

**THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK  
EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM  
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR B**

***AFTER THE BAPTISM***

**SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021**

---

After the Baptism, we were back at the house. The baby was sleeping, food was being served and glasses filled.

Her daddy raises his glass, "To Amy and to all of you who love her so much. Be good to her as she grows up". Her mummy continues, "And for the world. Let's make it a place where Amy and every child can grow up in peace, free from fear and filled with love". Amen to that the guests shout as the champagne flows down their throats.

Everyone moves happily towards the buffet and I am left alone with Amy. The Amen has woken her up. She starts crying. I put my finger in the palm of her hand. She grasps it and I let her hold it until her distress, like all distress, eventually passes away.

As Catholics, we don't celebrate the individual seeker, the lonely exile walking in search of God. We're all in this together. Everything is relationship. No one excluded. No one.

And as I stand with my finger in this little girls hand on the day of her Baptism, I ponder the water, the oil the candle and the baptismal gown. These invite me to see what the camera can never capture. To see from the soul. And I say to Amy in the silence of my heart. "Never forget that the touch of the flesh is spirit. Embrace what others will push away. Bless whatever seeks you out. Lay hands on the heads of the young. Because it is their day that is dawning. Go to other Baptisms, they will help you to understand your own".



Perhaps she can hear me. Her free hand is waving up and down. She smiles as she conducts an orchestra only she can hear.

Laughter explodes from the next room. Her grandfather is doing one of his tricks. "Stay close to them," I whisper to her. "They will teach you how to drink from the sky".



ENCYCLICAL LETTER  
**FRATELLI TUTTI**  
OF THE HOLY FATHER  
**FRANCIS**  
ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP

**GLOBALIZATION AND PROGRESS WITHOUT A SHARED ROADMAP**

29. *With the Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb, we do not ignore the positive advances made in the areas of science, technology, medicine, industry and welfare, above all in developed countries. Nonetheless, “we wish to emphasize that, together with these historical advances, great and valued as they are, there exists a moral deterioration that influences international action and a weakening of spiritual values and responsibility. This contributes to a general feeling of frustration, isolation and desperation”. We see “outbreaks of tension and a buildup of arms and ammunition in a global context dominated by uncertainty, disillusionment, fear of the future, and controlled by narrow economic interests”. We can also point to “major political crises, situations of injustice and the lack of an equitable distribution of natural resources... In the face of such crises that result in the deaths of millions of children – emaciated from poverty and hunger – there is an unacceptable silence on the international level”.<sup>[27]</sup> This panorama, for all its undeniable advances, does not appear to lead to a more humane future.*

30. *In today’s world, the sense of belonging to a single human family is fading, and the dream of working together for justice and peace seems an outdated utopia. What reigns instead is a cool, comfortable and globalized indifference, born of deep disillusionment concealed behind a deceptive illusion: thinking that we are all-powerful, while failing to realize that we are all in the same boat. This illusion, unmindful of the great fraternal values, leads to “a sort of cynicism. For that is the temptation we face if we go down the road of disenchantment and disappointment... Isolation and withdrawal into one’s own interests are never the way to restore hope and bring about renewal. Rather, it is closeness; it is the culture of encounter. Isolation, no; closeness, yes. Culture clash, no; culture of encounter, yes”.<sup>[28]</sup>*

31. *In this world that races ahead, yet lacks a shared roadmap, we increasingly sense that “the gap between concern for one’s personal well-being and the prosperity of the larger human family seems to be stretching to the point of complete division between individuals and human community... It is one thing to feel forced to live together, but something entirely different to value the richness and beauty of those seeds of common life that need to be sought out and cultivated”.<sup>[29]</sup> Technology is constantly advancing, yet “how wonderful it would be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation could come with more equality and social inclusion. How wonderful would it be, even as we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters who orbit around us”.<sup>[30]</sup>*



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

**FRANCES McEVOY, RIP** who died on Sunday 20 December, 2020. Frances' Requiem Mass will be at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Tuesday 12 January 2021** at 11.00am, Internment 1.00pm EHP Cemetery.

**ANGELINA EDIALE, RIP** who died on Wednesday 4 November, 2020. Angelina's Requiem Mass will be at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Friday 15 January 2021** at 11.30am, Internment 1.30pm EHP Cemetery.

**JOHN HARVEY PAGE** (Carole's husband) who died on Sunday 27 December, 2020. John's funeral will be on **Friday 15 January 2021** at 3.00pm EHP Chapel, 3.15pm at EHP Crematorium.

**ARCHIBALD BASIL DAWSON** (Archie) who died on Sunday 21 December, 2020. Archie's funeral will be on **Wednesday 20 January 2021** at 12.00noon EHP Chapel, 12.40pm at EHP Cemetery.

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.*

**WE ARE NOW OFFICIALLY LIVE!**

All Masses and Exposition, weekday and weekend, are now streamed live; please see page 4 of the newsletter for Mass times.

**MASS TIME CHANGE – FRIDAY MORNING MASS WILL NOW BE AT 9.00am EVERY WEEK.**

To **Watch Live**, head over to our website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/watch-live](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/watch-live)



**TUNE IN TO AFTERNOON CONTEMPLATIVE TALKS** - James Finley's "Following the Mystics Through the Narrow Gate", 6 more sessions, will be broadcast via our website and Church Services TV, giving an opportunity to listen and learn. Join these insightful sessions at 1pm on **Tuesdays 12, 19, 26 January and 2 February**. They'll be recorded and saved for later listening via the church website (on <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/watch-live>) too.



**JOIN US** for the new **FAITH FORMATION GROUP** meeting, weekly online **Thursday evenings 7:30pm-9pm**. Reflection and discussion on the Sunday readings, to better understand how scripture calls us to a continuing, deepening, development of our faith, and what it means to be Catholic in our contemporary world in these times. For the zoom link please email Mary McNab [bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).



**POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LETTER – 'FRATELLI TUTTI'**

Pope Francis' third encyclical inspired by the life and example of St. Francis of Assisi, completed during this pandemic and speaks to the possibility that, through it, we may rediscover a sense of common humanity, we are serialising the whole letter. This week: **'Globalisation and Progress without a Shared Roadmap'**. To read and reflect upon the Holy Father's thinking and teaching on issues of global governance, charity, compassion, justice, inter-religious dialogue, friendship and peace.



**BRACKNELL FOREST CATENIANS IN LOCKDOWN:** Bracknell Forest Catenians offer fellowship to catholic men and their families and a full annual social programme. Due to Covid-19, we are unable to meet since March 2020. Using Zoom, we have had fun and fellowship with "virtual" monthly circle meetings, occasionally being joined by other Catenians from the UK and abroad. For our family socialising events, we have held several "Zoom" events, ie, quizzes, wine tasting evening and last month, we held our usual family Christmas social evening with jokes, games and even some carol singing! Future events via Zoom, we hope to have speakers from The Stroke Association and St Vincent de Paul.

We continued to raise money for charities; donating over £1,000 to the St Joseph's Parish hardship fund and have raised over £1,500 to date for the local stroke association clubs.

Catenians provide an opportunity for Catholic men to meet socially and support members and their families. If, during this time of restrictions and limited opportunity to mix socially, you would like to join us for an evening and sample some of our fun and fellowship, please Richard or Tony for more information. Richard Taylor – 07740 699861, Colin Davis – 07748 744711, Tony Gunning 01344 459183.



**PASTORAL CARE** - Are you lonely? Are you shielding? Are you ill and in need of prayer and/or support? Perhaps you haven't had contact with the Catholic Church for a while. Whatever the reason, please get in touch for a chat by emailing [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or by calling **07394 440 938** (Pastoral Care team mobile)

*"Let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation." Pope Francis*



**SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT de PAUL** - Do you need help, particularly, as a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic The local Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) may be able to provide some assistance, as we have access to limited additional hardship funds from a variety of sources, including the generosity of local parishioners. Please contact **IN CONFIDENCE** the local SVP on 07731 862 349

**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, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Josephine Timms, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Tony Andrews, Derek Alexander, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard,

Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Jerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Donal Hanley,

Jim 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, Fr John Chadwick, Phyllis Duggan, Chantal Addley

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**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR B**

Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>NON-ATTENDANCE MASS</b>	<i>Mary Grant, RIP</i>
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>		<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>REQUIEM MASS</b>	<i>Frances McEvoy, RIP</i>
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Mass	<i>Arwen Nia Florence McDougall</i>
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Mass	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>REQUIEM MASS</b>	<i>Angelina Ediale, RIP</i>
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Mass	

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>NON-ATTENDANCE MASS</b>	<i>Day of Prayer for Peace</i>
--------	------------------	---------	----------------------------	--------------------------------

~~~~~

**THE ALARMING RISE OF INFECTIONS AND TRANSMISSIONS OF THE DEADLY COVID-19 VIRUS HAS LED US TO TAKE THE MOST CAREFUL AND CONSIDERED DECISION TO CLOSE THE CHURCH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE TO PRESERVE THE LIFE AND HEALTH OF ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS.**

**ALL MASSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY, DETAILS TO “WATCH LIVE” ARE ON PAGE TWO OF THE NEWSLETTER**

**STAY HOME = SAVE LIVES = SAVE THE NHS**

**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 phone and email: 07712 048695 [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**