

ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW
THE YEAR OF LUKE THE YEAR OF MERCY

FAILING TO REJOICE

6th March 2016 Psalter Week 4

Parish Office: Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA
Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

Telephone: 01344 425729 Email: stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk
Safeguarding Representative: Marion McGuire 07712048695

Like yourself, I have heard, and read, the Parable of 'The Prodigal Father' many times. Still it has the power to move me to tears. And in this I am not alone. When I have shared this story with others, I look out to see wet eyes. Our tears always touch the meeting place between the Sacred and the profane, time and eternity. This story has that kind of power.

The first target of the story is a younger son, who has become obsessed with the mistakes he has made. He holds onto what God shows no signs of holding onto. Sometimes we do the same.

The second target is an older brother. He is a shining example of those who think they are better than everyone else. He works, with no joy in his heart, for a reward. Having lost every true awareness of Gods generosity, he is filled with resentment.

Now, watch the running Father - Luke's symbol for Grace upon Grace upon Grace. It is just given to whoever asks for it. When the reward driven mind encounters this, it decides it is just not fair and it erupts in a white hot volcano of resentment. Of course, everyone understands it when big brother explodes. We understand him. Why? Because he is so much like us.



The astonishing revelation that God is Gracious should make us happy. But before the party can begin, we must free ourselves of the mindset that this Grace will uncover. We cling to past sins and miss the hidden ground of Love beneath our feet. We exhaust ourselves working for a reward that was ours to begin with. Only when we break free of these suffocating mindsets will our feet start to dance when we hear the music and know that we are home.

And so it was that the President of a huge Bank was in hospital. One of the Vice Presidents came to visit with a message. "I bring you the good wishes of our Board of Directors, that you should be restored to health and live to be a hundred years old. That's an official resolution passed by a majority of fifteen to six, with two abstentions!"

Are we ever likely to stop trying to burn fire, wet water, or add colour to a Rose?

St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	5 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	6 th	8.30am	Mass	Frank, Marie-Claire Ducasse†
		10.30am	Mass	Stanislav Michalov†
Monday	7 th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	8 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
Wednesday	9 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Maria Veronica Quijalvo
		10.15am	Rosary	
Thursday	10 th	9.10am	Morning Prayer	
		9.30am	Mass	Matthew Wallace†
		10.15pm	Mothers Prayers	
Friday	11 th	11.00-12.00	Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12.10pm	Mass	Denis Collins
Saturday	12 th	10.00am	Mass	Matthew Wallace†
		10.45am	Confessions	

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday	12 th	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	13 th	8.30am	Mass	Tichbon & Harrison Families†
		10.30am	Mass	Padeak Walshire†
		2.30pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	

**We pray for the Sick and Housebound of Our Community
and for those who care for them.**

Sick and Housebound: Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Sue Beasley, Adrian Sweeney, Thelma Briggs, Johanna Lenz, Peggy Prendergast, Millicent & Brian Mecklenburgh, Bridget Tanner, Ena Stanton, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peggy Malone, 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, Anne Hardy and Nora Cronin.

DATES AND NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sean Little†, Douglas Bishop† and Mary Scammerton† who have died recently. Sean Little's Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at St. Joseph's on **Tuesday 15th March**. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

THE UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS - Are holding their Annual Day of Recollection on Saturday **12th March** 10.00am – 3.30pm in the Keenan Rooms at Corpus Christi Church Wokingham. £10 per person to include buffet lunch, tea, and drinks.

WYD2016 SALE OF CAKES – Back for just one Sunday in Lent! Cake Sales after all Masses this weekend **5th/6th March** to raise funds to send 6 young people from our parish to the World Youth Event in Poland next summer with Pope Francis. Thank you for your continued support. Youth Fundraising Team.

YEAR OF MERCY - God's Mercy in Scripture: A day to discover the four senses of Scripture and to learn a method of Scripture study. These will be put into practice in workshops by exploring the Mercy of God in the Gospels. The day will include Mass and times of prayer. The day is free. Bring a packed lunch. It takes place on **Saturday 12th March** 10.00am to 4.00pm, at Catholic Church of Saint Edward the Confessor, 191-193 Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, SO53 2. Please register via the website at <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation/#events>, or via email at ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk, or by phone: 01590681874.

DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK - 12th - 19th March 2016. The national Dementia Prayer Week organised by the Pastoral Care Project is an invitation to everyone to pray for and with those who live among us with dementia. "Lord, thank you for your presence this moment, holding us in your love. Help us to share your love with those who live among us with dementia, that we may see your beauty in them. Amen"

CHURCH CLEANING - Every second Saturday of the month after the morning Mass. This month's cleaning date will be on Saturday the **12th of March**. You are always welcome to join the team.

LAY FANCISCANS (OFS) – The next meeting is on Sunday **13th March** at 2.00pm in the Hall.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET – Next Sunday **13th March** 2.30pm-3.30pm. Please join us for tea or coffee after in the Hall.

MASS OF CHRISM IN PORTSMOUTH – At 11.00am on **Tuesday 22nd March**. Thank you to those who have signed up to go to St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth for this very special Mass with Bishop Philip and the priests of the diocese during Holy Week. A coach will leave from outside our church car park at 8.00am on the morning of 22nd March and we will leave Portsmouth at 3.30pm. There are still places available on the coach so please contact the parish office as soon as possible if you are interested in going.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING – the next session is on **Saturday 9th April** at St Joseph's, Stanley Walk, Town Centre, Bracknell RG12 1HA - 10.00am – 12.30pm – given by Sue Smy. Those wishing to attend should register via email to soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or by phone on 023 92 836511/023 92 816396/023 92 825430. Anyone who is new to a ministry with children or anyone who has not updated their training through church child protection training should register to attend this course.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS 2016 – Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of Celebration. This will take place at St. Bede's Church on **Saturday 9th July**. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to marriage. If you would like to come, please visit the Cathedral website <http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries/> and complete the online form, or send an email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or contact Liz Murphy in the Parish Office on 01256 465214.

CHURCH FLOWERS – If you would like to join the team of ladies who produce the beautiful displays in our Church please contact the parish office 01344 425729.

CAR PARK – Registration forms for the renewal period ending 31st March 2017 will be available in the Parish Office and the Porch from Monday 14th March 2016. For parishioners the cost of parking remains unchanged at £50.00 per registered vehicle.

SOUP & ROLL – Every Friday after the 12.10pm Mass. If you would like to join the Soup & Roll team please indicate how/when you are available to help on the sign-up sheets on the noticeboard.

HELPERS REQUIRED – For the Tea & Coffee Rota after the 10.30am Sunday Masses. Please contact the parish office if you can help 01344 425729 thank you.

NIGHT SHELTER - Thank you very much for your generous gifts but as the NIGHT SHELTER FINISHES we do not require anymore items.

THIS WEEKEND RETIRING OFFERING – Will be in aid of the Clergy Assistance Fund.

DURING LENT: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PRAYING THE PARABLES OF MERCY IN SAINT LUKE'S GOSPEL - In this year of Mercy, using Lectio Divina to explore this theme as it unfolds in Saint Luke's Gospel. Every **THURSDAY** from 7.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – from 10th February and every Friday during Lent at 11.00am.

INDESTRUCTIBLE JOY AND THE PATH OF LETTING GO - A Masterclass of six reflections, with Dr James Finley on the works of the Mystics. **Fridays** at 6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m. Limited spaces so apply soon!

PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT HOLY GHOST, CROWTHORNE – on **Wednesday 9th March** at 7.30pm.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT St. JOSEPH'S BRACKNELL – on **Wednesday 16th March** at 7.30pm.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE AT St. FRANCIS, ASCOT – on **Palm Sunday 20th March** at 3.00pm

MASS OF CHRISM - **Tuesday of Holy Week** 11.00 a.m. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend this beautiful event.

SOLEMN RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND MINISTERS OF THE WORD - **Holy Thursday** Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm. One for your diary now.

DR AUSTEN IVEREIGH TALK ON POPE FRANCIS & MERCY - Dr Austen Ivereigh, is coming to Wokingham to speak on 'Mercy: the key to Pope Francis's reform' on **Tuesday 15th March** from 8.00pm to 9.00pm at Corpus Christi.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Loose Cash	£558.05
Envelopes & Cheques	£333.60
Direct Debits	£510.00
Total	£1401.65

Thank You

PLEASE MAKE ANY CHEQUES
PAYABLE TO
PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph



**To everyone who made
Called and Gifted such a
success**