

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE HEART

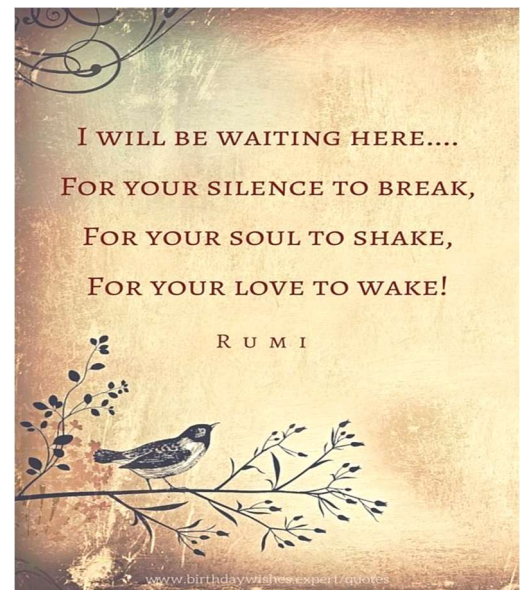
6 August 2017 - Psalter Week 2 – Missal Page 173



This is a story about the Transfiguration of Jesus. More than that it is a story about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. An event unfolds on top of a mountain, but what is at stake is what is unfolding on the ground below. The disciples hear the voice of God asking them to Listen to the words of His Beloved Son. His word, is to become their only treasure. What must be heard is the sound of Love. Because when Moses and Elijah disappear only Jesus is left to teach us what we must know. He is the one who will guide us away from fear and into love.

But for now, seasoned beginners are called to silence. They are not to share yet what they have experienced when they were touched by God. What He has to tell them can be difficult to understand, and when understood, even more difficult to follow. This is especially true of His impending suffering, death and resurrection. They are granted this vision so that they will begin to dismantle their inner resistance to the vulnerability of God.

Which brings us to the question of our own vulnerability. Life is tough. It isn't that we do not have great moments of love and joy and laughter in our lives. But the hurt can often hit us from the inside. The demands of Love, pulling us out of our favourite chair seem endless. We seem to be continually having to face mental, emotional, physical and spiritual challenges.



When this happens we need to make a special effort to stay on top of things. Gearing up for the challenge is needed because we know that what is not faced up to falls apart. Without the energy to renew the law of 'winddown' takes over. Relationships become dull and predictable, goals remain unmet, weeds grow in the garden and sagebrush rolls through ghost towns. Even more, when we are committed to Compassion and to easing the suffering of others we have to struggle not to give up or ignore them. When we are committed to Peace and meet division and hostility we must find way to engage that doesn't make things worse. When we value honesty and integrity and face situations of corruption, it isn't easy to walk the pathways of truth. Life is difficult when we try to bring to it all that is best in us. It takes continual blood, sweat and tears to infuse the world with Love and Mercy. Virtue is hard work!

This is why we need to ponder the Transfiguration every day. This moment of illumination which will continue to light the way before us. When we sink our hearts deep into the contemplative well, it is easier to rise without fear and listen to Him, the wind suddenly shifts direction - it is no longer in our face but at our back.

The Litmus test of course is not to try and stay on top of the mountain but to check that we are headed in the direction of Jerusalem with Him. I believe it was William Vanstone who wrote,

"Therefore, He who Thee reveals, hangs O Father on that tree
helpless, and the nails and thorns tell of what Thy Love must be.
Thou art God, no monarch thou, enthroned in easy state to reign.
Thou art God, whose arms of Love, aching, spent the world sustain."

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD – YEAR A

Saturday	5 th	6.00pm	Mass	George Chapman, RIP
Sunday	6 th	8.30am	Mass	Olive Carlisle
		10.30am	Mass	Barry Lewington
Monday	7 th	No Mass		

ST DOMINIC, Founder

Tuesday	8 th	9.30am	Communion Service	
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ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, Religious, Martyr

Wednesday	9 th	9.30am	Communion Service	
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ST LAURENCE, Deacon, Martyr

Thursday	10 th	9.30am	Communion Service	
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ST CLARE, Foundress

Friday	11 th	12.10pm	Communion Service	
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Saturday	12 th	10.00am	Communion Service	
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NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	12 th	6.00pm	Mass	Nora Cronin, RIP
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Sunday	13 th	8.30am	Mass	Patricia Hayes, RIP
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		10.30am	Mass	Francis Carey, 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9.30am Pro-Life Rosary. No Confessions until September.

**Parish Office:** Stanley Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA  
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:** "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

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

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

**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.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: Bruna d'Souza** who died on **Wednesday 2 August 2017**, Requiem Mass to be announced.

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

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING: Saturday 23rd September 2017, Child Protection Training** – 10.00am – 12.30pm; English Martyrs, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB (Trainer – Jo Hopkins)

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017, Vulnerable Adults Training** – 1.30pm – 4.00pm; English Martyrs, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB (Trainer – Jo Hopkins)

**Saturday 18th November 2017, Refresher Training** – 10.00am – 12.30pm; The Holy Trinity, Bowenhurst Road, Church Crookham, GU51 3ST (Trainer – Sue Smy)

For reservations please contact Soraya Ciccarone, PA to Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator & Diocesan Financial Secretary, tel: (Direct Dial) 023 92 836511/023 92 816396/023 92 825430

[soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:soraya@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 at the Mass you attend, **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 at the Mass you attend, **please contact the Parish Office with all your details.**



### ALTAR SERVERS

- The albs worn by our servers are coming to the end of their lives. As part of our plans to deepen and expand the dignity of the Sunday Liturgy, I would like to replace them with the more traditional black cassock with white cotta. The full set costs around £75 each. I would like to invite all the millionaires in the parish to sponsor the purchase of one of these. If you are not a millionaire, you might like to join up with a friend or two or three and buy one between you. Thank you!

**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 - AUGUST** – 1<sup>st</sup> St Alphonus 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 £1,584.30. 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, Lilijan Rodenburg, Josephine & Maurice Timms, Robert Mulcahy, Robbie McDonald

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

Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Teresa Bullock, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Nicholas Powell, Kathleen Brosnan, Blanche Shap, Emma Flavelle., Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Primula Maynard, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Win McDermott

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



**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.stfrancisascot.co.uk](http://www.stfrancisascot.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)



**THE STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND FATIMA RELICS** - Will visit St John's Cathedral Portsmouth on **Saturday 26th August 2017** with Mass celebrated by Bishop Philip at 11am, Recitation of the Rosary, Veneration of the Relics of Ss Jacinta & Francisco, Sacrament of Confession and Talk on the Message of Fatima / Holy Hour. There will be a further opportunity for Veneration of the Relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco after the 8am, 10am, 12pm Masses on **Sunday 27th August 2017** and at 2pm there will be Fatima Devotions and Recitation of the Rosary and at 4pm sung Vespers & Benediction with liturgy of departure of NPVS and relics. **Contact details:** Oliver Abasolo 07782 661922 / Canon Dominic Golding 02392 826170



**YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL IN WALSINGHAM** - 2017's biggest young Catholic Summer Festival! Inheritance, a 5-day camping festival run by young people for young people. It is about us discovering who we are as we come face-to-face with the God who made us, knows us and loves us. **When? Thursday 24th - Monday 28th August 2017. Where?** The National Catholic Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham. The festival site is just opposite the premises of the Catholic shrine, near the seaside town of Wells-next-the-Sea. **Who is it for?** Anyone between the ages of 16 - 35, or families with parents or children in this age-range, are welcome. For more information visit [www.youth2000.org/inheritance](http://www.youth2000.org/inheritance)



**CAFOD PORTSMOUTH HARVEST BRIEFING** A special Harvest Briefing on **Thursday 7 September 2017** from 7.30pm - 9pm at English Martyrs' Church Hall, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB 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)



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



**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.