

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

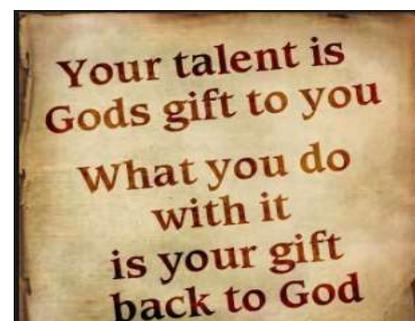
**DO NOT BE AFRAID**

*19 November 2017 - Psalter Week 1 – Missal Page 155*



Wise sayings, or proverbs, are usually written on the back of experience. 'Too many cooks spoil the broth', 'A stitch in time saves nine'. Our first reading this weekend is taken from the Book of Proverbs. In a nutshell, if we are looking for a perfect wife, husband, friend or partner – we will never find them. But if we are lucky enough to find someone who is wise, we will probably be as close as we're going to be to the dream. So, while Wisdom is praised, and praised again as more precious than money, so too is reverence for Sacred Things. The Psalmist declares that those who move with reverence in the world, in their homes and communities rarely lack anything, and are never lonely. We can find many examples of this through all of Sacred Scripture.

Then, just when we thought that we were beginning to understand the spiritual laws that govern our lives, Jesus comes along and stands them on their head. The format of this weeks' parable is tried and tested. Usually, after the Master has given his gifts and instructions and then departs, the first two get it wrong and the last one gets it right. When it is told in this way, everyone loves the comedy and are delighted to see the underdog winning for a change. But Jesus' version turns the story into a tragedy. Worst still, the one who has the least going for him, gets it wrong and loses even that! What's going on here?



Notice that the servants are not in a competition with each other. But they are in a competition with themselves. What will they do with what has been given to them? Well, first they have to understand the spiritual laws that govern their lives. God gives everything to them freely. They are then invited to give away what they have received. According to physical laws, when we give something away, we no longer have it. But according to spiritual laws, when we give it away we are astonished to see that it doubles! Now comes a new understanding of how Spirit grows and a greater responsibility to make that happen. This is what the parable calls, 'entering into the joy of your Master.' The Master who knows spiritual laws, calls these servants 'good and faithful'. They have been faithful to goodness by imitating it. It was given to them, they gave it to others, and now they watch it grow and unfold.

But alas, the same law of the spirit proposes a 'use it or lose it' adventure. If Spirit is given away, it increases exponentially. If it is buried, it is lost. The Master, who knows the flip side of the law of happiness, takes the talent away from the one he calls, 'wicked and lazy'. And, since it cannot stand alone, it is given to the one who has ten.

The Master calls this servant, wicked and lazy but the servant rejects this description claiming that his whole life was diminished by being afraid of everything – especially the Master! Notice, the Master does not disagree. In fact, he repeats what this servant has said. But then he draws a different conclusion. Either way, he should have acted to double the gift he had been given. His failure to understand puts him in deeper darkness with only tears of regret for company.

So, here's the thing. We should not take God for granted and instead, nurture in our lives a healthy reverence for what we do not yet know. At the same time, we must never, ever, ever, turn God into a terrorist. Our own experience in prayer should give us a clearer view of the tenderness which enfolds us. If fear immobilises us, we need to find a new strength with the support and presence of good and faithful servants of the Lord. They have much to teach us. But perhaps the most shocking aspect of what Jesus does with this Parable is to remind us that when we lose the Icon of Gods' Face from our hearts we can talk ourselves into spectacular loss.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	James & Johanna Moriarty, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	Christopher Jose
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>		

### THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Terence Smith
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### ST CECILIA, Virgin, Martyr

Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Sue Beasley, RIP
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Mass	Eileen Collins' Intentions

### ST ANDREW DUNG-LAC, Priest, AND COMPANIONS, Martyrs

Friday	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Exposition	
		12.10pm	Mass	William McAvoy, RIP
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.30am</b>	Mass	Margaret Lynch, RIP

### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE – YEAR A

Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	<b>No Mass</b>	
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Mass	Cyril Ford, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	Maura Holt

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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. **Confessions** every Saturday at 10.45am or by 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:** "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph".

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

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

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

**Safeguarding email:** [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH

# 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).



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: Celia Josephine Coogan** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Thursday 30 November 2017** at 11.00am at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church.

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



**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



**OPEN MORNINGS** - St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School Open Mornings for prospective parents to tour the school 10.30am to 12.00 noon: **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017** and **Tuesday 9 January 2018**. For more information visit their website <http://stmargaretclitherowbracknell.co.uk/>



**STREET EVANGELISATION IN BRACKNELL** spreading the Truth of the Church to the world. If you'd like to join us or want to find out more, please contact John: [johnrodger1@me.com](mailto:johnrodger1@me.com) or follow this link: <http://streetevangelization.com/>



**BRACKNELL HOMELESS NIGHTSHELTER – PART TIME MANAGER** – Required to supervise the shelter overnight for 2 nights per week. This is a paid post for the four months the night shelter it will be open commencing **Saturday 2 December 2017**. To join the team and help the poorest people in our community contact Elaine Chalmers Brown, Director, Pilgrim hearts Trust tel 01344 307040 [pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrim.hearts@gmail.com)

**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 - NOVEMBER** – 1<sup>st</sup> **ALL SAINTS (Holy Day of Obligation)**; 2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls; 4<sup>th</sup> St Charles Borromeo; 9<sup>th</sup> The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica; 10<sup>th</sup> St Leo the Great; 11<sup>th</sup> St Martin of Tours; 14<sup>th</sup> Blessed Hugh Cook Faringdon & John Eynon & John Rugge; 16<sup>th</sup> St Edmund of Abingdon; 21<sup>st</sup> The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 22<sup>nd</sup> St Cecilia; 24<sup>th</sup> St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions; 30<sup>th</sup> St Andrew

**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.

**KEEP FIT CLUB** – Every Tuesday 2pm-3pm in the Hall.

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

**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** – Every Friday after Mass **during term time**.

**YOUTH GROUP** – **Closed until further notice**.



**MASS OFFERINGS: £1475.33. THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY.**

Please make cheques payable to "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph". **Gift Aid envelopes and bankers/standing order forms available in the porch.**



**CAFOD** is part of the DEC Rohingya crisis appeal. You can donate direct to CAFOD at [cafod.org.uk/RohingyaCrisis](http://cafod.org.uk/RohingyaCrisis) or by calling 08085 858885



**WORLD GIFTS** – Catalogue of special world gifts through which our refugee neighbours can continue to feel the warmth of our love including **Emergency Shelter** and **Help a Refugee Child**. Pick up your catalogue from the porch or the hall.



**CHURCH SHOP** – We have lovely Church Art 2018 Calendars and a selection of Christmas Cards available in the shop along with other beautiful items that would make thoughtful Christmas gifts.

**DIVINE CHAPLET – Sunday 19 November 2017 at 2.30pm at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church**

**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, Johanna Lenz, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Jadwiga Butcher, Lilijan Rodenburg, Josephine Timms, Robert Mulcahy, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Emma Flavelle, Angelina Ediale

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

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, Maurice Timms, Adrian Sweeney, Derek Alexander.

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**World Day of the Poor**

**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR** - At the end of the Year of Mercy in November last year, Pope Francis in his message *Misericordia et Misera* instituted a 'World Day of the Poor' to be the 33th Sunday in Ordinary Time, which this year is **Sunday 19 November 2017**. The Holy Father urges parishes and all Christian communities "make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance" with the poor.



**CAFOD MEMORIAL MASS** - Mass of Remembrance for all those CAFOD supporters, family and friends who have passed away will be held on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017** at 10am at St Michael & All Angels Church Leigh Park. Everyone is welcome



**KERYGMA**

**KERYGMA RETREAT** -  
At Winchester Parish Centre,  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

12noon- 6pm. This is a day that allows you to see, hear and respond to the story that Pope Francis reminds us we must hear and respond to "over and over" - the kerygma, the Great Story of Jesus. This is a reflective day, utilising the spoken word, art, quiet reflection and discussion.



**LIFE OF FAITH**  
Trusting Jesus. Serving our Neighbors.

**TRAINING ON FAITH SHARING WITH OTHERS IN EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE PARISH** - St. Bede's Basingstoke, **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

**2017 9.30am - 5pm.** For those training in having conversations with non-Catholics. Sharing your story and Jesus's story with others, ie, family, friends, workplace, people in the parish. No particular background, but a person who wants to share the faith or run a parish Kerygma Retreat.

**BRACKNELL SHOPMOBILITY AGM - Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 1.00pm at Bracknell Shopmobility, 11 Princess Square, RG12 1LS.** Please attend the AGM and give your support to the wonderful staff at Bracknell Shopmobility and the fantastic work they do for the disabled of our parish and town. Their funding is being cut and they need all the support that we can offer them.



**BRACKNELL CHORAL SOCIETY'S AUTUMN CONCERT** - **Saturday 25 November 2017 at 7.30pm** St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church a flavour of the coming festive season. The programme includes Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*. We will be singing Britten's lively and dramatic cantata *St Nicolas*, telling the story of the saint who became the model for Santa Claus. The choir is led by Greg Hallam, our professional musical director with professional orchestra and soloists, the Senesino Players, Robin Bailey (tenor) and Gwennllian Llyr (harp). Choristers from Worcester College, Oxford will join us for *Ceremony of Carols* and *St Nicolas*, in which the audience also has the opportunity to sing two glorious hymns. Tickets are £15 (accompanied under -18's free) and available from [tickets@bracknellchoral.org.uk](mailto:tickets@bracknellchoral.org.uk) or at the door. Wine and soft drinks will be served in the interval for a small donation. **PLEASE NOTE, THERE WILL BE NO 6.00pm MASS ON SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER.**



**THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING AND NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY** - Bishop Philip invites young adults (16 - 35) from Portsmouth Diocese to join him at St John's Cathedral on **Sunday 26 November 2017**: The Feast of Christ the King and National Youth Sunday. He will be celebrating the 6pm Mass, after which there will be a social with food and talks from inspiring guest speakers in the Cathedral Discovery Centre. This is a fantastic opportunity for young adults to network, connect to events locally and further afield, and communicate the things that they want to see happening in the Diocese. Ages 16+ £7 Register by contacting your University Catholic Chaplaincy, or emailing [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**'STORY AND SONG'** at Coffee Republic, Bracknell on **Tuesday 28 November 2017**, 8.00pm-10.00pm Chris Trim from 'Vineyard', playing his own compositions and talks about his journey of faith especially for 20-40 year olds and those on edge of church life or unchurched. Tickets available from [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), search 'Story and Song', please see the flyer in the porch.



**BECOME A DEMENTIA FRIEND - Saturday 2 December 2017** at 11.00am learn a little more

about dementia and some of the small ways you can help those living with dementia, help our parish to become Dementia friendly. Come along to a one hour Information session in our Church Hall led by a Dementia Champion. Turn up on the day or sign up at [www.dementiafriends.org.uk](http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk)



*The Catenians*

**BRACKNELL FOREST CATENIANS** - Evening of Christmas carols and readings at The Hilton Hotel, Bracknell on **Tuesday 5 December 2017 7.00pm for 7.30pm**. A 3-course meal with readings and carols throughout the evening. Cost is £25 per person, all are welcome, to book your meal call Richard Taylor on 01344 566956.



**ADVENT CAROLS IN LEXICON - Wednesday 6 December 2017, 6.00pm - 8.00pm.** 'We are the Fair' will be singing carols in the Lexicon, Christmas Tree between Waitrose and Marks & Spencer's. If you are a singer who can read music and would like to be part of this choir please contact Fr Jim Barlow of Holy Trinity Church on [barjimlow@googlemail.com](mailto:barjimlow@googlemail.com). All are welcome to listen and enjoy this beautiful event.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN LEXICON - Wednesday 20 December 2017, 6.00pm - 8.00pm.** 'We are the Fair' will be singing carols in the Lexicon, Christmas Tree between Waitrose and Marks & Spencer's. An open invitation for everyone to join in with the carol singing and uplifting start to Christmas.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE



**PENITENTIAL SERVICES** - For the South Berkshire Pastoral Area are: **Tuesday 12 December 2017, 7.30pm** at St Francis of Assisi, Ascot SL5 9HG; **Thursday 14 December 2017, 7.30pm** at Holy Ghost, Crowthorne RG45 6JG; **Thursday 21 December 2017, 7.00pm** at Corpus Christi, Wokingham RG40 2HE



**ST JOSEPH & ST MARGARET CLITHEROW JOINT CAROL SERVICE** - Our two primary schools will be gathering on **Thursday 14th December 2017** at 6.00pm for a Carol Concert outside the Church, town centre. Please come and support our children. Mulled wine and mince pies in the hall after the service.



**A GOLDEN CHRISTMAS THAMES VOYCES** - Christmas Concert on **Saturday 16 December 2017** at 7.30pm. Exactly fifty years to the evening that New Thames Singers (now Thames Voyces) presented their first concert, Thames Voyces invite the whole family to join them at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church for a carol concert. It will include the usual mixture of Christmas readings and well-known carols for choir and audience. The choir will be conducted by their current Musical Director, Nick Austin. This is the choir's 3<sup>rd</sup> year of performing at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church and they very much hope that the parishioners will join again this year following the 6.00pm Mass. Tickets £12/£10 (concession) or free for Under 16s. Wine and mince pies will be served at the interval.