

**THE YEAR OF MATTHEW**  
**ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**  
**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**COSTING NOT LESS THAN EVERYTHING**

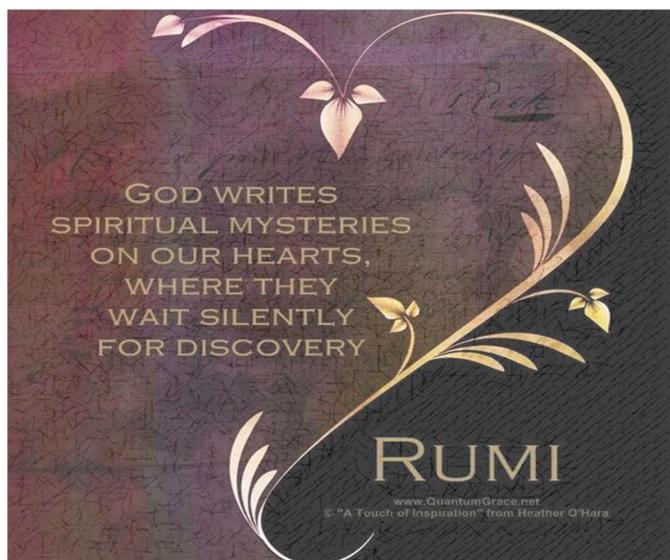
*30 July 2017 - Psalter Week 1– Missal Page 108*



Solomon has it all! He even has God talking to him in his dreams! His dreaming self hears the question God is always asking, "What is it that you want?" When we wake up, of course, the question is harder than it looks. Why? Because it can only be answered with great care. The word we speak coming straight from our heart.

I know a lot of jokes about genies wriggling out of bottles or fairies swooshing their wands, who ask the lucky finder the same question. Usually the answer is a request for endless wealth. Solomon does not need to ask for what he already has, so he asks God for the gift of 'Wisdom'. A Wisdom that supports a community to grow. A Wisdom for relating! Notice how this stirs surprise and delight in Gods' own heart. And God is delighted to answer this prayer. The Psalmist must have had a similar experience. You can hear it as she sings, "The law from your mouth means more to me than silver or gold." Or in the words and experience of Saint Paul, God adorns us in Glory. What are they all telling us? What lesson can be learned here?

First of all, something happens. A baby looks at you and smiles and, no matter what you're feeling, you just have to smile back. Because, first of all, something happens. You're standing at a graveside, tears your only prayer, as the storm of grief rages from your heart to your eyes. Someone takes your hand and joins you in that lonely place which is now less lonely. First of all, something happens. A secret weakness is exposed, but the support of a good friend is stronger than the shame that threatens to engulf us. First of all, something happens. We are unexpectedly kissed, we see an old person refusing to be old. First of all, something happens.



These are the 'moments' that throw us into the Mystery we share with each other. We are suddenly face to face with the Presence within which we live our lives. God does not wait for a suitable moment or for a polite introduction. His presence breaks through our routines, demanding our attention, insisting that we talk. When God speaks, we may laugh or cry, we might sing or fall silent. But whatever we do we are praying at our best. The 'moment' the 'encounter' has changed everything.

We pray for the coming of God's Kingdom. But when it arrives it is always a surprise! In farming a field, a treasure is stumbled upon. A door opens and the perfect pearl is for sale. Out of nowhere there is a gold embossed invitation to the Kings' Banquet! Every

genuine encounter with Jesus is always a surprise. Lawyers who expected justification are challenged. A rich young man asks for advice and is offered a vocation. Zacchaeus, hoping for a glimpse of a prophet, dines with his Saviour. A woman at a well leaves with a bucket full of self-revelation. All of them got more than they asked for. Their emptiness suddenly brimming over, their ravaged lives called to greatness.

These experiences bring us to prayer. Our own story now made more by our encounter with Jesus. We begin to make links with the Prophets and disciples who have gone before us. In their company, old worlds are subverted, new worlds rise from the ruins. We are blessed by a Love stronger than death. We are suddenly filled with a new confidence. We have become the prayer.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm Mass	James & Joanna Moriarty, RIP
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am Mass	Nicholas Dacunha, RIP
		10.30am Mass	Mary Trevatt, RIP
Monday	31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	

### ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, Founder, Bishop

Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am Mass	Peggy Malone, RIP
Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am Mass	Margaret Naughton, RIP
Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am Mass	Fr William James, RIP

### ST JOHN VIANNEY, Priest

**Friday**                    **4<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm Exposition**  
**2.30pm REQUIEM MASS - Una Mair, RIP**

Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am Mass	Pro-Life
----------	-----------------	--------------	----------

### THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD – YEAR A

Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm Mass	George Chapman, RIP
Sunday	6 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am Mass	Olive Carlisle
		10.30am Mass	Barry Lewington



**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, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary and Confessions every Saturday at 10.45am or by prior appointment.

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

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

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

**Please make cheques payable to:** "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

**Parish Secretary:** Elizabeth Fisher **Pastoral Assistant:** Mary McNab

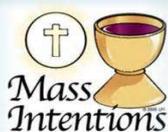
**Safeguarding Team:** Marion McGuire, Paula Read, Sarah Birch  
**Safeguarding Telephone No:** 07712048695

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

## DID YOU KNOW...?



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** – Please email your newsletter item(s) to the parish office [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) no later than midday on Wednesdays.



**MASS INTENTIONS** - Requests for mass intentions by telephone or email will no longer accepted in future. Please use the "Mass Intention" envelopes provided in the porch. Please ensure to include your contact details in case Liz needs to discuss your request or make changes should a funeral, or some other unplanned for event, take place.

Weekend Mass intentions are understandably preferred, but as the number of masses is limited to around 150 per year, we will only allow one Sunday mass intention to be requested per individual in a twelve-month period. Some parishioners are booking almost every weekend mass in advance and unfairly preventing others from having a weekend mass intention, this will no longer be accepted.

There is no real need to have multiple mass intentions offered for the same person. In this regard, we need to be shifting our focus towards the mission of the Church and praying that we will be faithful to this before anything else. Please develop the habit of asking for mass to be offered for situations that affect our sisters and brothers globally.

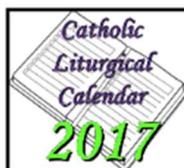


**CAFOD PORTSMOUTH HARVEST BRIEFING** – Join us at a special Harvest Briefing on **Thursday 7 September 2017** from 7.30pm to 9pm at English Martyrs' Church Hall, 64 Liebenroad Road, Reading RG30 2EB to hear more about CAFOD's work in El Salvador, the focus of Harvest Fast Day. Please book a place in advance via 01252 329385 or email [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk)



**CAR PARK SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL/NEW** – The 2017/2018 car park renewal and new subscription forms are available in the narthex. The new subscription period is from 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2018. If you have a **Disability Blue Badge** please bring it with your subscription form.

**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 when reaching across lighted candles wearing loose clothing, etc. It is important to remember that they can be the cause of major fires and serious injuries if not used correctly.



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR - JULY:** 31<sup>st</sup> St Ignatius of Loyola

**AUGUST** – 1<sup>st</sup> St Alphonsus Liguori; 4<sup>th</sup> St John Vianney; 6<sup>th</sup> The Transfiguration of the Lord; 8<sup>th</sup> St Dominic; 9<sup>th</sup> St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross; 10<sup>th</sup> St Laurence; 11<sup>th</sup> St Clare; 14<sup>th</sup> St Maximilian Maria Kolbe; **15<sup>th</sup> The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)**; 21<sup>st</sup> St Pius X; 22<sup>nd</sup> The Queenship of Mary; 24<sup>th</sup> St Bartholomew; 28<sup>th</sup> St Augustine of Hippo; 29<sup>th</sup> The Passion of St John the Baptist; **30<sup>th</sup> Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward.**

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** - Monday 14 August 2017 at 75 Qualitas, Bracknell.

**KEEP FIT CLUB** – Closed until new school term in September.

**TODDLER GROUP** – Closed until new school term in September.

**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.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Closed until 15 September 2017.

**YOUTH GROUP** – Closed until new school term in September.



**LAST WEEK'S MASS OFFERINGS – THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY:** Total amount £1,637.21. Please make cheques payable to "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph". **Gift Aid envelopes and bankers/standing order forms available in the porch.**

**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, Adrian Sweeney, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Jadwiga Butcher, June Cooper, Lilijan Rodenburg, Josephine & Maurice Timms, Andrea Brown, Robert Mulcahy, Mary Carpenter, Mary King,

**Those who are unwell or in hospital:**

Geoff Hallett, Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Teresa Bullock, Maria Bishop, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Serafina Delmundo, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Allan James, Nicholas Powell, Caroline Nirmalan, Kathleen Brosnan, Jackie Shaw, Blanche Shap, Thelma Briggs, Emma Flavell, John Richardson, Mike Garnham, Primula Maynard, Ethna Sweeney.

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



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

**UNA MAIR, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Friday 4 August 2017** at 2.30pm at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church.

**PEGGY O'SULLIVAN, RIP** whose Funeral Service is celebrated on **Saturday 5 August 2017** at 12.00 noon Easthampstead Park Crematorium.

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



**VACATION:** Fr Danny will be on a much needed and well earned vacation from **Monday 7 August until Monday 28 August 2017 inclusive**. Weekday Masses will be replaced with Communion Services, for weekdays from **Tuesday 8 August to Friday 25 August 2017**, including 10am on Saturday mornings. There will be **NO CONFESSIONS** during this time. **Fr Richard Maniak** will celebrate all weekend Masses for **12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> August**, please warmly welcome Fr Richard who is looking forward to seeing you all again.

**Tuesday 15 August 2017** is a Holy Day of Obligation – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Fr Andrew Pinsent will celebrate the Masses at 9.30am and 7.30pm, Fr Andrew is also looking forward to celebrating Mass at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow's.

There will be no newsletters during this time, please refer to the "Times of Masses" notice outside the Church doors.

For Masses/Services at other local Catholic Churches please see their websites: Ascot – [www.stfranciscot.co.uk](http://www.stfranciscot.co.uk); Crowthorne & Sandhurst – [www.crowsand.co.uk](http://www.crowsand.co.uk); Wokingham – [www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org](http://www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org)



**RETREAT DAY FOR THE DEAF** - There will be a retreat day for the deaf on **Wednesday 9th August 2017** at St John's Cathedral and Discovery Centre. This event will be fully sign-interpreted. The theme for the event is St Edith Stein. The day will begin at 10:45 and will include Mass at 12.15pm. If you are interested then please contact Fr Robin Ellwood email, [careofthedeaf@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:careofthedeaf@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



### First aid

### ARE YOU A FIRST AIDER AT WORK?

– Would you be willing to join our new teams of First Aiders for each of the weekend Masses, if you wish to volunteer for this important and rewarding ministry, **please contact the Parish Office with all your details.**



### ARE YOU A FIRE MARSHALL AT WORK?

– Would you be willing to join our new teams of Fire Marshalls for each of the weekend Masses. If you wish to volunteer for this important and rewarding ministry, **please contact the Parish Office with all your details.**

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** - The Chaplet will be on **Sunday 24 September 2017** at St Francis of Assisi, Ascot 2.30pm.



**Dementia Friends Champions** are trained volunteers who encourage others to learn a little bit about dementia. Champions run Information Sessions in their community and inspire others to help those living with dementia live well. If you are interested in becoming a Dementia Friends Champion there is an Induction Day on

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017** from 10:00 – 16:00 in Reading at Conference Hall, RISC 35-39 London Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 4PS. Booking a space is easily done online at [www.dementiafriends.org.uk](http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk) Please let the parish office know if you are planning to attend the Induction Day.



**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS** - The Life in the Spirit Seminars will be every Tuesday evening from **Tuesday 26 September 2017** until **Tuesday 7th November 2017**. Please can you take time to put it into your diary or on your calendar to save the dates for this amazing experience.

Please read below feedback from parishioners and visitors who attended the Seminar in 2014:

"They made me re-examine my life and commit myself to the Holy Spirit I received a long time ago in Baptism & Confirmation"

"More encouraged, greater zeal to spread the Good News & hope more parishes will run the seminars like this one"