

**THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK**  
**EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM**  
**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B**

**BLENDING TIME AND ETERNITY**

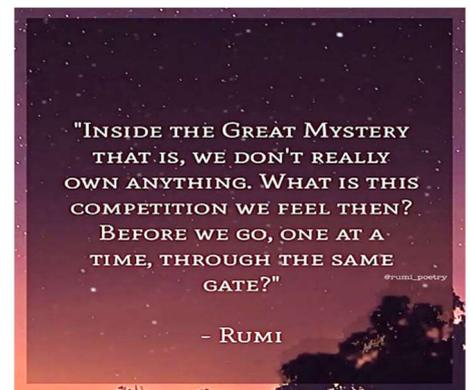
*14 October 2018 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 143 - Psalter Week 4*

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The running man is eager and respectful. He is a true seeker. He calls Jesus 'Good Teacher' and he is right! But Jesus needs him to shift his focus elsewhere - to the goodness of God. Eternal life is God's gift to us. It flows from the heart of love. In this Sunday's Gospel, both seeker and disciple will receive a masterclass in how to understand God and the goodness of God.

The seeker has a problem or two! He is focused on being good in order to get the best. He lives in a world of action and reward. He has kept the commandments from his youth. He has a young person's spirituality, all eagerness, energy and EGO! Before Jesus takes him to the next level, He looks at him and loves him. All he has done has brought him to Jesus. He has completed step one and now step two beckons him. What Jesus is about to say is not a criticism but a leg up to the answer to his question. How does someone receive the life that flows from the goodness of God?

Suddenly Jesus starts talking about 'treasure in heaven' v.21. The thing we must prize more than anything else is our relationship with God. The path to this 'God centredness' is to let go of all that now possesses him and give it to the poor. The seeker understands but cannot believe what he is hearing! In shock and grief he turns away. Jesus sweeps a penetrating gaze towards his disciples and suggests that all who are weighed down by wealth will find it difficult to enter the kingdom of God. His disciples are first puzzled and then astonished by this. Then Jesus escalates the situation from 'difficult' to 'impossible'. Now His disciples are in shock. The Teacher waits, then makes His final thrust. He must lift them out of conventional consciousness to illumination. What is impossible for human beings is possible for God! This is the karate chop which will dismantle the obstruction and open their hearts to another Way.



The good God wants to give them eternal life and they must look to Heaven as Jesus does so often. Humans are addicted to looking everywhere else. No earthly treasure will be a ticket to eternal life. Owning and accumulating does not work in the world of the Spirit. If the heart longs for 'eternal life' it is wrongheaded in the extreme if the heart thinks it can do this by accumulating good deeds.

Peter jumps in. "Okay, let's not talk about this guy or other rich people. We haven't walked away. What's in it for us?" Peter is still playing 'quid pro quo' with God. In return for his sacrifice he expects a reward. Peter is fearful of being cheated. He may have left everything but his mind has not. Jesus addresses his fear with comic exaggeration. All you have given will be returned with interest - the good God is not stingy. But the spiritual law still applies - If you want to be first, you will be last. But if you are last, thereby opening yourself to the goodness of God, you will be first. Every blessing has to be received as a free gift.

The drive to assuage insecurity can be ruthless. It can make us extremely self-absorbed and, worse still, it leads to terrible injustices. Even worse, we may tolerate injustice and cruelty as long as we benefit from them! Couple the moral defects which come with the drive to accumulate, with spiritual ignorance, and the whole project is doomed to failure. Accumulation is futile in the face of death. Temporal life is insecure by its very nature. No strategy within time will ever change that.

In Anthony de Mellos' 'The Song of the Bird', there is a great little Parable about holding onto life with an open hand.

In the 19th century an American tourist visited the famous Polish Rabbi Hafez Hayyim. He was astonished to see that the Rabbis' home was only a simple room filled with books. The only furniture, a table and a bench. 'Rabbi, where is your furniture?' asked the tourist. 'Where is yours?' Replied Hafez. 'Mine? But I'm only a visitor here'. 'So am I,' said the Rabbi.

As someone who dances to the rhythms of time and eternity, we must live in time but have our eyes fixed on heaven. This will turn our lives around, we will instantly cure ourselves of anxiety and the desire to have power over others. We must not delude ourselves. Even while we have possessions, we must disown them. We cannot allow them to own us in such a way that they close our hearts to the suffering of others or to the astonishing generosity and goodness of God.

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

### **TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

|          |                  |                |      |                                   |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass | Eddie McGrath, RIP                |
| Sunday   | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Catherine Considine, RIP & Family |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Parish Intentions                 |
| Monday   | 15 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                                   |
| Tuesday  | 16 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                                   |

### **ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, Bishop, Martyr**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> **No Mass**

### **ST LUKE, Evangelist**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> **No Mass**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> **No Mass or Exposition**  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> **No Mass**

### **TWENTY-NINETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Mass Peter Hancock  
Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> 8.30am Mass Parish Intentions  
10.30am Mass Alex Elkington, RIP

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**ALTERNATIVE WEEKDAY AND SATURDAY MORNING MASSES & CONFESSIONS  
IN THE PASTORAL AREA:**

**Corpus Christi, Wokingham, RG40 2HE:** Masses: Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am, Confessions: Saturday after morning Mass and Saturday at 6pm before evening Mass

**St Francis of Assisi, Ascot, SL5 9HG:** Masses: Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am,  
Confessions: After Saturday 10.00am Mass

**Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS:** Wednesday and Friday 9.30am, Confessions: After Friday Mass

**Holy Ghost, Crowthorne, RG45 6JG:** Monday & Thursday 9.30am, Saturday 10.00am, Confessions: after Saturday morning Mass.

**Parish Office:** 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1BE, Office Hours: Monday – Friday  
9.30am-2.30pm

**Telephone:** 01344 425729 **Email:** stj@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website:** www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org

**Please make cheques payable to (full name):** “PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph”

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel McAvoy

**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**

# 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)

**We now have free Wi-Fi in the Church, hall and parish rooms, select Bracknell Catholic Church**

**CHURCH SHOP OPENING, SATURDAY EVENINGS** - The shop will be open from 5:30pm-7pm on the **SECOND** Saturday of each month



**FR DANNY – RETREAT & VACATION** – Fr Danny will be on Retreat for the first two weeks of October and then on a much needed vacation. **Fr Kevin Jones** will be celebrating all the weekend Masses during October, except for weekend **13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October** when **Fr John Kenrick** will be celebrating all Masses and making an appeal for the St Martin's Missions (Dominicans) for their work in the world. Please give Fr Kevin and Fr John your warmest welcome. There will be no weekday or Saturday morning Masses, Communion Services or Confessions during this time, please refer to "Times of Masses and Mass Intentions on page 4 of the newsletter for alternative weekday and Saturday masses & confessions in the pastoral area.

**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.



**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.



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR – OCTOBER:** 15<sup>th</sup> St Teresa of Avila; 16<sup>th</sup> St Hedwig; 17<sup>th</sup> St Ignatius of Antioch; 18<sup>th</sup> St Luke; 19<sup>th</sup> Ss John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions; 22<sup>nd</sup> St John Paul II; 23<sup>rd</sup> St John of Capestrano; 24<sup>th</sup> St Anthony Claret; 26<sup>th</sup> Ss Chad & Cedd;



**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. 8<sup>th</sup> October at 75 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. Sign-up online at [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/alpha](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/alpha)

**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.

**SOUP & ROLL** – Commencing Friday 2 November. No Soup & Roll on Friday 26 October.

**TEAS & COFFEES** – After all weekend Masses, except 6pm Mass on 13 October.



**MASS OFFERINGS:** £1820.28. **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.

**SECOND OFFERINGS IN OCTOBER:** 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> St Martin's Missions Appeal (Dominicans); 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Foreign Missions



**CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY – Friday 5 October 2018 - Family Fast Day CAFOD** We hope you took the message to eat simply this week and will donate whatever you've saved towards the Harvest campaign supporting people in East Africa. Please return your **Family Fast Day CAFOD** envelope to the offering baskets at each weekend Mass. Or you can donate via: [online Cafod.org.uk/harvest](http://online.Cafod.org.uk/harvest) or phone and credit card on 0300 100 0089



**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.

**We pray for those in our parish community who are sick, housebound or in hospital and for those who care for them.**

Eileen Ing, 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 Carpenter, 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.

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**WE WELCOME INTO OUR COMMUNITY: 13 October ETHAN MICHAEL RODRICKS**, please pray for Ethan who is being given to God through baptism and his family that they will be surrounded by God's love.



**IGNITE! (age 10-12) & ABLAZE! (13+) Youth Groups** - Please return your registration forms for the group via the Parish office or electronically via [youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org). Next meeting will be a joint social event, Ten Pin Bowling on **Friday 2 November 2018** for our pre-registered members. Please contact [youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) to sign up for bowling and for further information.



**FLAME 2019** - Deadline for applications and 'earlybird' payment offer extended until **Monday 15 October 2018**. Are you aged between 14 & 21? Then don't miss out - come and join us for an amazing day at Wembley Arena and experience Flame 2019 for yourself, the biggest gathering of Catholic Youth in the country! Please contact [youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:youth@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) for more details.



**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST AND MINISTERS OF THE WORD DAYS OF REFLECTION** taking place on **20, 21 and 27 October** at Douai Abbey. Register your place online at [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/douai](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/douai)



**QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 13 October 2018** commencing at 7:30pm. Bar open from 7pm. Tickets £3 each. The last Quiz Night we held was very well attended and great fun so get there early to claim your seats!



**DAY FOR ADULTS ASSISTING WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION, BAPTISM AND RCIA** Saturday 20 October, 10am to 4pm at Portsmouth Cathedral, led by the *Formation for Mission Team*. Bishop Philip will celebrate Mass in thanksgiving for all diocesan catechists and Children's Liturgy teams. Reflection on the mission, charisms, role of the catechist, and sharing insights in workshops 'making our teaching session great'. Lunch provided. Sign up : <http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists> or phone the Dominican Sisters: 01590681874.



**THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP** are running several workshops for Night Shelter volunteers which may also be of wider interest to other parishioners. All workshops will be held in the church hall and if you would like to know more about any topic or sign up to attend, please contact: Bernadette Fisher at: [justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or via the Parish Office. Free of charge and open to parishioners over the age of 18 years.

**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS - Saturday 3 November** 9:30 am to 12:30pm exploring some of the commonly held misconceptions around mental health and where help can be obtained if we are at all concerned about the wellbeing of ourselves or others.

**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 and the impact on individuals, families and the wider community. Develop an understanding of the support available for people with these difficulties.



**CALL FOR NIGHTSHELTER SUPPORT 2018/2019** - As of **Sunday 2 December 2018**, the parish community of St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow again be inviting anyone who is homeless to come and share a meal, sleep in the warmth and security of our hall and enjoy a hot morning breakfast, every Sunday night and Monday morning. The Night Shelter will, once again, be run by seven local churches and continue until the end of March 2019.

**BUT** - we can't support the most vulnerable in our community **without your help**. We rely totally on our group volunteers to help run our three Night Shelter shifts: hosting the **evening meal** (6:30pm to 10pm); **watching over our guests as they sleep** (10pm to 6am) and providing them with a **cooked breakfast** (6:30am to 8:30am). Volunteers are desperately needed for either the night or morning shifts, we don't want to ask too much of our volunteers and only ask you to do one shift every three weeks. A full briefing and training will be given so you feel confident and can enjoy your time at the Night Shelter.

**CALL FOR COOKS!** - If you are unable to be a shift volunteer but want to help the homeless, you can help by preparing some or all of the evening meal we provide. This can be done in your own kitchen and brought to the hall around 6.00pm Sunday evenings. We need hearty, warming food, eg, roasts, casseroles, lasagne, sausages and mash - any family favourites - usually for 15 - 20 people. Church pots available and reimbursement for ingredient costs. You will only be asked to cook once or twice for the entire four months of the Night Shelter.

So, please think seriously about helping with this great social justice initiative, if you'd like more information please send an email to [justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or contact the Parish Office.

## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Register directly with Marion McGuire email: [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

**CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING** on **Saturday 20 October 2018**, 10.30am - 1pm in St. Joseph & St. Margaret Clitherow Parish Hall, Bracknell.

**CHILD PROTECTION AND VULNERABLE ADULTS REFRESHER TRAINING** on **Saturday 3 November 2018**, 2pm-4pm in St. Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Parish Hall, Bracknell.



## 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