

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

A NEW VISION – A NEW COMMUNITY – A NEW CONVERSION

5 November 2017 - Psalter Week 3 – Missal Page 149



This weekend, let us joyfully unite ourselves with all people of good will and remember the special bond of love we have with our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of Bamenda.

If we are doing something that makes us miserable we need to stop doing it. Finding joy in ourselves and in our lives, is the first call of the Gospel. We have to know that the 'yoke' of the Gospel is easy. Its burden light. In Hinduism there is a saying "Some carry Scripture the way a donkey carries sandalwood. They know the burden but not the fragrance". Some people, religious and otherwise, love making rules for everyone else to live by. Along the way, they can be inclined to make exceptions for themselves. Those who make laws often think they are above them!

Their ambition, of course, is to have increased status. In today's Gospel, the poor old Pharisees parade their piety to promote themselves. If you didn't know, Phylacteries are long boxes containing sacred texts. Although these sacred texts are meant to be written on the heart, to become their eyes of the heart, they carefully keep the word of God at arm's length. They abandon love of God and of their neighbour in favour of Love for themselves and the honours they can manipulate others into giving them.



Jesus offers His disciples and new vision of community, freed from this oppressive hierarchical structure. The new humanity will have only one Father and one Teacher or Master and will abandon the use of these titles for one another. The vision is of a new community where everyone is first. A community that thrives on the flow of Grace where all are receiving from God and giving to one another. In the flow of abundance, the striving for status, recognition and exemption will have less power. This is the exact opposite of their experience with the Pharisees. But the question still remains if the disciples of Jesus have ever

actually done anything better than the Pharisees in today's Gospel. Given the history of the Church, and our own personal experience, it looks as if we are doomed to repeat the old mistakes unless we try something new.

No one practices what they preach. We can have a clear vision of what is possible. But when we try to live it out, we bump into ourselves, our old habits, our egos and secular social pressures. The Sufi teacher, Pir Vilayat Khan has pointed out that the holiest teacher can fall from Grace when doing their annual tax return! So, practicing what we preach involves what Joh Sobrino has called, 'an endless openness to conversion'. This need for conversion does not mean we are failing. It comes with the territory of following something large enough for us to betray. So, when we speak of a new vision for community and a new humanity to serve that vision, we should be wise enough to keep the sackcloth and ashes within reach and our eye on the nearest confessional.

DID YOU KNOW...?



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – NEW DEADLINE: Midday on Tuesdays, please email your newsletter item(s) to the parish office stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF: Kathleen Brosnan whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Friday 10 November 2017** at 12.30pm at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church.

Robbie McDonald whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday 14 November 2017** at 12.00 noon at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church.

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



WELCOME – To Fr Richard Maniak who will celebrate our 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 12 November 2017** while Fr Danny attends the Cenotaph Service in the town centre.



OPEN MORNINGS - St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School is holding Open Mornings for any prospective parents wishing to tour the school 10.30am to 12.00 noon: **Thursday 7th December 2017** and **Tuesday 9 January 2018**. To book please call the school on 01344 424030 to book your space. 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 or follow this link: <http://streetevangelization.com/>



First aid

ARE YOU A FIRST AIDER AT WORK? – First Aiders needed for each weekend Mass, if you wish to volunteer for the Mass you attend, please contact the Parish Office with all your details.



ARE YOU A FIRE MARSHALL AT WORK? – Fire Marshalls needed for each of the weekend Mass. If you wish to volunteer for the Mass you attend, please contact the Parish Office with all your details.

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 injury.



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

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – Monday 23 October at 22 Pondmoor. Meets every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. 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. **No Toddler Group on Tuesday 14 November 2017**

PRAYER GROUPS – Evening Group: 1st/3rd Tuesdays 7.45pm – 9.30pm Hall. Day Group: 1st/3rd Wednesdays 10.30am – 11.30am Hall.

SOUP & ROLL – No Soup and Roll on **Friday 10 November 2017**

YOUTH GROUP – Closed until further notice.



MASS OFFERINGS: £1662.52. 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.**

SECOND OFFERINGS FOR NOVEMBER: 5th BAMENDA SUNDAY



CAFOD is part of the DEC Rohingya crisis appeal. You can donate direct to CAFOD at cafod.org.uk/RohingyaCrisis or by calling 08085 858885



CATHOLIC LEGACY WEEK – 5th - 11th November. Gifts in your Will are a very valuable and lasting way you can continue to support the Church's ministry and mission and help meet the needs of future generations. Do please consider gifts to the Church and Catholic charities next time you update your Will. For more information pick up a leaflet from the church porch; contact Your Catholic Legacy on 020 7095 5370; go to www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk

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, 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, Nicholas Powell, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner, Tony Andrews

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM BISHOP PHILIP – BAMENDA - It is with sadness and concern that I bring to your attention the deteriorating socio-political situation in Cameroon in the regions covered by our sister Diocese of Bamenda. Our two dioceses have been intimately linked for over forty years and we currently have three priests from Bamenda serving in our parishes. The disturbances in Cameroon have complex origins in the relationship between the French and English speaking provinces and in the recent imposition of controls by the political authorities. Most schools in Bamenda have been closed since last November. Peaceful demonstrations have led to arrests, torture and the killing of citizens by the military. It is instructive to read the statement from the Cameroon Bishops about the tensions in this week's diocesan Enews. At this time, I ask for your prayers for peace, reconciliation and a just outcome. I have written to Archbishop Cornelius to express the prayers, solidarity and support of the clergy and faithful of our Diocese of Portsmouth. I invite you all to offer the Rosary this week for the intentions of Bamenda. Please also consider writing to your MP to ask our government leaders here in Britain to do all they can to assist the situation and to bring about peace and justice. Bishop Philip has asked us to say daily the following prayer along with the rosary: **"That all peoples in need may find help, and that peace and security may be firmly established everywhere, especially in our twin diocese of Bamenda, and throughout the Anglophone area of Cameroon"**.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS – The Life in the Spirit Seminars every Tuesday evening from **26 September** until **7 November 2017** 8.00pm to 9.30pm in the church hall. PRAISE – TALK – DISCUSSION: **7 November** – Transformation in Christ.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION "ARE YOU READY?" – For those of you who have put your child's name forward to begin the First Holy Communion journey, in due course you will be receiving a letter by email from Fr Danny outlining the next steps in the process.

DEMYSTIFYING NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING - Saturday 11 November 2017 9.45am - 4pm at St Michael & All Angels, Rider Lane, Leigh Park, PO9 3BT, Marriage and Family Life Team presentations and workshops on Natural Family Planning. Theological Perspective, History & development of NFP, Understanding menopausal years, Improving fertility awareness, Achieving pregnancy, etc. Speakers include: Mgr. Jeremy Garrett, Dr Helen Whiting, Dr Olive Duddy and Christine Bergess. Lunch, tea and coffee provided. No charge but donations are welcome.



'WHAT SHOULD BE THE ROLE OF FAITH IN MODERN BRITAIN?' - Bracknell Forest Faith & Belief Forum would like to invite you to 'Celebrate

Interfaith Week 2017' on **Tuesday 14 November 2017** from 7pm - 9pm at Coopers Hill Youth and Community Centre, Crowthorne Road North, off Bagshot Road, Bracknell RG12 7QS. If you would like to attend this event please contact kate.eatwell@hotmail.co.uk



PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE - There will be a Prayer and Pastoral Care meeting on **Wednesday 15 November 2017** from 7pm to 8pm. Those who visit in the parish are particularly welcome to come and pray for those in our parish community who are in need of our love and support and to explore ways of supporting them.



SPECIAL MASS FOR THE BEREAVED – A very special and beautiful Mass for the bereaved of the parish and bereaved relatives of our parishioners on **Saturday 18 November 2017** at 10.00am. Refreshments available in the hall after Mass courtesy of the Bereavement Support Group. Everyone is welcome.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING: 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



FRUITFUL DISCIPLESHIP IN OUR DIOCESE - At Winchester Parish Centre, **Saturday 18th November 2017** 9.30am – 5pm. For all keen to know and serve the Lord more deeply, be an active disciple in community. Bishop Philip will be hosting the day and giving a talk at the start and end. Talks by Katherine Coolidge (global head of Called and Gifted) on Fruitful Discipleship and developing personal relationship with the Lord. A number of testimonies from parishioners and parishes doing wonderful work in serving others.



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 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, which this year is **Sunday 19 November 2017**. The Holy Father urges that 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 19th November 2017** at 10am at St Michael & All Angels Church Leigh Park. Everyone is welcome



KERYGMA RETREAT – At Winchester Parish Centre, **Sunday 19th 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.



TRAINING ON FAITH SHARING WITH OTHERS IN EVERYDAY LIFE AND THE PARISH - St. Bede's Basingstoke, **Monday 20th November 2017** 9.30am – 5pm. For those who would like training in having conversations with those not yet active Catholics. Sharing your own story and Jesus's story with others, ie, family, friends, workplace, people in the parish. No particular background, but be a person who wants to share your faith. Also running the Kerygma Retreat in your parish.



BRACKNELL CHORAL SOCIETY'S AUTUMN CONCERT - **Saturday 25 November 2017 at 7.30pm** St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church has 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*, which tells the story of the saint who became the model for Santa Claus. The choir will be led by Greg Hallam, our professional

musical director with professional orchestra and soloists, the Senesino Players, Robin Bailey (tenor) and Gwennlian 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 will cost £15 (accompanied under -18's free) and are available from 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.**

TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	4 th	6.00pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	5 th	8.30am	Mass	Frances Dyson, RIP
		10.30am	Mass	David Gunn, RIP
Monday	6 th	No Mass		
Tuesday	7 th	9.30am	Mass	Mary Phelan - Thanksgiving
Wednesday	8 th	9.30am	Mass	Peggy Pendergast

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA, Feast

Thursday	9 th	9.30am	Mass	David Gunn, RIP
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ST LEO THE GREAT, Pope & Doctor of the Church

Friday	10 th	11.00am	Exposition	
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12.30pm REQUIEM MASS - Kathleen Brosnan, RIP

ST MARTIN OF TOURS, Religious, Bishop

Saturday	11 th	10.00am	Mass	Anne Tighe – Thanksgiving to parish friends
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THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Saturday	11 th	6.00pm	Mass	Robert Buchanan, RIP
Sunday	12 th	8.30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10.30am	Mass	All Who Are Homeless

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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:** [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@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**