

**THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK**  
**EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM**  
**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B**  
**GROWING TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING**

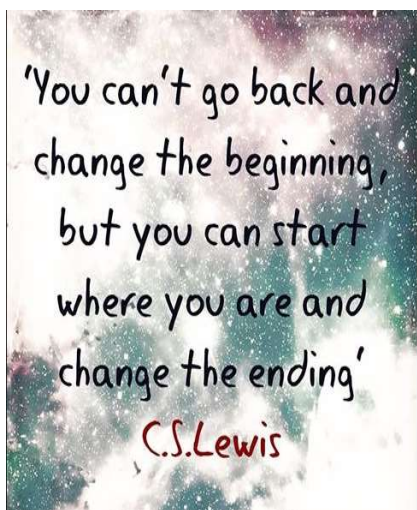
*26 August 2018 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 123 - Psalter Week 1*

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It is true that some of the teachings of Jesus are hard to take. We should not be afraid of this. In the Gospels, some people like Him and some do not. But in today's Gospel, even those who liked Him are struggling to trust Him and to understand what He is teaching.

The core message of St. John's Gospel is stated one more. Jesus has come from the Father. His origins are in God and the life He speaks of is born in that place. His identity as 'Beloved Son', flows from this relationship. He offers this same experience to anyone who can trust Him and make His teaching their own. This is something completely new. The older consciousness cannot transcend death; it turns people, who are afraid, in on themselves. Here is a teaching that frees us from fear and opens us up to 'eternal life.'

The pairing of flesh and blood and eating bread from heaven sets the stage for the disciples to unwrap the gift they are being offered. They have been brought up to believe in the utter transcendence of God and their own smallness. What Jesus is saying does not fit well into that mindset. He understands how His teaching might give offence. Perhaps the offence could be less if He, the Beloved Son, started with Earth and ascended to Heaven. But even if it makes for an easier beginning, we still have to trust Him when he asks us to notice the partnership between the physical and the spiritual, earth and heaven, ascending and descending Angels and a descending and ascending Son of Man. Everything comes from above and it is there that we must look to find the truth. This change from 'flesh to spirit', to 'spirit to flesh', is a difficult shift. Many will walk away with their old mind intact rather than trust in the new possibility. Those who stay, do so because they trust the Father.



Staying with Jesus is always a decision and it is a decision that is not made only once. The disciples who left were unable to make the shift. They were not ready to eat the food that the 'bread' who 'came down from heaven' had prepared. The Twelve did stay because they were already eating. The words of Jesus had opened a window into eternal life. If Jesus could give them eternal life, He must come from God. This is the beginning of something amazing which will require them to trust and grow even more.

So, we have two choices. To leave or to stay. But it is the reason for staying that is intriguing. When Jesus asks the question, 'Are you going away too?', Peter answers, 'We have *come to believe and know..*'. What begins with trust is completed in a depth of understanding and flows as eternal life whenever we gather to fulfill His command, 'Do this in memory of me'.

The community of disciples - the church- only exists to disclose the meaning of Christ as the embodiment of God in the world. We exist for the salvation - health and well-being - of all people, not just for the comfort and consolation it brings us. This means that the only way to build the community of those who 'choose to stay' is to look outwards, to see how we might bring this Good News to the poor. The Church, like the Kingdom of God, cannot grow through following a programme. It will grow through the joyful witness of those who celebrate the gratuitous blessing of Christ. We have to return to the service of the Gospel and the command to spread it to all peoples. Today's Gospel is a heady reminder that this is a painful and costly process precisely because it means stripping away our old safety nets, our addiction to personal comfort and our riches -whether secular or not - which we think are so important for the maintenance of the church.

We must respond to the urgent promoting of the Spirit who gives Life and who through the community, upholds the life of all people. As Jesus clearly tells us; The power of God is at work in the world, the story of Salvation is being told, and we are the privileged and responsible stewards of God. This, it seems to me, is the solid ground of our trust and the reason why we are constantly seeking to deepen our understanding of the Beloved Son of God.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

|          |                  |                |      |                                   |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass | Deceased & Injured – Genoa Bridge |
| Sunday   | 26 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Parish Intentions                 |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Community of Deacons              |
| Monday   | 27 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                                   |

### ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

|         |                  |        |      |                             |
|---------|------------------|--------|------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday | 28 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Betty Collins, Thanksgiving |
|---------|------------------|--------|------|-----------------------------|

### THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

|           |                  |        |      |              |
|-----------|------------------|--------|------|--------------|
| Wednesday | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Marie Hughes |
|-----------|------------------|--------|------|--------------|

### Ss MARGARET CLITHEROW, ANNE LINE & MARGARET WARD, Martyrs

|          |                  |         |                                |                                    |
|----------|------------------|---------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Thursday | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | Mass                           | Veronika Jastrzebski, Thanksgiving |
| Friday   | 31 <sup>st</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition                     |                                    |
|          |                  | 12.10pm | Mass and Anointing of the Sick |                                    |
| Saturday | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 10.00am | Mass                           | Pro-Life                           |

### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

|          |                 |         |      |                                  |
|----------|-----------------|---------|------|----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Eileen Larkin, RIP & Family      |
| Sunday   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 8.30am  | Mass | Parish Intentions                |
|          |                 | 10.30am | Mass | Teachers & Pupils of our Schools |

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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 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](http://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](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)**

**PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH and ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL**

# DID YOU KNOW...?



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Midday on Tuesdays**, please email any items to [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (the SVP)** - Provides practical help and support whenever possible for those who need it. Are you lonely or in need of help of any kind or know someone who is? If so, please contact the SVP on 07731862349 to arrange a visit. All calls are completely confidential.



**KERALA FLOODS: AN SVP APPEAL** - As you know, terrible floods in Kerala in southern India where hundreds of people have been killed and many are missing; countless homes have been washed away. The monsoon season will continue until early September. Kerala is the most Christian state in India – more churches than any other region. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), is very active there and doing great work helping victims of the flood in local communities. However, they desperately need funds. Please contribute to the SVP's Kerala appeal. To donate visit [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk), telephone 020 7703 3030 or send cheques payable to SVP (write 'Kerala appeal' on the back) to SVP, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. Please pray for our sisters and brothers in Kerala.



**SIGNING OF FORMS** – If you have a form that needs the certification and signature of a Parish Priest, ie, school forms, etc., please place your form in an envelope marked "Parish Office, Form for Signature" with a note of your phone number and post through the letterbox of the Presbytery Door. We will call you for collection when the form is ready. You do not need to have an appointment with Fr Danny.

**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 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 – AUGUST:** 27<sup>th</sup> St Monica; 28<sup>th</sup> St Augustine of Hippo; 29<sup>th</sup> The Passion of St John the Baptist; 30<sup>th</sup> Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward.

**SEPTEMBER:** 3<sup>rd</sup> St Gregory the Great; 4<sup>th</sup> St Cuthbert; 8<sup>th</sup> The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 12<sup>th</sup> The Most Holy Name of Mary; 13<sup>th</sup> St John Chrysostom; 14<sup>th</sup> The Exaltation of the Holy Cross; 15<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Sorrows; 17<sup>th</sup> St Hildegard of Bingen, St Robert Bellarmine; 19<sup>th</sup> St Januarius; St Theodor of Canterbury; 20<sup>th</sup> St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions; 21<sup>st</sup> St Matthew; 24<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Walsingham; 26<sup>th</sup> Ss Cosmas & Damian; 27<sup>th</sup> St Vincent de Paul; 28<sup>th</sup> St Wenceslaus, St Laurence Ruiz & Companions; 29<sup>th</sup> The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael;

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – Closed until early September.

**TODDLER GROUP** – Commencing **Tuesday 11 September**.

**KEEP FIT** – Commencing **Tuesday 11 September**

**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.

**ALPHA** – Commencing **Thursday 6 September** 7.30pm-9.00pm, Hall

**SOUP & ROLL** – Commencing **Friday 14 September**.

**FRANCISCAN FRATERNITY** – **Saturday 15 September**, 2pm-4pm, Parish Hall



**MASS OFFERINGS:** £1709.35. **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 OFFERING** September: 15/16 Home Missions Sunday



**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, Barbara Simpson, 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, Bernadette Hunt, Marie Hughes

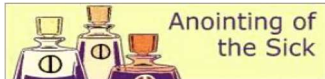
# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**WE WELCOME INTO OUR COMMUNITY: 25<sup>th</sup> August, twins Charlie and Jake O'Leary and on 1<sup>st</sup> September, Noah Gaspar Novelli** please pray for the children being given to God through baptism and their families that they will be surrounded by God's love.

**PARISH OFFICE** →

**PARISH OFFICE** – Will be closed for August Bank Holiday **Monday 27 August 2018**. There will be a reduced administration service from **Friday 7 September 2018 to Friday 21 September 2018** inclusive.



Anointing of the Sick

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



**CONFIRMATION JOURNEY** - *In Baptism, we are all given to God. In Confirmation we begin His work.*

A gentle reminder that there will then be an Introduction to the Confirmation Journey for candidates and their parents on **Wednesday 29 August 2018** at 7.30pm in the parish hall.



**TEA & COFFEE TEAM**

- Volunteers are needed for Saturday evening Fairtrade teas and coffees after 6.00pm Mass. Monthly volunteer rota. If we had one or two more volunteers the rota would be every 5 or 6 weeks. It's a great opportunity to get to know others in the parish. If you are interested, please have a chat to one of the volunteers in the hall after Mass to find out more or contact the parish office.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019** - If you and your child feel ready to begin the journey towards First Holy Communion, please register your interest online via at [bracknellcatholicchurch.org/fhc2019](http://bracknellcatholicchurch.org/fhc2019) by **Friday 14 September 2018**.

The first meeting for parents will take place on **Wednesday 19 September 2018**.



**PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND** – **Monday 17 September 2018**, fully escorted.

£649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all taxes, luxury transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast each morning and 4 Course Dinner each evening. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Groups and Individual bookings

welcome. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com). Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

**PRO-LIFE GROUP** – Please join the informal parish Pro-life Group, no meetings or subscription. Please complete the Pro-life Cards which are in the porch and return to the parish office or join by emailing your details to the Parish Office.

## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

**CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING** on **Saturday 22 September 2018**, 10.00am to 12.30pm at Our Lady & St Dominic, High View Road, Farnborough GU14 7PT. Trainer – Maureen Wiltshire

**VULNERABLE ADULTS TRAINING** on **Saturday 22 September 2018**, 1.30pm to 4.00pm at Our Lady & St Dominic Church, High View Road, Farnborough GU14 7PT. Trainer – Maureen Wiltshire

**CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING & VULNERABLE ADULTS TRAINING**, **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018**, 10.00am – 12.30pm **taking place at the same time**, at English Martyrs, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB CP Trainer: Sue Smy; VA Trainer: Val Croughan.

**CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING** on **Saturday 6 October 2018**, 1.30pm – 4.00pm at English Martyrs, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB. Trainer: Val Croughan.

### IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND, PLEASE REGISTER WITH:

Soraya Ciccarone, PA to Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator & Diocesan Financial Secretary, Tel: (Direct Dial) 023 92 836511/023 92 816396/023 92 825430, Email: [soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**CHURCH SHOP OPENING ON SATURDAY EVENINGS** - The shop will be open from 5:30pm-7pm on the second Saturday of each month starting **Saturday 11 August 2018**.



**PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E-NEWS**- Keep up to date with what's happening in the diocese via the weekly diocesan E-news. Portsmouth Diocese E-news published on Tuesday each week with the latest news from the Bishop and details of forthcoming events, photos of past events and videos of interest. Beautiful reflection, weekly Wednesday Webinar on the Sunday's Gospel; information on forthcoming events around the diocese. Sign up now to get it straight to your inbox: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews)

## 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