHARLES BORROMEIO

Tuesday 4th 9.10am Morning Prayer

9.30am Communion Service

Wednesday 5th 9.10am Morning Prayer

9.30am Communion Service

10.15am Rosary

Thursday 6th 9.30am Requiem Mass Beatrice Fitzpatrick†

Friday 7th 11.00-12.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12.10pm Mass Relatives of The Birley Family

7.00pm Rosary

Saturday 8th 9.40am Rosary

10.00am Mass Parish Intentions

10.30am Confessions

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Saturday 8th 6.00pm Vigil Mass George Chapman†

Sunday 9th 8.30am Mass Jenny & Helen Considine

10.30am 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, Joanna O'Connell, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone and Patrick Holmwood

And those who are unwell or in hospital

Marjory Vermuelen, Peter Bentley, Kenneth Maimo, Freda Crookall, Kate McGrath, Anne Adams, Yvette Briggs, Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Sheila O'Neill, Eileen Collins, Eileen Green, Catherine Jones, Una Mair and Alex McCall

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP MEETING – Every first and third Tuesday in the month, 7.45-9.15pm in the Church. Everyone is welcome; the next meeting is on **4th November**.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP – **Tuesdays** 9.30am-11.30am in the Hall.

JOURNEY OF FAITH – Every **Tuesday**. You are invited to join any of our weekly sessions to deepen your Catholic Faith from 7.30pm-9pm in the church hall. This week's topic is **The Life of Christ**. Free Church car park open. Access via Service Yard D. Please will you become a sponsor? Details from shaunhoward@msn.com

PEGGY'S KEEP FIT CLASSES – Every **Wednesday** 2.00-3.00pm in the Hall.

SECULAR FRANCISAN ORDER MEETING – These meetings are at 2.00pm on 1st Thursday of each month in the Parish Room, the next meeting is on **6th November**.

SOUP AND ROLL – Every **Friday** after 12.10pm Mass, everyone is welcome.

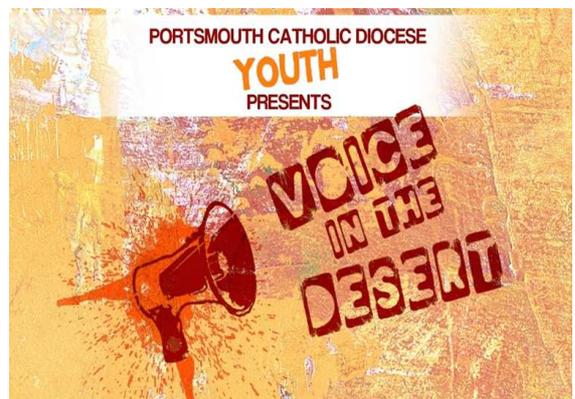
TRAINING SESSION FOR READERS - Saturday 8th November. We will begin with Mass at 10.00am, followed by refreshments in the hall. A time of reflection and learning will then start at 11.00am and we will finish at 1.00pm. Please email or call Mary in the parish office to confirm your attendance.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Our next meeting will be at 7.15pm on Wednesday **12th November** in the Church Hall. Please send your suggestions, concerns, thoughts and ideas for the attention of the PPC by Tuesday **4th November**.

VOICE IN THE DESERT

Saturday 15 November 10.30am-4pm

We are hoping to be able to send a group of young people from our parish to this Diocesan youth event. If you are aged between Year 8 – young adult, then this is for you! The day will include drama, music and spiritual workshops, finishing with Mass celebrated by Bishop Philip. Venue: Saint George Catholic College, Leaside Way, Swaythling, Southampton. SO16 3DQ. Bookings and info: Mary in the parish office.



IN SPRING NEXT YEAR - The railings right across the front of the church will become the eye catching home of a world first – the Bracknell Community Gallery of Greeters & Inspirers. Using the simple style of the 'good example' figures on the Romero Gallery in our parish hall, dozens of cheery weather-proof 'portraits' will be painted by amateur artists all across this area. Families, groups, schools, clubs or individuals in the parish or elsewhere are invited to think of an inspiring person and contribute a panel. Briefing & demo workshop by Hugh Gibbons 11am-2pm on Saturday **22nd November** in the hall. More at www.just1.org.uk/communitygallery.

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.

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.

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR – The repose of the soul of Beatrice Fitzpatrick† who died recently. Her Requiem Mass is on Thursday 6th November at 9.30am. May her soul, and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

BAMENDA SUNDAY– We will be celebrating Bamenda Sunday and inviting offerings for Bamenda on the weekend of 22nd – 23rd November.

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED - As a community, during the month of November, we unite to remember and pray for those we have loved who have died. To mark this special time, a Book of Remembrance, lit by candle, will be placed on the Altar. Everyone is invited to come to the Altar and leave the names of their relatives and friends in the book.

CAR PARK KEYS - For reasons too numerous to mention the existing car park key system is to be replaced. The proposed new method of entry and exit will take until the end of March 2015 to implement. From the 1st April 2015 new charges for both short and long term parking will also apply. In the meantime those parishioners with keys due to expire on 30th November 2014 are asked to continue to use them free of charge until the required work is completed.

SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHURCH - Many apologies to those sitting at the rear of the church. We found out last week that our equipment was not performing to its best, but now everything is back where it should be, so hopefully today you can hear everything clearly. We have no idea how long it has been down, but if it does reoccur please make sure somebody knows so that we can fix it – sorry!

Living Our Faith

The people of the Diocese of Portsmouth



We have launched the Diocese wide appeal to raise £9million for the training and formation of the Clergy, Lay formation, and renewing facilities. Our parish is allocated a £165,000 target over the 5 years of the appeal. 25% of all monies is rebated to the Parish and if we exceed the target we gain 80% of the excess. HMRC will add 25% extra where donors are UK tax payers.

At the Parish Finance Meeting this week we agreed to examine the possible location (and of course costs) for disabled access and facilities. We need the Living Our Faith Parish share to achieve this ambition.

Please see the Home page on our Website - www.bracknellcatholicchurch.or.uk

Thank you. Peter, Chair Finance Committee

PROGRESS REPORT

PLEDGES
Now exceed
50% of our
target

As expected, monthly pledges range from £10 - £100

If you have not deposited your Pledge in the Yellow Box today, please pop them in the mail so that we can crack on this week. Please do not leave them any longer on the kitchen table.

Peter Hancock