

**THE YEAR OF MATTHEW**  
**ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**  
**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A**  
***THE EYE OF THE STORM***  
**SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2020**

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One of the most popular pieces of writing is a little thing called 'Footprints in the Sand'. It's a sentimental piece where God appears to carry us when the storm clouds gather and the wind is trying to bowl us over. It is a favourite of a particular kind of disciple. However ...

The disciple is not asked to say prayers but to become prayer. But the reality for many people is that they only ever 'say' prayers when they are in trouble, or their life is in danger or when they want something badly. Once the storm has passed and they feel lifted out of the raging sea, they are grateful and then drop God until the next crisis or need appears.



The real adventure of faith, as it is outlined in today's Gospel, is to be rooted in Gods Saving Presence with every breath that we take. Danger creates fear and fear is a prison cell which will not allow Gods presence. The boat, Matthew's great symbol for the Church, is in danger of sinking. The disciples (men of little faith still) become afraid and lose their rudder. But they are not just taking a walk on a dark country lane at night.

We are instead struggling for community in an age of holocaust. Struggling for an end to war and violence, struggling to make poverty, hunger and disease things of the past, struggling to uphold dignity and respect for all of creation, for lives that are pure with love, struggling for beauty and truth in art and education, in healthcare, education and in politics. Working for higher consciousness of the Sacred in our Midst. In Matthew's language, trying to bring heaven to earth!

As we reach for these things, we become afraid. Afraid for our lives, Afraid of Failure. We notice the winds of change are stronger than we thought. We imagine that the tsunami of violation, greed, injustice, and cruelty will make our own little efforts seems ridiculous.

But we might keep this on the breath of our prayer. Before the outstretched arm of Christ reaches out to hold us up, there is no better way to sink!

# SUPPORTING OLDER MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY



"It quite startled me to realise that four months of isolation and constant news bulletins of sickness and death had given me a sense of having aged. Though I am blessed with my faculties, I seem somehow, during isolation, to have lost some independence. Now I must wait for the Government to tell me what is safe and what is not safe, what I can and what I mustn't do". (A quote from a parishioner).

As the lockdown eases, many older people will be delighted, once again, to see family and friends. But others will still find themselves alone, as they feel too unsafe to venture out. Or have no one to take them and ensure their safety. Some older people may have lost their confidence, as a result of the pandemic and no longer feel sure of how to safely access everyday services. Government advice is that people, aged 70 years and older, still need to be particularly careful. It is therefore natural for anyone in this age group, and particularly those with pre-existing medical conditions, to continue to feel concerned and anxious about changes to their daily life.

Here are some ways to help with these difficult feelings:

**Stay connected:** Draw on support you might have through your friends, family and parish. Try to stay in touch with those around you, this might be over the phone, by post, or online. If you have been advised to stay at home, let people know how you would like to stay in touch and build that into your routine.

**Get practical help:** If you need help, for example with shopping or prescriptions, ask for it and let those around you know what they can do. Please **contact the Pastoral Care Team in the parish: ring 07394 440938** or email [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

**Age UK** runs an advice line (0800 678 1602 – lines are open every day, 8am to 7pm) that can put you in touch with local services.

**Age UK Berkshire** can be contacted on 0118 959 4242 or email [info@ageukberkshire.org.uk](mailto:info@ageukberkshire.org.uk) <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/berkshire>

**For people with dementia** and their family carers, COVID-19 is making daily life particularly challenging and has caused additional distress. Staying connected, maintaining a routine and keeping active and entertained, as much as possible, are all essential to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of people with dementia and their family carers. Someone with dementia may have difficulty understanding instructions about self-isolation, social distancing or handwashing. The lack of social stimulus and contact has also had a great impact on people living with dementia and their family carers. Many miss attending the Age Concern Day Centre and/or the Triple 'A' support group (which are not running due to Covid) and they miss having the option of respite care. Personal assistants/carers from the '**Support with Confidence**' group are available and it may be possible by contacting Bracknell Forest Adult Health and Social Care to ask for respite to cover the time that someone would usually have attended the Day Centre or Support Group.

**Bracknell Forest Adult Health and Social Care (including Intermediate Care Services)** – Tel 01344 351500; **The 'Support with Confidence'** scheme is an initiative which is operating in the Bracknell area, run by [Action for People](#) alongside Trading Standards Service. It offers self-employed PAs who can help with a range of needs from personal care to social activities. This can provide social stimulation for a person living with dementia and respite for the carer. To contact the Support with Confidence Team: 01344 206 113 or 0118 907 6397 or email: [contact@actionforpeople.org.uk](mailto:contact@actionforpeople.org.uk) Dementia Connect support: 0333 150 3456

**The Alzheimer's Society** <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/> has published [information on coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for people affected by dementia](#). If you'd like to connect and talk with other people affected by dementia, you can visit the Alzheimer's Society online community [Talking Point](#). If you are still feeling worried and want more help you can call the [Alzheimer's Society Helpline](#) on 0300 222 11 22. You can also speak to a dementia specialist Admiral Nurse on [Dementia UK's Helpline](#), on 0800 888 6687.

**Memory radio** is an archive of music-based radio programmes covering 1940s/1950s and 1960s accompanied by printable activity sheets. <https://musicmemories.bbcrewind.co.uk/>

**The Music for Dementia campaign** has launched m4d Radio – a free internet radio station [www.m4dradio.com](http://www.m4dradio.com) created for people living with dementia and their Carers. The station went live on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Daily Hope:** 0800 804 8044 is a new national telephone line offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line 24 hours a day. Just dial up whenever you like

**Mind** [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk) gives practical tips to help manage feelings of loneliness, and other places you can go for support.

**Forestcare** is a 24-hour Telecare response centre based in the heart of Bracknell, providing a range of telecare solutions, e.g. a personal Alarm system, worn as a pendant or on the wrist, providing a link to the dedicated control centre 24/7. To find out more Tel 01344 786599

**Healthwatch Bracknell Forest** – coordinating coronavirus community response for those who don't have support and need advice or practical help - Tel 01344 266911 <https://www.healthwatchbracknellforest.co.uk>

**SIGNAL4Carers** provides free support, information and guidance to all unpaid (non-professional) carers who care for someone in Bracknell Forest. Their telephone support calls can result in referrals to services, including the Dementia Advisor or the COVID community response hub for practical support but, often, they are a chance for carers to just have a chat and offload some of the stress they may be experiencing. The SIGNAL website <https://www.signal4carers.org.uk/bracknell-forest> is updated with any new resources to help support people all unpaid carers. Call 01344 266 088.

**The Silver Line Helpline** – 0800 470 8090 - is the only confidential, free helpline friendship service for people aged 55 and over, open every day and night of the year. All helpline calls are free

**Which? Elderly Care** <http://www.which.co.uk/elderlycare> A free online information resource to help people explore care options for an elderly relative or for themselves. The site has information on financing care, housing options and older people's needs. There is also advice on support available for family carers.

At a conference on pastoral care of the elderly in January, 2020, Pope Francis said that old-age is, 'a precious treasure that takes shape in the journey of every man and woman's life, whatever their origins, background, or economic or social conditions.' He reminded us that,

**'Life is a gift, and when it is long, it is a privilege, for oneself and for others,'**  
Pope Francis, Conference on Pastoral Care of the Elderly, January, 2020



**RCIA** : During Mass this Sunday we will finally welcome with joy, **Atkins Mucherahowa, Gifty Nketia and Stephanie Storer** into full communion with the Church following their RCIA journey since September last year. The Mass will as usual be livestreamed so that our whole community can be part of this wonderful occasion. Please pray for **Atkins, Gifty and Stephanie** as they complete their long preparation, that they will always walk as children of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in their hearts.



### PRIVATE PRAYER, EXPOSITION AND LIMITED ATTENDANCE MASSES

Thank you to all the parishioners who have volunteered to Steward at the private prayer, exposition and limited attendance Masses in our Church, we are most grateful.

The Church is now open for limited attendance Masses Tuesday to Saturday (**NOT SUNDAY**), please see Page 4 of the newsletter for times and dates. The seating capacity is 35 maximum made up of 7 sets of one person designated seats and 12 sets of two persons from the same household designated seats, 2 sets of one parent and one small child designated seats. Two areas for persons with limited mobility with 9 available seats, please let the Steward know on arrival if you have limited mobility or need to have Holy Communion brought to you if attending Mass. **Only the wooden pews are available to enable cleaning when you leave. The pink soft seats and all red & white taped areas are out of bounds, you will be asked to move if sit in those areas.**

**It is now mandatory to wear face covering in all "indoor public places", this includes Churches, you will be refused entry if no face covering is worn, exemptions are children under 11 years of age and persons with "official exemption" for conditions such as autism, etc. Mass attendance is by booking on a weekly basis. If the bookings are under 35 persons, then we can allow some unbooked persons to attend but if Mass is completely booked then unbooked persons will be refused entry. Mass bookings to be made via the parish website [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org) access available from Mondays each week. Social distancing of 2 metres must be maintained throughout your visit.**

**Mass starts at 10.00am and 7.30pm prompt, please ensure you arrive early to go through the entry procedures with the Steward and are seated in the church at least 10 minutes before the start of Mass to reduce disturbance as Mass begins.**

**Due to low attendance, we have decided to cancel the 7.30pm Wednesday evening Mass after Wednesday 12 August.**

**Please enter the church via the main front doors.** You will be warmly greeted in the porch by a Steward wearing PPE who will check your temperature with a non-contact infrared thermometer, administer hand sanitiser or you can use your own sanitiser in front of the Steward, you will be refused entry if you refuse to have your temperature taken or use hand sanitiser. You will be asked three compulsory questions regarding COVID-19 symptoms, please answer honestly. **The Stewards will advise directions to seats and exits and distribution of Holy Communion,** please comply to their instructions. **Able-bodied parishioners will exit the church via the hall front doors (please do not try to enter the church via the hall), limited mobility parishioners will exit via the doors near St Anthony, into the porch and out of the main doors.** If you are "shielding", "self-isolating" or feeling the symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature, persistent cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell) we ask that you do not come to the church for private prayer or book a seat for Mass to avoid possible spread of the virus.

**Thank you in advance for complying to the instructions from the Stewards, we still need more Stewards!**

**We now have facilities to receive your weekly offering with the Porch and Exit Stewards, please let the Steward know you have an offering to make.**

**The toilets are closed, please do not ask to use them as the request will be refused.**

### WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, HOUSEBOUND OR IN HOSPITAL AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Peter Dossett, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Angelina Ediale, Josephine Timms, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews, Derek Alexander, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Jerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Jenny Bashford, Donal Hanley, Jim and Frances McEvoy, Mary Murray, Thelma Briggs, Margaret Pearce, Audrey Lam, Pam Savage, Marie Swash, Terri Landmann, Jennie Tucker, Vilma Taborda, Zac Hoy, Terry and Mary Brennan, Brenda Lynch, Amanda Killestein, Doreen Pryor, Sharon Bryan, Sarah Bryan, Fr John Chadwick Hannah Joan Byrne.

**If you would like to add a name to this list with consent, or if you want a name removed, please contact the Parish Office.**

**PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A**

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 10.30am **LIVE STREAMED MASS ONLY** *Parish Intentions*

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> **No Private Prayer or Mass – CHURCH CLOSED**

**ST CLARE, Foundress**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> 10.00am - 10.30am Mass *Francis McEvoy*

11.00am – 12.00 noon Private Prayer & Exposition

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.00am – 12.00 noon Private Prayer and Exposition

7.30pm – 8.00pm Mass *Yvon d’Unienville, RIP*

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00am - 10.30am Mass *Helen Considine, RIP*

11.00am – 12.00 noon Private Prayer & Exposition

**ST MAXIMILIAN MARIA KOLBE, Religious, Priest, Martyr**

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00am – 12.00 noon Private Prayer and Exposition

7.30pm – 8.00pm Mass *Magdalena & George Lobo, RIP*

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am - 10.30am Mass *Nicola Howard, RIP*

11.00am – 12.00 noon Private Prayer & Exposition

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – YEAR A**

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 10.30am **LIVE STREAMED MASS ONLY** *Parish Intentions*



**THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED FOR 30 MINUTES ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY MORNINGS AFTER MASS TO SANITISE THE CHURCH BEFORE RE-OPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AND EXPOSITION AT 11.00am. THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN 30 MINUTES BEFORE EACH MASS, THE DOORS WILL BE CLOSED AT THE START OF MASS.**

**Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA**

**Telephone: 01344 425729 Email: [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)**

**Pastoral Care: 07394 440938 email: [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**

**Website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org) Follow us on Facebook**

**[DIRECT DEBIT, STANDING ORDER AND GIFT AID FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE PARISH WEBSITE \(drop down menu “Planned Giving”\)](#)**

**BANK DETAILS: Account Name: PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph**

**Sort Code: 30-93-04; Account Number: 00875520**

**Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Palmerstone Road, Southsea**

**PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO (FULL NAME):**

**PRCDTR BRACKNELL ST JOSEPH**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Daniel McAvoy**

**Deacon: Rev. Aidan Lynch**

**Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Fisher**

**Pastoral Assistant: Mary McNab**

**Safeguarding Representatives: Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read**

**Safeguarding email: [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**