

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK
EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

25 February 2018 – Mass Book Page 151, Psalter Week 2



The Teacher calls an inner circle of His disciples into the depth of Himself. To do this, He takes them up a high mountain, a favourite place for a meeting with God. Here, He is transfigured into light. The ‘three’ are given an astonishing gift – to see Jesus, the Beloved Son, in communion with His Abba. The gift is given so that they might grow in their desire to follow Jesus. It hasn’t been easy for them. What they are seeing is for their benefit.

But then more is given. Elijah and Moses arrive. They too like high mountains. In their own day they went there to talk with God and to find the wisdom to make God’s plan work with people who were highly resistant to them. Speaking on behalf of the ‘three’, Peter exclaims that it is great to be part of this event. But these are the words of someone who feels he is in over his head. The One they were shadowing is now even more attractive and, at the same time, a little bit scary!

Then even more is given. A cloud descends and now God is shadowing them. This is probably as close as you’re going to get to God. And then God speaks. He reveals the true name of this Jesus. It is the same name that was given at His Baptism in the Jordan, ‘My Son, the Beloved’. For disciples, this is a call to listen more attentively to what the Beloved Son is saying. This is the revelation.

And then, the moment of Grace ends, as they must. Now all they have is Jesus and the truth about Him. The vision has strengthened their understanding of Jesus as God’s Beloved Son and the inheritor of the law and the prophets. They know that Jesus has God’s seal of approval, but they have yet to understand the divine plan. Somehow, this is tied to the rather mysterious question of the Son of Man “rising from the dead”. And so, until they understand both the identity of Jesus and the divine plan, they are charged to be silent. They are, and yet they try to solve the puzzle amongst themselves. As do we!



I wonder if we might come closer to understanding in this way. Those who turn away from God are left in communities of loneliness. Loneliness brings panic, and, in their panic, people will try anything to fill the void they have made in their own lives. Grace reverses this process. People grounded in God do not know what it is like to be separated. Their communion fills them and propels them outwards. Instead of trying to grab and hold, they find joy in giving themselves. And here they discover one of life’s strangest truths, that the source of life is always available to those who walk with generous hearts before God. These are the ones who bring strength and healing to a broken and troubled world.

In the Transfiguration narrative Jesus radiates outwards. This is the sign of His communion with God. Neither God nor Jesus abandon this troubled world or her troubled people. They move in sync to restore what was lost. This is what disciples are meant to understand. That feeling grounded and at home and flowing into the world with compassion and blessing, they find a deeper compassion and more abundant blessing. Thus, they are transfigured with Christ.

Cyprian Smith states the case beautifully: *“It is possible for human beings, living, thinking and acting in God, to think, see and do as God does. Instead of standing within the created world, looking in it for signs of a God who is outside it, we stand within God and it is the world that now appears outside, we are greater than it. It appears as a pale and imperfect reflection of the dazzling and brilliant truth in which we are living and making our home”.*

(The Way of Paradox: Spiritual Life as Taught by Meister Eckhart.)

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

Saturday	24 th	6.00pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	25 th	8.30am	Mass	Halina Kurowska, Bogdan Kaluza, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	Cesar & Maxima Camba, RIP
Monday	26 th	No Mass		
Tuesday	27 th	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Johnny O'Brien, RIP
Wednesday	28 th	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Human Rights Violations

ST DAVID, Feast

Thursday	1 st	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Deceased of McVeigh & Holt Families
Friday	2 nd	11.00am	Stations of the Cross	
		11.30am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	Parish Sick & Housebound Ministers
Saturday	3 rd	10.00am	Mass	Pro-Life

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

Saturday	3 rd	6.00pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	4 th	8.30am	Mass	Little Sisters of the Poor in the Diocese
		10.30am	Mass	Michael McGowan, RIP

~~~~~  
**Tuesday to Thursday During Lent:** 11.00am Exposition; **Thursday:** After Mass Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help, 10.15 am Mother's Prayers; **Saturday:** 9.30am Rosary, 1<sup>st</sup> 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  
Monday – Friday 9.30am-2.30pm

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

**Website:** [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk)

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

**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.uk](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk)

**PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH**



**SOUTH BERKSHIRE PASTORAL AREA - Co-ordinating Pastor:** Fr Danny McAvoy, St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell, 01344 425729; Fr Kevin Bidgood, St Francis of Assisi, Ascot 01344 620591;  
**Fr Marcus Brisley** Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst & Holy Ghost, Crowthorne, 01252 876820;  
**Fr David O'Sullivan**, Corpus Christi, Wokingham 0118 9780348

# DID YOU KNOW...?

 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** – **NEW DEADLINE: Midday on Tuesdays**, please email your newsletter item(s) to the parish office [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**LENT** : Live Lent and let your light shine! “Give” rather than “Give Up”. Give the gift of your time by joining one of the below ministries which are so important for the life of our church and parishioners. We need **YOU**.

**WELCOMING MINISTRY** – Warm and friendly greeting to our parishioners and visitors before the weekend Mass that you attend. A chance to meet other parishioners and help those in need with their visit to Mass.

**OFFERING COLLECTIONS** – During the Mass and 2<sup>nd</sup> offerings at the end of Mass, teams are needed for each of the weekend Masses.

**CONFIRMATION CATECHIST, MARRIAGE PREPARATION MINISTRIES** – Support and guiding those going forward to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

**SOUP & ROLL FRIDAYS – YOU HELP IS URGENTLY REQUIRED** – Can you spare a couple of hours on a Friday mid-morning, either setting up/ cooking/serving or clearing away. Great fun and camaraderie with our parishioners and the school children who join us after Mass. No experience needed other than a Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate an easy online course, the cost reimbursed by the parish. Please contact the parish office for further details or to volunteer.

**FLOWER ARRANGING TEAMS** - We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join the team! No prior experience is necessary, just a desire to make our church look beautiful. If you think you would like to help with arranging flowers in church.

**Please contact the Parish Office with your details and which ministry you would like to join, we are waiting to hear from you.**

**“SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS”**

## RESERVATIONS

**BOOKING OF PARISH HALL AND PARISH ROOMS** – If you wish to use the church hall or parish rooms 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 - MARCH** – 1<sup>st</sup> St David; 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick; 19<sup>th</sup> St Joseph; 25<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday; 29<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday; 30<sup>th</sup> Good Friday; 31<sup>st</sup> Holy Saturday.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 7.45pm to 9.30pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome.

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

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

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

**CHOIR PRACTICE** – Every Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm, in the Church, all welcome.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Every Friday after Mass during term time in the hall.

**FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY** - Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 2pm in the Hall.



**MASS OFFERINGS: £1752.84** **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.**

**SECOND OFFERINGS - FEBRUARY: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Lenten Fast Day (return donation envelopes 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>)**

**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, Jadwiga Butcher, Lilijan Rodenburg, Robert Mulcahy, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Emma Flavelle, Angelina Ediale, Josephine & Maurice Timms, Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews, Adrian Sweeney, Derek Alexander, Brenda Lynch, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Denise Rinzivillo, Sally Tarode. Babs White, Tim Roberts, Tess Johnson, Dorcas Innes-Grant.

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR – CORPUS CHRISTI, WOKINGHAM** - Please join us at Corpus Christi, Wokingham, RG40 2HE for the **Life in the Spirit Seminars, every Wednesday from 7 February to 21 March 2018, 8.00pm to 9.30pm**

✚ **Women's World Day of Prayer** ✚

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE – Friday 2 March 2018 at 10.30am** in the Methodist Church, Dukes Ride, Crowthorne, RG45 6LT followed by refreshments.



**'ROMERO – HEARTBEAT OF EL SALVADOR'** a new play by RISE Theatre on **Friday 9 March 2018 at 7pm** —Rise Theatre performing at Holme Grange School, Heathlands Rd, Wokingham RG40 3AL. Moving production on life and legacy of Blessed Oscar Romero and the people of El Salvador. Free ticket admission - please contact Corpus Christi Parish Office 0118 978 0348 or email [wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Please see the poster on the porch noticeboard.



**VACANCY FOR FOUNDATION GOVERNOR – ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL** – A vacancy has arisen for a practicing, committed Catholic for this very important ministry. Please see the vacancy details on the porch noticeboard. Closing date **Monday 19 March 2018**. Application forms available from [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php)



## BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM



**WEEKDAY MASSES DURING LENT – Weekday Masses on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays will be at 12.10pm, preceded by Exposition at 11.00am to enable everyone to join our weekday celebration of Lent.**



**REFRAME - CATHOLIC VOICES.** Lenten Talks every **Wednesday** during Lent in the hall **7pm-8pm**.

**Talk 2: 'Pope Francis' vision for the Church** – Emily Towner, a solicitor working in education law, involved with St Patrick's SOS Prayerline and at Nightfever.

**Talk 3: 'Mercy and the migrant crisis'** – Gloria Ferenando, A nurse from Zimbabwe with focus on tuberculosis research; involved with Catholic groups Soul Food and The Dominican Rosary Shrine in Haverstock Hill.

**Talk 4: 'How the Church works for a fairer world'** – Georgia Clarke, a young Catholic studying Theology at Oxford University.



**JOURNEY INTO A CONTEMPLATIVE HEART – "FALLING INTO SILENCE" A MASTER CLASS BY DR JAMES FINLEY** A series of 6 beautiful contemplative reflections by Dr James Finley, every **Thursday** in the hall, **7.30pm to 8.30pm**. Dr James Finley is a brilliant master of the contemplative life, a wonderful opportunity to 'rest and reflect in God and the Holy Spirit', preparing for the holy season of Easter.



**CAFOD's FAMILY FAST DAY** - Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On **Friday 23 February 2018 FAMILY FAST DAY** can you give up a meal or eat simply and put what is saved in the CAFOD Family Fast Day envelope which are available in the porch, to be returned weekend **24th/25th February 2018**



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** – Every Friday in Lent (not Good Friday) at **11.00am**, with Fr Danny and inspiration from Pax Christi, William Vanstone, Taize and Bishop Philip. Exposition at **11.30am, Mass at 12.10pm**.



**PENITENTIAL SERVICES** – For the South Berkshire Pastoral Area are:

**Wednesday 14 March 2018 at 7.30pm** : The Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS

**Thursday 15 March 2018 at 7.30pm** : St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church, Bracknell

**Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7.30pm** : Corpus Christi, Wokingham RG40 2HE

**Thursday 22 March 2018 at 7.30pm** : St Francis of Assisi, Ascot SL5 9HG



**CHRISM MASS, CATHEDRAL PORTSMOUTH – Tuesday 27 March 2018** at 11.00am at the Cathedral. We have a "mobility impaired" accessible coach for able-bodied and mobility impaired parishioners who wish to attend this most beautiful Mass. The coach will depart from St Joseph's Church at **8.00am**, returning approx **4.00pm**, please contact the parish office to be included on the coach list. **The coach is expensive this year, we would really appreciate a donation towards the cost of the coach.** Please note, the Parish Office will be closed on **27 March 2018**, no Exposition or 12.10pm Mass that day.



**MAUNDY THURSDAY : THE EASTER TRIDUUM** – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper – **Thursday 29 March 2018 at 7.30pm**. All Ministers of the Eucharist are to be formerly Commissioned during this Mass and will receive their Faculty, please contact the parish office to confirm your attendance at this Mass so we can prepare your Faculty in advance.



**GOOD FRIDAY:** Celebration of the Lord's Passion – **Friday 30 March 2018, 3.00pm**. Day of fasting and abstinence.



**HOLY SATURDAY** : This beautiful Easter Vigil Service is on Saturday 31 March 2018 at 7.30pm



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**  
Sunday 1 April 2018

Mass at 8.30am and 10.30am