

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK
EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

ENJOY THE SURPRISES

18 November 2018 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 157 - Psalter Week 1

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The disciple is impressed by the power and grandeur of the Temple. After all, it is the religious and economic centre of his world. Every decision that is made there, touches every life in the community. The disciple thinks this will last forever.

Jesus looks with different eyes. He sees the foundations cracking and the facade crumbling. This building does not need minor repairs. It is falling down and will fall apart. It is a tree which bears no fruit. It has become a den of thieves.

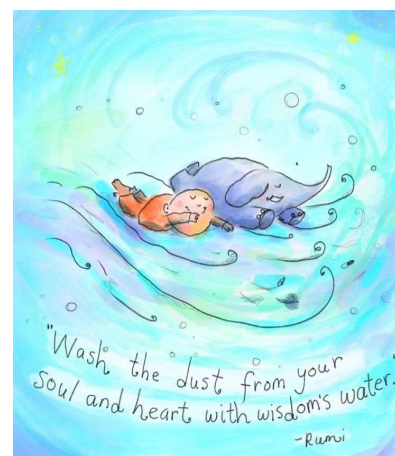
Saint Mark describes Jesus as sitting opposite the Temple and opposing all that it stands for. He has predicted its ending and his close disciples clamour for details. They need to get ahead of what is coming. But Jesus' description of what is coming is a bitter pill to swallow. Things will have to get worse before they get better. The destruction of the Temple will happen alongside other catastrophes. Nations will go to war, there will be all the usual horrors associated with that. Out of this chaos, false prophets and leaders will emerge, promising a way forward. But tragically they will only lead the disciples more deeply into the land of loss. This is how it begins. The death of this way of life is the birth pangs of something better.

Few people get through life without facing the major collapse that Jesus predicted. Our spiritual, social and political landscapes - which gives us a sense of meaning - can suddenly vanish. The sudden death of a loved one, the unpredicted redundancy, the loss of love or trust are unwelcome visitors who arrive unannounced at any time. No matter how resilient we think we are, we cannot skate through these events. Sudden change or slow transitions often leave us feeling lost, feeling we have no compass and, worst of all that there is no end in sight.

One of the most powerful images of this in-between time is of the trapeze artist who has let go of one bar and has not yet grabbed the other. It is mid-air living. Our old world is gone and the new has yet to arrive. People notice we are not ourselves. We grow tired of people asking us how we are doing with the same intensity as we are hurt when they don't. Our friends try to push us through by telling us to 'hang in there.' We'll find a way to deal with it, to adjust, to go on. The losses that we will never get over we try to get beyond.

But is there any value in these moments? Spiritual Teachers think there is much to be learned in mid-air living. They seem to agree that this is the only place we can learn that we are more than what is happening to us. Just when we thought we were drowning in loss, we watched ourselves rise above it and our soul caught a glimpse of the unchanging Love which is our life. In other words, when it's all going our way, this spiritual truth does not come near us. God is always giving us a place to stand and it is paradoxically found in the space between the bars! The Sufi Mystic Rumi wrote that when the gift of this spiritual truth comes to bless us we should, "enjoy this being washed / with a secret we sometimes know / and then not".

(Stormy Water in *The Essential Rumi* 1995)



This seems to be the way of God. We remember the infinite holiness of our lives when we need it and forget it when we don't. But moments of change, transition and loss can bring a clearer vision. When the dust of ordinariness is washed away, we grasp the truth in a way no other time will grant. Rumi does not condemn this state of affairs or how easily we forget; instead he invites us to enjoy the surprises that come between the bars.

# 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)

## RESERVATIONS

**BOOKING PARISH HALL AND PARISH ROOMS** – If you wish to use the church hall or parish rooms for your parish group, bookings must be made with the Parish Office at least 6-8 weeks before requested date. Please note the regular events below before booking.

**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:** 12<sup>th</sup> St Josaphat; 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.



**MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING** - The last Friday of the month, Anointing of the Sick after the 12.10pm Mass. All welcome, especially those sick or suffering in any way. If you would like a lift to this Mass, please contact the parish office.

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 7.45pm-9:30pm.  
26th November at 86 Qualitas.

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

**KEEP FIT** – Every Tuesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm in the hall.

**ALPHA** – Every Tuesday 7pm – 8.45pm at Brown Bag, High Street, Bracknell until 4 December.

**OFS** - Next meeting Saturday 1 December at 2pm-4pm in the hall.

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

**RCIA** – Every Thursday, 7.30pm – 9.00pm in the hall, all welcome.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Every Friday after 12.10pm Mass during term time.

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

**CHURCH SHOP** – Open every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday 5.30pm-7pm; Sundays 9.30am – 10.30am.



**MASS OFFERINGS:** £2092.43. **POPPY APPEAL:** £161.28

**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 to the parish office.



**MYDONATE BT** – The world of donating is rapidly changing and becoming easier and more secure, which is why we have signed up to **MyDonateBT**. With **MyDonate** our parish receives more of your donation – as well as the full 25 per cent Gift Aid – it is a no direct fees, zero commission, not-for profit service. We will receive up to 63p more for every £10 given through **MyDonate**. We have a **MyDonate** link on the parish website [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org.uk) orange button **“Parish Offerings”** where you can sign up to online donations. We also have donation buttons for **“Bamenda”** and **“CAFOD”**. Give it a go, it is really easy, you can do this on your phone or computer, a great way to donate to our beautiful church and parish.



## 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

**PEW PACKS** – Many of the pew packs have several important items missing and it is felt they are not being respected. Sadly we cannot keep replacing missing items and may have to cease providing them. Please return all items to the packs.

**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, Tom Larkin, Jim and Francis McEvoy, John Hand.

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**There will be a Finance Update at each mass this weekend of 17th/18th November.**



**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** – The true spirit of Christmas Giving. Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget from Happy Queen Bee at £4 to Help a Refugee child at £46. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries. Catalogues are available at church or you can buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)

**PASTORAL CARE** - There will be a Pastoral Care meeting on **Wednesday 21st November** in the parish hall from 7pm - 8pm for those who visit the frail elderly and the sick in our parish including Eucharistic Ministers to the housebound. It is an act of kindness not to forget or let go of those who have walked with us in health so if you feel drawn to this ministry of care and compassion you are very welcome to join us.



**IGNITE! (age 10-12) & ABLAZE! (13+) YOUTH GROUPS** - **ABLAZE!** (age +13) - Next meeting - **Friday 30 November** in the Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm. **IGNITE!** (age 10-12) - Next meeting - **Friday 7 December** in the Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm. New to either of the groups? Get yourself signed up on the Parish website and come along! For further information, please contact [youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)



**BRACKNELL CHORAL SOCIETY** - **Saturday 24th November** at **St Joseph's Church** presents a varied programme of fine music in our Autumn concert with contrasting 17th and 20th century pieces. We begin in the 17th century with music from Purcell. The fresh and youthful *Come Ye Sons of Art*, written to celebrate the birthday of Queen Mary in 1694 is a contrast to the elegiac *Funeral Sentences for Queen Mary*, written just months later for the Queen's funeral. We will be rounding off the concert with John Rutter's glorious and well-loved *Requiem*, written in 1985 and popular around the world for its rich choral melodies.

The choir will be led by Greg Hallam, our professional musical director with professional orchestra, the Braccan Ensemble and soloists, Anna Prowse - Soprano, Sarah Anne Champion - Mezzo-Soprano and David Le Prevost - Bass.

The concert starts at **7.30pm**. Tickets cost £15 (accompanied under-18's free) and can be purchased at [www.bracknellchoral.org.uk](http://www.bracknellchoral.org.uk) or from choir members. Wine and soft drinks will be served in the interval for a small donation. **PLEASE NOTE, SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER MORNING MASS 9.00am, NO 6.00pm MASS.**



**ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE** - **Friday 30 November 2018** at 3:30-5:30pm. Please come and join us. Mulled wine, gammon and turkey rolls, bottle hoopla, Santa's grotto, tombola and lots more festive fun!

**UCM - WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER** - St Francis Church, South Ascot is holding a Women's Day of Prayer, in preparation for Advent, on **Saturday, 1 December 2018**, to which you are cordially invited. The day will begin at 10am Mass and, following tea and coffee. The speaker will be Nina Harding, who will introduce the topic 'Mindfulness'. Please bring a packed lunch and the theme will continue with a workshop in the afternoon. A time of Adoration will follow and the day will conclude at 2.30pm with tea and cake. If you are only able to attend for part of the day, you will still be very welcome. There is no charge as the day will be sponsored by the UCM.



**Christmas cards and 2019 calendars and diaries are now available in the shop**



**THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP** are running several workshops in the parish hall for Night Shelter volunteers which may be of interest to all parishioners, free of charge, and over the age of 18 years. For more information or sign up to attend, please contact: Bernadette Fisher at: [justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or via the Parish Office.

**DE- ESCALATION TECHNIQUES** - **Saturday 1 December**, 9:30 am to 12:30pm identify why people become angry or aggressive, recognise the early warning signals, practice how to remain in control and diffuse aggressive behaviour. Identify assertive techniques for challenging inappropriate behaviour and gaining compliance.

**INTRODUCTION TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE, Saturday 8 December** 9:30 am to 12:30pm exploring the prevalence of drug and alcohol problems in the UK, the impact on individuals, families, the wider community. Develop an understanding of support available for people with these difficulties.



**ADVENT EVENT** - St Joseph's School are planning an 'Advent Event' **Saturday 15 December**, 10.30am – 1.00pm, this is a chance to prepare for Christmas by making and baking! If you can help with this event, especially with helping children to make table decorations, flower arrangements or wreaths. please contact: [n.philpott@stjosephsbracknell.co.uk](mailto:n.philpott@stjosephsbracknell.co.uk) telephone: 01344 425246



**A FAMILY CAROL CONCERT. THAMES VOYCES** – Christmas Concert on **Saturday 15 December** at 7.30pm. Thames Voyces invite the whole family to join them at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church. 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 4<sup>th</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.

## **TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS**

### **THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

|          |                  |                |      |                                                   |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 17 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass | Robert Buchanan, RIP                              |
| Sunday   | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Parish Intentions                                 |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Jim Webster, RIP & Deceased Knights of St Columba |
| Monday   | 19 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                                                   |
| Tuesday  | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass | James and Johanna Moriarty, RIP                   |

### **THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

|           |                  |        |      |                      |
|-----------|------------------|--------|------|----------------------|
| Wednesday | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Kirsten Gregory, RIP |
|-----------|------------------|--------|------|----------------------|

### **ST CECILIA, Virgin, Martyr**

|          |                  |         |            |                                   |
|----------|------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thursday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 9.30am  | Mass       | Francis Xavier                    |
| Friday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                                   |
|          |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Hospital Chaplains in the Diocese |

### **ST ANDREW DUNG-LAC, Priest, and COMPANIONS, Martyrs**

|          |                  |               |      |                            |
|----------|------------------|---------------|------|----------------------------|
| Saturday | 24 <sup>th</sup> | <b>9.00am</b> | Mass | Parish Musicians and Choir |
|----------|------------------|---------------|------|----------------------------|

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

|          |                  |                |      |                   |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|-------------------|
| Saturday | 24 <sup>th</sup> | <b>NO MASS</b> |      |                   |
| Sunday   | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Parish Intentions |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Cyril Ford, 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, 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