

THE YEAR OF SAINT LUKE
THE YEAR OF THE RELENTLESS WIDOW
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

THE EVER-PRESENT, EVER-ELUSIVE SPIRIT OF GOD

27 January 2019 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 129 - Psalter Week 3

PARISH PRAYER FOR EVANGELISATION: Heavenly Father, we thank you for gathering us together and calling us to serve as your disciples. You have given us, through your Son Jesus, the mission of evangelising and witnessing your love to the world. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us as we discern your will for the spiritual renewal of our parish. Give us strength, courage and clear vision as we use our gifts to serve you. We entrust our parish family to the care of St. Joseph, St. Margaret Clitherow, with Mary our Mother. We ask for their intercession and guidance as we strive to bear witness to the Gospel. Amen.

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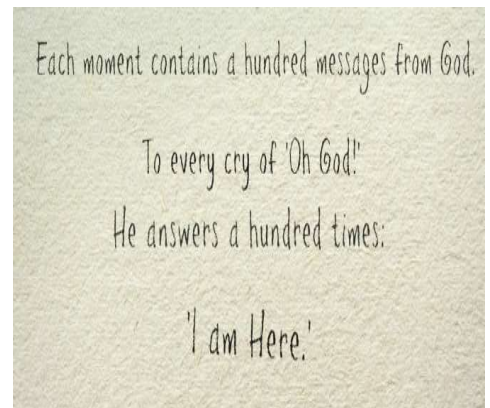
If we read between the lines, we might see that St. Luke isn't over the moon with 'other accounts' of the 'events that have been fulfilled amongst us'. Not so much, we might say with the facts, but how these events are to be understood. St. Luke wants a 'deeper understanding' of the life, death, resurrection of the Beloved Son of God. The question is, do we?

Jesus experiences Himself as God's Beloved Son, filled with the Spirit. The Spirit takes Jesus into the wilderness, where the devil tempted Him to act out as Beloved Son as a personal privilege. With promises that He would never be hungry, that he would have power and territory and religious safety, the devil casts his lure. When Jesus responds with a powerful NO! The Spirit fills Him completely. So it is, 'filled with the power of the Spirit' He returns to Galilee.

It looks as if Jesus is trying to develop a fuller understanding of 'Spirit filled Beloved Son of God'. What this does not mean has been clarified in the desert sand, in mid-air and on the pinnacle of the Temple. What it does mean will unfold in the synagogue in Nazareth. Here, the book of Isaiah is handed to Jesus. He bypasses the 'Reading of the Day' and searches for the one that will best describe the Son of God and His Mission. What the people in the synagogue hear is that He is on a mission of liberation. Wherever life is made poor, imprisoned, broken or impaired, it will become enriched, free, and well again. For Jesus, Son of God is not a Title of privilege, it is a call to transforming action!

Luke has made good on his promise. The reader now has the words to understand Him and then to understand exactly what they mean when they call themselves His disciple.

So, have you ever had an experience of God? What was it and, more importantly, what did you do with it? In The life of Jesus, the gift He received had to be continually unwrapped. A kind of spiritual pass the parcel. With each unfolding it becomes clearer what the original experience was and what it means. Sometimes for us, these events come in prayer, sometimes in nature, at the birth of a child, the death of a parent, by falling in love, by searching for truth, by practiced compassion for the poor, by working for justice. In and through these events, Gods love begins to shine brighter. But the experience needs to be courted and pursued. It's meaning must be tested and enlarged. Sacred books must be consulted if the full meaning of the event is to be understood. In short, it demands our cooperation!




And then there are the times when the very ordinariness of our life suddenly breaks into an experience of God. Michael Novak hints at the holiness of the factory worker, the shop assistant, the cleaner, the secretary, the artist, the writer, the computer analyst. He writes,

"We didn't give ourselves the personality, talents or longings we were born with. When we fulfil these - these gifts from beyond ourselves - it is like fulfilling something we were meant to do. It is a sense of having uncovered our personal destiny, a sense of having been able to contribute something worthwhile to the common public life, something that would not have been there without us - and, more than that, something we were good at and enjoyed".

(Business as a Calling: Work and the Examined Life [New York: The Free Press, 1996]36)

This second way reverses into the Sacred in all things. But, either way, the quest for understanding will lead us to the stream in the desert, the shelter in the storm, the rock when things are falling apart. The ever present and ever elusive Spirit will reveal God's heart to all who search for the truth.

# 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)



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

**TOM LARKIN, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Thursday 31 January 2019** at 10.30am, followed by a Service at 12.30pm at Easthampstead Park Cemetery. Please pray for Tom and all his family.

**ROMANA EDWARDS, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 6 February 2019** at 11.30am, followed by a Service at 1.30pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium. Please pray for Romana and all her family.

**MICHAEL JOHN HOWLETT, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 13 February 2019** at 9.15am, followed by a Service at 11.15pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium. Please pray for Michael and all his family.

**JAMES FRANCIS McHALE, RIP** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Thursday 14 February 2019** at 12.00 noon, followed by a Service at 2.00pm at Easthampstead Park Cemetery. Please pray for James and all his family.

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

**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 – JANUARY:** 21<sup>st</sup> St Agnes; 24<sup>th</sup> St Francis de Sales; 25<sup>th</sup> The Conversion of St Paul; 26<sup>th</sup> St Timothy and St Titus; 28<sup>th</sup> St Thomas Aquinas; 31<sup>st</sup> St John Bosco.

**FEBRUARY:** 2<sup>nd</sup> The Presentation of the Lord; 5<sup>th</sup> St Agatha; 6<sup>th</sup> St Paul Miki & Companions; 8<sup>th</sup> St Josephine Bakhita; 11<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Lourdes; 14<sup>th</sup> Ss Cyril & Methodius; 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St Peter; 23<sup>rd</sup> St Polycarp.

**THANK  
YOU**  
SO VERY MUCH

**MASS OFFERINGS: £1943.80; PAX CHRISTI PEACE SUNDAY: £221.60**  
**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 all forms to the parish office.

**SECOND OFFERINGS FOR JANUARY: 26/27<sup>th</sup> Collection for the Cathedral**

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 7.45pm-9:30pm. Please contact the parish office for venue details.

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

**KEEP FIT** – Every Tuesday, 2pm-3pm in the hall

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

**MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING:** Every last Friday in the month 12.10pm Mass, refreshments after Mass.

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

**OFS** - Next meeting **Saturday 16 February 2019** at 2pm-4pm in the hall.



**BERKSHIRE CREDIT UNION**  
**CONTACT POINTS AND DATES:**  
Come along and have a chat with a trained volunteer at one of the locations points:

**Mondays 10am – 12pm:** St Paul’s Church, The Square, Ralphs Ride, RG12 9LP **AND** St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow, 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, RG12 1BE

**Tuesdays 10am – 12pm:** St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow, 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, RG12 1BE

**Wednesdays 2.15pm: 4.15pm:** Crown Wood School, Opladen Way, Bracknell RG12 0PE

**Thursdays 10am – 12pm:** Holy Trinity Church, The Langley Hall, The Ring, Bracknell RG12 1HD

**Fridays 10am – 12pm:** St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow, 39 Braccan Walk, RG12 1BE

Visit Berkshire Credit Union website <https://www.cslberks.org.uk>



## 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

**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, Jim and Francis McEvoy, Mary Murray.

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



### SACRISTAN

**MINISTRY OF SACRISTAN** – This is a most beautiful Ministry within our Church. It is to prepare and, or, clear, the Altar and Sanctuary of the sacred items of the Holy Mass. The sacred items are cleaned and returned to the secure holding place in the Sacristy. A Sacristan should have a joyful willingness to serve with reverence and humility. We need to expand our teams for all the weekend and weekday Masses. If you feel a calling to join this wonderful Ministry please contact the parish office, an induction and full training will be provided.

**SUNDAY MASS PARKING IN SERVICE YARD D** – Please be aware that the Sunday Mass parking concession in Service Yard D for the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses **ends at 1200noon.**



**CREDIT UNION ARRIVES IN BRACKNELL** - Most of us start the new year feeling financially stretched and, not having enough money to cope with unforeseen circumstances, makes it more likely that we might fall prey to loan sharks or payday lenders. Tragically, this can lead to an endless spiral of greater debt, entrenched poverty and even homelessness. Which is why this year we will be actively promoting the services of the Berkshire Credit Union in Bracknell. Credit unions are non-profit, community institutions, owned and controlled by their members — the people who save and borrow with it. They provide a safe and often vital alternative to payday lending and loan sharks - a real lifeline to anyone having difficulty managing their finances. Services on offer include a budgeting tool to help allocate money for regular bills, different ways of saving a little every month, a pre-paid Visa card and a range of affordable loans that can be paid back over a timescale to suit personal needs.

If you would like to find out more about what the credit union can offer, then why not visit the contact point opening here, in the porch shop, from **Monday 28 January 2019** at 10am. There will also be regular contact points open at Holy Trinity church, St Paul's church in Harman's Water and Crown Wood primary school. Details of their opening times are on the flyers in the porch and in the parish newsletter. Please take as many flyers as you can distribute and join us in spreading the word about the help and support available to anyone who wants to better manage their finances.

**ClothesBank CLOTHESBANK** - The next Clothes Bank Giveaway, held quarterly in St Joseph's Church Hall and coordinated by St Mark's Church Binfield, is on **Wednesday 30 January 2019**. ClothesBank appreciate donations of **good quality** used clothes for adults (men and women) and children of all ages and children's trainers, especially sizes 10 – 2. Some clothes cannot be passed on though: pyjamas, underwear and socks, for example, need to be new. Please leave your donations in the ClothesBank container that will be in the porch at St Joseph's Church at all weekend Masses, **26th/27th January**, but **please not before that weekend**. Help needed with sorting of clothes at St Mark's Binfield on **Monday 28 January**, from 9.30am and with setting up at St Joseph's on **Wednesday 30 January** from 9.15am ready for the Giveaway at 10.15am, finishing at 1pm. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you and your family would benefit from help of this kind, please contact the parish office to receive a ClothesBank voucher.

**MARRIAGE AND RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLING WITH MARRIAGE CARE** : Catholic Marriage Care is a faith-based organisation, that draws on its Catholic tradition and contemporary research, to help couples in both good times and bad. Most relationships face difficulties at some point. Talking to a relationship counsellor can help. Our local centre in Reading offers relationshipcounselling with fully-trained counsellors. For further information please call 0800 389 3801.

If you are a trained relationship counsellor, could you volunteer with Marriage Care? Further counsellors are needed for our Reading centre – expenses and supervision is provided. For further information, please contact Sue Cooper at [reading.admin@marriagecare.org](mailto:reading.admin@marriagecare.org) or phone 0793 949 5774.



**JOURNEY IN FAITH** - Thursday evenings from 7.30 – 9 pm in the hall. This is a group for people wanting to deepen their understanding of our faith. We will study and reflect upon the following Sunday's readings and explore aspects of the Catholic faith. Everyone is welcome, especially those who are considering joining the Church. No commitment - just come along to see if this is something that could support you on your faith journey. For more information contact [bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**ABLAZE! (age +13)** – Next meeting – **Friday 1 February 2019**, 7.00pm to 9.00pm in the hall.  
**IGNITE! (age 10-12)**- Next meeting – **Friday 8 February 2019**, 7.00pm to 9.00pm in the hall  
New to either of the youth groups? Want to make some new friends and have fun? Please registered on our Parish website and come along. We'll look forward to welcoming you!



**LENT FAST DAY MEETINGS** - You are invited to CAFOD meetings on **Monday 18 February** 7:15pm to 9pm, Christ the King Church 408 Northumberland Avenue Reading RG2 8NR. Sally Kitchener CAFOD's writer for the Communications Team will talk about her recent visit to CAFOD's projects in Bangladesh, an opportunity to explore the resources for **Lent Fast Day on Friday 15 March**. Also, **Tuesday 5 March** 7:15pm - 9pm at St Joseph's Church London Road Newbury RG14 1JP Kezia Harrow our Step into the Gap Volunteer will talk about her recent trip to CAFOD's projects in the Holy Land. Everyone's welcome, please book your place by emailing [portsmouth@caofd.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@caofd.org.uk) or call 01252 329385

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

|                 |                        |                |                                       |                                              |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Saturday        | 26 <sup>th</sup>       | 6.00pm         | Mass                                  | Angela & Peter Dossett                       |
| Sunday          | 27 <sup>th</sup>       | 8.30am         | Mass                                  | Marie-Claire and Frank Ducasse, RIP          |
|                 |                        | 10.30am        | Mass                                  | Michael Robinson, RIP                        |
| Monday          | 28 <sup>th</sup>       | <b>No Mass</b> |                                       |                                              |
| Tuesday         | 29 <sup>th</sup>       | <b>No Mass</b> |                                       |                                              |
| Wednesday       | 30 <sup>th</sup>       | 9.30am         | Mass                                  | Jurgens Family Living, Deceased (Foundation) |
| <b>Thursday</b> | <b>31<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Requiem Mass – Tom Larkin, RIP</b> |                                              |
| Friday          | 1 <sup>st</sup>        | 11.00am        | Exposition                            |                                              |
|                 |                        | 12.10pm        | Mass                                  | Danny O'Connor, RIP                          |

### THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, Feast

|          |                 |         |      |          |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------|
| Saturday | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 10.00am | Mass | Pro-Life |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------|

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

|          |                 |         |      |                                   |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Edward Shephard, RIP (Foundation) |
| Sunday   | 3 <sup>d</sup>  | 8.30am  | Mass | Thanksgiving for Ferdi and Stella |
|          |                 | 10.30am | Mass | Bernadette and Michael Snell, RIP |

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Wednesday & 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: stjb@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