

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

I DON'T WANT TO BE POWERFUL - I WANT TO BE STRONG

9 September 2018 – Order of Mass Page 7 - Mass Book Page 129 - Psalter Week 3

~~~~~

The Gospel story for the 23rd Week in Ordinary time, in this year of St. Mark, is astonishing and rich with lessons for growing disciples!

Jesus is on the move. He is a Jew among Gentiles. His reputation has preceded Him so they bring to Him a deaf man who has an impediment in his speech. They are looking for a miracle but they are not going to get it without a masterclass in discipleship. Jesus must take the man away from the miracle mongers. They are well intentioned but they are spiritually weak. They are not yet ready to know 'the secret of the Kingdom of God' (Mk.4:11,34).

Ears detect sounds. Tongues produce sounds. But it is the heart, the spiritual centre of a person, that speaks. If the heart is open to the Spirit, then a person can hear and speak about spiritual things. If a person cannot hear or speak, it is because they have hardened their hearts and closed themselves off from the truth.

When Jesus pits His fingers in the man's ears, he reverses the flow of attention. The man is no longer struggling to hear what is happening outside of himself. He listens inwardly, to his heart. Jesus spits on His hand and touches the man's tongue with His spit. Spit comes from the inside and symbolises the Spirit. Jesus is connecting His spirit, the Holy Spirit, to the man's spirit. Now He, and the man, are in full communion with each other.

Then Jesus looks up to heaven. Since His own Baptism, the heavens remain permanently open to Jesus. God is available, the Holy Spirit always descending as Love. But people must look Up! They must open their hearts to sacred things. With a sigh, Jesus opens the man to God through His own openness to God. His words, 'Be Opened' are not addressed to the man's ears. It is a command to the heart to be open to the Love that is flowing through the Beloved Son. When he opens his hearts, his ears are unplugged and his tongue is loosened. This should be the story that is told - but it isn't.



In Marks Gospel Jesus is portrayed, not as powerful, but as one who has given up on power and moved to strength. His gentle strength is a key brushstroke in Mark's portrait. His strength comes from the certainty that He is loved by God and the certainty that He is the bearer of the Holy Spirit into a world of suffering and darkness. His strength is constant. It permeates all that He says and all that He does. No one can pull Him away from His core conviction. He holds fast to The Voice He heard at His Baptism.

But what is amazing is to watch Him in His endless quest to give this steady strength to his disciples. He only engages with what gives Him life; and that is giving life and love to others! It's such a beautifully simple teaching. That if we can hold onto the inner strength that comes from a heart drenched by love, if we can avoid getting sucked into the power mongering of others, we will make miracles. Here is testimony to the power of one. It is even greater testimony to the strength of a Community which refuses the lure of power over others.

Jesus, the healer, holds onto wholeness in a broken world. He will not allow anyone to suck Him into their chaos. Instead He brings Himself. If we let Him, He will stick His fingers in our ears so that we will be guided by the spiritual centre of our hearts. He will give His Spirit to anyone who asks. When our heart is United with His Heart we are fully open to God. Only then, when we hear God speak can we act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly in the world.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

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

|           |                  |                |                                          |                                 |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday  | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 6.00pm         | Mass                                     | Parish Intentions               |
| Sunday    | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 8.30am         | Mass                                     | Michael Devlin, RIP             |
|           |                  | 10.30am        | Mass                                     | Frank Keane, RIP                |
| Monday    | 10 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |                                          |                                 |
| Tuesday   | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass                                     | Governors of our Parish Schools |
| Wednesday | 12 <sup>th</sup> | <b>9.15am</b>  | <b>School Mass at St Joseph's School</b> |                                 |

### ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

|          |                  |        |      |                                        |
|----------|------------------|--------|------|----------------------------------------|
| Thursday | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Joseph Wilmar Carabuena - Thanksgiving |
|----------|------------------|--------|------|----------------------------------------|

### THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, Feast

|        |                  |         |            |                               |
|--------|------------------|---------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                               |
|        |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Those Awaiting Organ Donation |

### OUR LADY OF SORROWS

|          |                  |         |      |                  |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|------------------|
| Saturday | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am | Mass | Care of Creation |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|------------------|

### TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B (Missal Page 132)

|           |                  |                |                                                    |                                  |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Saturday  | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass                                               | Pam Savage                       |
| Sunday    | 16 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass                                               | Parish Intentions                |
|           |                  | 10.30am        | Mass                                               | John Begley, RIP                 |
| Monday    | 17 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |                                                    |                                  |
| Tuesday   | 18 <sup>th</sup> | <b>9.15am</b>  | <b>School Mass at St Margaret Clitherow School</b> |                                  |
| Wednesday | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass                                               | Welma, Jose Carabuena and Family |

### ST ANDREW KIM TAEGON, Priest; ST PAUL CHONG HASANG & COMPANIONS, Martyrs

|          |                  |        |      |                                    |
|----------|------------------|--------|------|------------------------------------|
| Thursday | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Parishioners from Around the World |
|----------|------------------|--------|------|------------------------------------|

### ST MATTHEW, Apostle, Evangelist, Feast

|          |                  |         |            |                          |
|----------|------------------|---------|------------|--------------------------|
| Friday   | 21 <sup>st</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                          |
|          |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Senior Leadership Team   |
| Saturday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 10.00am | Mass       | Parish Safeguarding Team |

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B (Missal Page 135)

|          |                  |         |      |                                   |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Jerzy Gruszka, RIP                |
| Sunday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 8.30am  | Mass | Carmen and Ben Robin-D'Souza, RIP |
|          |                  | 10.30am | Mass | John Collins, RIP                 |

~~~~~  
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: 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

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



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, 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.



TODDLER GROUP : VOLUNTEERS DESPERATELY NEEDED - Every Tuesday 9.15am to 11.30am during term time. Volunteers are desperately needed to run this group. We need at least 2 persons each week and a team of 4 persons ideally to share the commitment. This very important group will have to close if no volunteers come forward. So, if you are DBS cleared or wish to be DBS cleared in order to be a part of the Toddler Group Team, please contact the parish office.

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.

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



LITURGICAL CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER: 12th The Most Holy Name of Mary; 13th St John Chrysostom; 14th The Exaltation of the Holy Cross; 15th Our Lady of Sorrows; 17th St Hildegard of Bingen, St Robert Bellarmine; 19th St Januarius; St Theodor of Canterbury; 20th St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions; 21st St Matthew; 24th Our Lady of Walsingham; 26th Ss Cosmas & Damian; 27th St Vincent de Paul; 28th St Wenceslaus, St Laurence Ruiz & Companions; 29th The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael.

GOSPEL CHALLENGE – Closed until early September.

TODDLER GROUP – Commencing **Tuesday 18 September**.

KEEP FIT – Commencing **Tuesday 11 September**

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

CHOIR PRACTICE – Every Thursday, 7.30pm-8.30pm, in the Church, all welcome. Instrumentalists also invited to join us.

ALPHA – Every Thursday until 27 September 7.30pm-9.00pm, Hall

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

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



MASS OFFERINGS: £1783.22. **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 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, Marie Hughes, Jenny Bashford, Phyllis D'Souza

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: Bob Winn, RIP whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Monday 24 September 2018** at 1.00pm, followed by service at 3.00pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium. Please pray for his beloved wife Betty, his daughter Sue and all the family.

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



WE WELCOME INTO OUR COMMUNITY: 15 September, VINNIE PATRICK ROCKHAY, please pray for Vinnie who is being given to God through baptism and his family that they will be surrounded by God's love.



PARISH OFFICE – There will be a reduced administration service from **Friday 7 September 2018 to Friday 21 September 2018** inclusive.



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.



MUSICIANS! - Instrumentalists are needed to support our music groups at all Masses, if you would like to join the groups please make yourselves known to any of us at the choir corner.



REFUGEE EVENT – Saturday 15th and 29th September 2018. The picture of the 3-year-old Syrian boy Aylan Kurdi's lifeless body on a beach horrified us all and begs the question, just what can we do as a parish to sponsor and house refugees? In response to this a practical way of housing refugee families will be presented at two Caritas "Welcoming our Neighbour" events, one in the Sacred Heart Church, Waterlooville on **15th Sep** and another repeat event at St. Joseph's, Maidenhead on **29th Sep**. Find out more under "Events" on the diocesan website, look it up on Eventbrite or send an email to caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019 - If you and your child feel ready to begin the journey towards First Holy Communion, please register your interest online by **Friday 14 September 2018** bracknellcatholicchurch.org/fhc2019 The first meeting for parents on **Wednesday 19 September 2018**, 7.30pm in the hall.



HOME FOR GOOD FOUNDATIONS COURSE IN BRACKNELL – Tuesday evenings in K2, The Kerith Centre, Church Road, Bracknell commencing **Tuesday 25 September 2018**. The Home for Good Foundations course is for anyone wanting to explore fostering or adoption. See the poster on the porch noticeboard.

THE ROSARY ON THE COAST – The team have started a 54 day campaign, asking people to pray the rosary every day for Faith Life and Peace, finishing on **7 October**. It is for penitence and reparation for sin.

See <https://shoutout.wix.com/so/d8MLMu6rG?cid=207c5add-713f-474f-8a38-1bcbae0d208e#/main>

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 6th 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



ALPHA YOUTH - Corpus Christi, Wokingham starting **Friday 5 October 2018** from 7pm to 9pm. For young people between the ages 11-18 years who would like to explore life, faith and its meaning. A 10 week program with an away weekend which promises to be fun and fulfilling. To register your interest : visit the Web page <https://bit.ly/youthacc>; call Wokingham Parish Office on 0118 978 0348 or email:- wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Also, see the posters on the church notice boards'



NATIONAL MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS - The National Mass for Altar Servers will be held on **Saturday 6th October 2018** in Westminster Cathedral at 2:30pm. Please see the flyer on the porch noticeboard for more information about this event.



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST AND MINISTERS OF THE WORD - Dates for this year's Days of Reflection at Douai Abbey are: **7th, 20th, 21st and 27th October**. For now, save your preferred date as more information will be available next weekend on how to book your place.

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