

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A
THE WEDDING FEAST HAS BEGUN BUT HOW WILL IT END?

15 October 2017 - Psalter Week 4 – Missal Page 140

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The Antiques Road Show is brilliant. Trying to guess the current value of something old is great fun in my house. It's funny how we seem to like old things. From a global perspective, it sometimes seems that we defend, shelter and protect them with more care than we have for the people living with us. The same is true of the 'deposit of faith'. We love and cherish and protect it. Any talk that God may be revising ancient agreements is suspect. The guardians of truth don't like new claims. The big stuff happened long ago and far away. With this mindset, the arrival of an invitation to a wedding feast where God is about to do something new, might not be well received.



The Kingdom of Heaven is an experience. A special moment has arrived and we are invited to be part of it. Something never seen before is unfolding before our eyes. God is here and we find on our doorstep and invitation to a wedding feast. The religious leaders politely refuse to go. Some of them not so politely! Now, a select guest list becomes indiscriminate. The main roads carry universal traffic. There is no ethnic, gender, age or moral requirement. The wedding of the Son is a beggar's feast. A gathering of those who accept the invitation. But a great surprise awaits them. They were not invited to witness a wedding but to be married to the Son. The garment they wear signals their readiness to understand and act on the teachings of Jesus. They must marry the revelation and bear the children of Justice,

Compassion and Love in the world. If they do not do this, they are reduced to silence. They cannot remain at the feast for this is a wedding only for those who want to be married.

A story that began as a cautionary tale to the leadership of Israel now ends as one to us. Belonging is important but it is only the first step. Each one has to take seriously the task of growing in our understanding of the teachings of Jesus. Hearing is a beginning but just hearing is a fatal end. Hearing must be followed by understanding and understanding must be followed by action. As Jesus himself states in John 13:17 'If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.'

In the end it comes to this. The Beloved Son of God asks us to marry him. As in all such moments, timing is crucial. The moment to go deeper, the moment to touch the heart of God, the moment to fall in love, comes to different people at different times. Some are drawn when they are very young, some in midlife, some in older age. Some arrive at the wedding on the back of a huge failure, some in gratitude for some blessing. Some come only after death has knocked at their door and taken away someone who shared their table. It would be too easy to say that eventually everyone will find their wedding garment. But it would be too cynical to say that some might not. We are all Christians but the timetable of our lives is not the same. If home is a place that when you go they have to take you in, the Christian community is a place that welcomes you when you are ready for more.

I don't know about you, but for me the story of the wedding feast is the story of an open invitation, and this is more important pastorally than the wedding garment. Saint Matthew, lover of dual endings might not agree. But it is clear that all are invited. Good and bad alike. But good and bad are strange designations. What do they mean to those who know themselves well? Still, the Beloved Son of God finds us desirable. Even if we did not come with a wedding garment, the groom has one for us and He has chosen it with great love.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

|          |                  |                |      |                    |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|--------------------|
| Saturday | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass | Eddie McGrath, RIP |
| Sunday   | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Parish Intentions  |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | John King, RIP     |
| Monday   | 16 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                    |

### ST IGNATIUS of ANTIOCH, Bishop, Martyr

|         |                  |        |      |                 |
|---------|------------------|--------|------|-----------------|
| Tuesday | 17 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Timothy Oduntan |
|---------|------------------|--------|------|-----------------|

### ST LUKE, Evangelist

|           |                  |         |            |                                       |
|-----------|------------------|---------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wednesday | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | Mass       | Mrs Wallace, RIP                      |
| Thursday  | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | Mass       | John and Josephine Breen O'Grady, RIP |
| Friday    | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                                       |
|           |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Maura Holt - Thanksgiving             |
| Saturday  | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 10.00am | Mass       | Private Intention                     |

### TWENTY-NINETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

|          |                  |         |      |                          |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|--------------------------|
| Saturday | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Parish Intentions        |
| Sunday   | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 8.30am  | Mass | Peggy Pendergast         |
|          |                  | 10.30am | Mass | Alexander Elkington, 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 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

Website: 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

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.



WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY – Baby Santiago Fraguela Rodriguez who is being baptised on **Sunday 15 October 2017** at 12 noon. Please pray for Santiago and his parents Cesar and Jane. Baby Timothy Toluani Oduntan who is being baptised on **Tuesday 17 October 2017** during 9.30am Mass. Please pray for Timothy and his parents Mobolaji and Denise.



100th BIRTHDAY - Congratulations to Peggy Pendergast who celebrated her **100th Birthday** on **6th October**. "May you awaken every day to the blessing of your life".



OCTOBER – THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act. During October, please make time to say a decade of The Rosary each day to pray for an end to abortion. **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary - pray for us.**



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/>



FOODBANK - Thank you to everyone who contributes to Bracknell Foodbank. Food items at present needed are: tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned rice pudding, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, long grain rice (500g or 1kg), sponge pudding (twin pack or tinned), custard (tinned or packet), longlife milk 1l, Longlife fruit juice 1l, potatoes (tinned or dried), tinned vegetables, cereals, jam, honey, marmalade, tea bags, instant coffee and also new toiletries for men and women.



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 - OCTOBER – 2nd The Holy Guardian Angels; 4th St Francis of Assisi; 7th Our Lady of the Rosary; 17th St Ignatius of Antioch, 18th St Luke; 28th Ss Simon & Jude

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.

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

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

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



MASS OFFERINGS: £1751.29 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 OCTOBER: 22nd Foreign Missions

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY: Thank you for your amazing generosity, we received **£902.62** so far. The baskets will be available at the end of Masses this weekend for remaining CAFOD Harvest envelopes and donations. Please gift aid by completing the form attached to the envelope.

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



CAFOD MPC - Could you ensure that the voices of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people are heard in the corridors of power? Please consider becoming a CAFOD MP Correspondent. We have a training session for anyone who is interested at St Joan of Arc Church Tilford Road Farnham GU9 8DJ on **Saturday 21st October 2017** from 10am to 1pm. To book your place please contact Jo Lewry on 01252 329385 or email jewry@cafod.org.uk



CAFOD OFFICE VOLUNTEER - Do you have a few hours free during the week to volunteer in the CAFOD Portsmouth office at St Mary's church Aldershot GU12 4RX. Office volunteers help with a range of administrative tasks from data entry to contacting volunteers. If you are computer competent and happy using Word and Excel then please contact Jo on 01252 329385 or email jewry@cafod.org.uk for more information.

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, Eddie Moore.

Those who are unwell or in hospital:

Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Peggy Pendergast, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Ann Newton, Bridie Maughan, Nicholas Powell, Kathleen Brosnan, Blanche Shap, Emma Flavell, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary Carpenter, Mary King, Anna Tighe, Win McDermott, Angelina Ediale, Mary Phelan, Mary Sol Faulkner

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY – A vacancy for a Foundation Governor for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has arisen and expressions of interest are being sought from practising, committed Catholics for this ministry. The term of office is 4 years from date of appointment. Anyone interested in the mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience as appropriate training will be provided. Before completing your nomination form, you are invited to visit the school for a tour and an informal chat with the Headteacher. Closing date for applications **Monday 16 October 2017**, forms available from <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php>



TALKS ON SOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES – We had a very positive response to the synopsis of the talks at last weekend's Masses.

All Talks are from **7pm to 9pm** in the church hall:

**ADDICTION : Yendall Manor Treatment Centre
Thursday 19 October**

**SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS : Shelter
Wednesday 25 October**

Please attend as many or as few of the talks as you wish, just turn up on the night, especially informative for Nightshelter volunteers.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS –

The Life in the Spirit Seminars will be every Tuesday evening from **26 September** until **7 November 2017** 8.00pm to 9.30pm in the church hall.

PRAISE – TALK – DISCUSSION

17th October – Receiving the Gift

24th October – Inviting Him into our Lives

31st October – Growth

7th November – Transformation in Christ

If you need transport, or can offer transport please contact the parish office on 01344 425729 or email stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET - The October Chaplet will be on **Sunday 15 October** at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church at

2.30pm. All welcome



PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE - A Prayer and Pastoral Care meeting on **Wednesday 18 October 2017** from 7pm - 8pm. All 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 reaching out to them.



DOUAI MARTYRS MASS - An extra High Mass (EF) of the Douai Martyrs on **Saturday 21 October 2017** at 11am in the Parish Church at Douai Abbey, followed by a Marian procession in the grounds of the Abbey to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Fatima. On **Sunday 22 October 2017** at 10:30am there will be an extra Dominican

Rite Sung Mass (EF) at 10:30am in the Parish Church at Douai Abbey. The Schola Gregoriana of Cambridge will provide music for all the Masses. These events are for everyone and are organised by YCA who are staying at the Abbey.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION "ARE YOU READY?" – “ARE YOU READY” is the

first step to celebrating the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. If your child and you, as parents, feel ready and wish to be considered for this Sacrament please send an email to the parish office with child's

name, parents' names, telephone number and which is school attended, closing date **Tuesday 31 October 2017**

Inter Faith Week



'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

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

CALLED & GIFTED



FRUITFUL DISCIPLESHIP IN OUR DIOCESE - At Winchester Parish Centre, **Saturday 18th November 2017** 9.30am – 5pm. For all in the diocese keen to know and serve the Lord more deeply, being an active disciple

and with each other in community. Bishop Philip will be hosting the day and giving a talk at the beginning and the end. Talks by Katherine Coolidge (global head of Called and Gifted) on Fruitful Discipleship and developing a 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 marked on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, which this year is **Sunday 19 November 2017**. The Holy Father urges that parishes and other Christian communities "make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance" with the poor.



empowering you to live a faith-filled life
KERYGMA

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. A fantastic chance to spend Sunday, the day of rest, with the Lord in a deep way.



LIFE OF FAITH
Trusting Jesus. Serving our Neighbors

TRAINING ON SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OTHERS IN EVERYDAY LIFE AND THROUGH THE PARISH

At St. Bede's Basingstoke, **Monday 20th November 2017** 9.30am – 5pm. This for those who would like training in how to have conversations with those not yet active Catholics. Help you share your own story and Jesus's story with others, ie, family, friends, workplace, people who come to the parish. The training doesn't expect you to have any particular background, but be a person who wants to share your faith with others. This day will also talk about how to run the Kerygma Retreat in your parish.



OPEN MORNINGS - St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School are holding **Open Mornings** on the following dates for any prospective parents who would like to have a tour of the school: **Thursday 7th December - 10.30am to 12.00pm** and **Tuesday 9th January - 10.30am to 12.00pm**

To book please call the school on 01344 424030 to book your space. For more information about the school please visit their website <http://stmargaretclitherowbracknell.co.uk/>