

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK
EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR B
THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING: A PARABLE ON POWER

25 November 2018 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 160 - Psalter Week 2

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Politicians rarely answer questions and yet they are very good at asking them! Perhaps when we feel we have power over others we think we have the right to interrogate them.

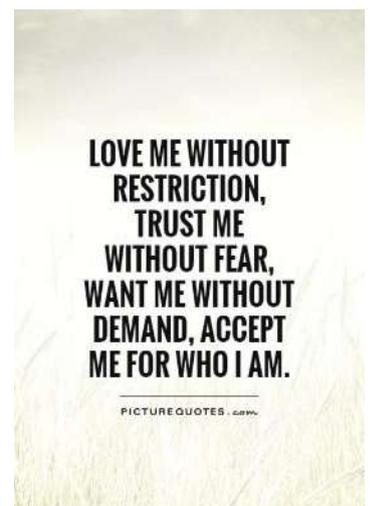
As far as Pilate is concerned, Herod is the King of the Jewish People. If Jesus says He is a King, a rebellion can only be around the corner. Jesus is not a politician and He answers Pilates' question as a Holy Man. People are drawn to Jesus by the breadth and depth of His capacity for Love. Is Pilate interested in this or is he focused somewhere else? If His own community have turned against Him and handed Him over to the despised Romans, Pilate wants to know why.

Jesus reassures Pilate that His eye is only on the Throne of God. Since time began, every social, political and religious institution have been built of violence and maintained by force. Jesus' disciples are not fighting to keep him out of the clutches of these systems. And the reason for that is that the Kingdom in which Jesus is King cannot be found or grown through fighting. But Pilate misses the point and sticks with what he knows best. Is Jesus saying He is a King or not? But King is Pilates word. The Beloved Son of God receives the word 'King' from Pilate, breaks it open, shakes it till it is empty and then fills it with a news meaning. Jesus exercises His authority by witnessing to the truth. Those who are fixated on power and on territory cannot find the depths from which Jesus is speaking. But those who know God's heart can. The truth they know will lead them to the truth about Jesus.

Choosing to become powerless is a huge decision. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Peter, not quite a Saint yet, strikes with violence and launches the ear of the High priests servant into the shrubbery. Jesus stops him and heals the man, restoring his ear. After all, Jesus has spent his whole ministry opening people's ears. He knows, only too well, that violent words and actions spell the end of the dialogue. Ears have to be restored for dialogue to resume and for violence to end. The power of The Word is paramount for Jesus. The world He inhabits relies on Love as its only strategy and protection.

Jesus is, of course, THE revelation of God's unconditional love. And He is also a mirror for the unknown territory of the human heart. People somehow get themselves when He is around and the poor find Him to be very attractive. Even the 'other sheep' who are not of this fold move towards Him with joy. But before the cruelty and might of his own leaders, and of Rome, He shows no muscle, no force and instead offers the magnet of revelation.

Becoming powerless also includes making no threats. The revelation of unconditional love is here. If we do not get it or, if we are honest, not really attracted to it, Jesus will not become a terrorist and scare you with the prospect of disaster either side of the grave. Finally, torture - in all its forms - and death can no longer be used as a way to win disciples. We might say that many of the strategies that His 'disciples' have used had already been rejected by the Holy One who simply offers the revelation once more.



Violence is replaced by dialogue. This is quite different from discussion, which has the same root as percussion and concussion. All of these suggest striking something in order to gain territory. Dialogue invites a free flow of meaning that becomes shared by all those involved. It looks as if this is Jesus' preferred mode of influence. As a way of being it was completely lost on Pilate. What did he miss? Only this. Christ is King not because He can bend human will with all His might. He is King because out of love He embraces powerlessness and continues to talk.

# DID YOU KNOW...?

 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – MIDDAY ON TUESDAYS**, please email any items you need to make known to the parish via the newsletter to [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (the SVP)** - provides practical help and support whenever possible for those who need it. Are you lonely? Are you in need of help of any kind? Or do you know someone who is? If so, contact the SVP on 07731862349 to arrange a visit. All calls are completely confidential.

**CAN YOU HELP?** Have you a child's wardrobe in good condition that you no longer need? Would you be willing to donate it to the SVP? If so, contact the SVP on 07731862349. Thank you.



**BOOKING PARISH HALL AND PARISH ROOMS** – If you wish to use the church hall or parish rooms for your parish group, bookings must be made with the Parish Office at least 6-8 weeks before requested date. Please note the regular events below before booking.

**BEWARE: LIGHTING CANDLES** – Adults must accompany all children at the candle trays when lighting candles. Please ensure your children do not play around the candle trays, in the sand or with the lighted candles. Care must be taken reaching across lighted candles wearing loose clothing, etc. It is important to remember that they can be the cause of major fires and serious injury.



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR – NOVEMBER:** 30<sup>th</sup> St Andrew.

**DECEMBER:** 1<sup>st</sup> St Francis Xavier; 7<sup>th</sup> St Ambrose; 8<sup>th</sup> The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 13<sup>th</sup> St Lucy; 14<sup>th</sup> St John the Cross; 25<sup>th</sup> The Nativity of the Lord; 26<sup>th</sup> St Stephen; 27<sup>th</sup> St John; 28<sup>th</sup> The Holy Innocents; 29<sup>th</sup> St Thomas of Canterbury; 30<sup>th</sup> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.



**MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING** - The last Friday of the month, Anointing of the Sick after the 12.10pm Mass. All welcome, especially those sick or suffering in any way. If you would like a lift to this Mass, please contact the parish office.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 7.45pm-9.30pm.  
26<sup>th</sup> November at 86 Qualitas.

**BABY & TODDLER GROUP** – Every Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am  
in the hall during term time.

**KEEP FIT** – Every Tuesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm in the hall.

**ALPHA** – Every Tuesday 7pm – 8.45pm at Brown Bag, High Street, Bracknell until 4 December.

**OFS** - Next meeting Saturday 1 December at 2pm-4pm in the hall.

**PRAYER GROUPS**—Hall Evening Group: 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7.45pm – 9.30pm. Day Group: 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 10.30- 11.30am

**CHOIR PRACTICE** – Every Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm, in the Church, all welcome. Instrumentalists also invited to join us.

**RCIA** – Every Thursday, 7.30pm – 9.00pm in the hall, all welcome.

**TEAS & COFFEES** – After all weekend Masses.

**CHURCH SHOP** – Open every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 5.30pm-7pm; Sundays 9.30am – 10.30am.



**MASS OFFERINGS:** £1990.73.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY.**

Please make cheques payable to (full name) **"PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph"**. Gift Aid envelopes and banker's/standing order forms available in the porch, please complete and return to the parish office.



**MYDONATE BT** – The world of donating is rapidly changing and becoming easier and more secure, which is why we have signed up to **MyDonateBT**. With **MyDonate** our parish receives more of your donation – as well as the full 25 per cent Gift Aid – it is a no direct fees, zero commission, not-for profit service. We will receive up to 63p more for every £10 given through **MyDonate**. We have a **MyDonate** link on the parish website [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk) orange button **"Parish Offerings"** where you can sign up to online donations. We also have donation buttons for **"Bamenda"** and **"CAFOD"**. Give it a go, it is really easy, you can do this on your phone or computer, a great way to donate to our beautiful church and parish.



## SOUTH BERKSHIRE PASTORAL AREA

**Co-ordinating Pastor: Fr Danny McAvoy**, St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell, Tel: 01344 425729

**Fr Kevin Bidgood**, St Francis of Assisi, Ascot, SL5 9HG Tel: 01344 620591

**Fr Marcus Brisley** Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS and Holy Ghost, Crowthorne, RG45 6JG, Tel: 01252 876820

**Fr David O'Sullivan**, Corpus Christi, Wokingham, RG40 2HE Tel: 0118 9780348

**PEW PACKS** – Many of the pew packs have several important items missing and it is felt they are not being respected. Sadly we cannot keep replacing missing items and may have to cease providing them. Please return all items to the packs.

**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, Betty Winn, Peter Dossett, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Lilijan Rodenburg, Robert Mulcahy, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Angelina Ediale, Josephine Timms, Una Gilligan, 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 Tarode, Babs White, Tess Johnson, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Doreen Gladwin, Manuela Maria Barros, Gerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Marie Fielding, Marie Hughes, Jenny Bashford, Phyllis D'Souza, Donal Hanley, Pat Meehan, Jacqui Rawstron, Tom Larkin, Jim and Francis McEvoy.

## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: JOHN HAND, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 7 December 2018** at 12.15pm, followed by service at 2.15pm at Easthampstead Park Cemetery. Please pray for John and all his family.

*May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



**THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP** are running several workshops in the parish hall for Night Shelter volunteers which may be of interest to all parishioners, free of charge, and over the age of 18 years. For more information or sign up to attend, please contact: Bernadette Fisher at: [justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or via the Parish Office.

**DE- ESCALATION TECHNIQUES - Saturday 1 December**, 9:30 am to 12:30pm identify why people become angry or aggressive, recognise the early warning signals, practice how to remain in control and diffuse aggressive behaviour. Identify assertive techniques for challenging inappropriate behaviour and gaining compliance.

**INTRODUCTION TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE, Saturday 8 December** 9:30 am to 12:30pm exploring the prevalence of drug and alcohol problems in the UK, the impact on individuals, families, the wider community. Develop an understanding of support available for people with these difficulties.



**Christmas cards and 2019 calendars and diaries are now available in the shop**



**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** – The true spirit of Christmas Giving. Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget from Happy Queen Bee at £4 to Help a Refugee child at £46. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries. Catalogues are available at church or you can buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)



**IGNITE! (age 10-12) & ABLAZE! (13+) YOUTH GROUPS - ABLAZE!** (age +13) - Next meeting - **Friday 30 November** in the Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm. **IGNITE!** (age 10-12) - Next meeting - **Friday 7 December** in the Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm. New to either of the groups? Get yourself signed up on the Parish website and come along! For further information, please contact [youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)



**ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE - Friday 30 November 2018** at 3:30-5:30pm. Please come and join us. Mulled wine, gammon and turkey rolls, bottle hoopla, Santa's grotto, tombola and lots more festive fun!

**UCM - WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER** - St Francis Church, South Ascot is holding a Women's Day of Prayer, in preparation for Advent, on **Saturday, 1 December 2018**, to which you are cordially invited. The day will begin at 10am Mass and, following tea and coffee. The speaker will be Nina Harding, who will introduce the topic 'Mindfulness'. Please bring a packed lunch and the theme will continue with a workshop in the afternoon. A time of Adoration will follow and the day will conclude at 2.30pm with tea and cake. If you are only able to attend for part of the day, you will still be very welcome. There is no charge as the day will be sponsored by the UCM.



**ADVENT VIGIL - Friday 7 December 2018** from 7:45 to 12 midnight in the Church. The Prayer Group would like to invite everyone to come and join in this beautiful preparation for Advent. Please refer to flyer.



**ADVENT EVENT** - St Joseph's School 'Advent Event' **Saturday 15 December**, 10.30am – 1.00pm, a chance to prepare for Christmas by making and baking! Helpers needed with this event, especially with the children to make table decorations, flower arrangements or wreaths. please contact: [n.philpott@stjosephsbracknell.co.uk](mailto:n.philpott@stjosephsbracknell.co.uk) telephone: 01344 425246



**A FAMILY CAROL CONCERT. THAMES VOYCES** – Christmas Concert on **Saturday 15 December** at 7.30pm. Thames Voyces invite the whole family to join them at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church. It will include the usual mixture of Christmas readings and well-known carols for choir and audience. The choir will be conducted by their current Musical Director, Nick Austin. This is the choir's 4<sup>th</sup> year of performing at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church and they very much hope that the parishioners will join again this year following the 6.00pm Mass. Tickets £12/£10 (concession) or free for Under 16s. Wine and mince pies will be served at the interval.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE – YEAR B

|           |                  |                |      |                              |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|------|------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Parish Intentions            |
|           |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Cyril Ford, RIP              |
| Monday    | 26 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                              |
| Tuesday   | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass | Mary Galloghly, RIP          |
| Wednesday | 28 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass | Joseph Zarowny, RIP          |
| Thursday  | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass | May, Hannah and Bridget, RIP |

### St Andrew, Apostle

|        |                  |         |            |                       |
|--------|------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------|
| Friday | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                       |
|        |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Anointing of the Sick |

### ST EDMUND CAMPION, Priest, Martyr

|          |                 |         |      |          |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------|
| Saturday | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 10.00am | Mass | Pro-Life |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------|

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR C

|          |                 |         |      |                     |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|---------------------|
| Saturday | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Roma Bembridge, RIP |
| Sunday   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 8.30am  | Mass | Parish Intentions   |
|          |                 | 10.30am | Mass | Shawn Daley, RIP    |

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Tuesday to Thursday: 9.10am Morning Prayer;

Thursday: After Mass Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help,
10.15 am Mother's Prayers;

Saturday: 9.30am Rosary, 1st Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary.

Confessions: every Saturday at 10.45am or prior appointment.

Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1BE, Office Hours: Monday – Friday
9.30am-2.30pm

Telephone: 01344 425729 **Email:** stj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org

Please make cheques payable to (full name): "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph"

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel McAvoy

Deacon: Rev Aidan Lynch

Parish Secretary (Director of Administration): Elizabeth Fisher

Pastoral Assistant (Director of Evangelisation): Mary McNab

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

Safeguarding email: safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

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