

THE YEAR OF MATTHEW
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A
ON HOW NOT TO COMPARE OURSELVES WITH OTHERS

24 September 2017 - Psalter Week 1 – Missal Page 131

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Jesus speaks to the heart of the disciple and to the community of disciples He has chosen. To them He has given an amazing gift - the gift of working with Him to bring to birth a new humanity and a new community. They sit at His feet, and He clearly hopes that they will grow to be like Him. They think they want the same until a Parable pulls the carpet out from under their feet. It only does this because there is a question, like the elephant in the room, that is waiting to be answered. 'What's in it for me?'

In extravagant prose, Jesus assures His disciples that if they choose to do God's work it will bring them to the pinnacle of human fulfilment. Every sacrifice they make will be restored to them a hundred times over and eternal life will flow into them. If they are worried about a poor pay-off, Jesus overwhelms them with a vision of abundance. But first they have to listen to and try to understand the Parable.



Kingdom workers are like people on a zero hours contract. They are vulnerable. They have no claim on their employer. The only agreement on the table is that when they awaken each day, they do not waste the gift of a new day in idleness. God will give them all that they need for the day. It will be enough for those who want to continue to rely on Gods' goodness. Enthroned in the Lord's Prayer is the certainty that God will not give more or less than is needed for the day. "Give us this day our daily bread ....". It is assumed that they are friends of the Landowner and have grasped the truth about God that Jesus is trying to teach them. That when we 'seek first the Kingdom' (Matthew 6,33) and pray to follow God's will (Matthew 6,10) there is no need to ask for what we need. Our Father already knows, and gives what is needed, (Matthew 6,8;32-33) to those who work in the vineyard. But the gift of daily bread bears no relation to the amount of work done. It flows out of the generous heart of God, who is now vulnerable to an accusation of being unfair.

This feeling of unfairness is rooted in a social construct everyone takes for granted. More work=More pay. In this version of reality, I am the centre of the universe and my job is to promote myself and my own well-being. If I am denied this possibility I am entitled to have a good old moan. But the Parable puts God at the centre of the Universe and we are invited to stretch high enough to see the sacred point of view. Only here can we begin to relish the work that is being done. We are, to paraphrase Gerard Manley Hopkins, "burnished in use". We no longer live in the envious world of comparisons, but in the overflowing world of Gods Generosity. In this world, God gives us good eyes to better see. These eyes connect us to our soul and to the expansive works of the Spirit. Seduced, the labourers flow like liquid light, releasing Grace everywhere they go.

## TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

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

|          |                  |                |      |                          |
|----------|------------------|----------------|------|--------------------------|
| Saturday | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 6.00pm         | Mass | Nigel Clark, RIP         |
| Sunday   | 24 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am         | Mass | Matt Wallace, RIP        |
|          |                  | 10.30am        | Mass | Gordon Whitehouse, RIP   |
| Monday   | 25 <sup>th</sup> | <b>No Mass</b> |      |                          |
| Tuesday  | 26 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am         | Mass | Eileen and Lance Perkins |

### ST VINCENT de PAUL, Founder

|           |                  |        |      |                   |
|-----------|------------------|--------|------|-------------------|
| Wednesday | 27 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Kevin Byrne, RIP  |
| Thursday  | 28 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am | Mass | Madge Sawyer, RIP |

### THE HOLY ARCHANGELS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, Feast

|        |                  |         |            |                   |
|--------|------------------|---------|------------|-------------------|
| Friday | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Exposition |                   |
|        |                  | 12.10pm | Mass       | Private Intention |

### ST JEROME, Priest, Doctor of the Church

|          |                  |         |      |                          |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|--------------------------|
| Saturday | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am | Mass | Eileen and Lance Perkins |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|--------------------------|

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

|          |                  |         |      |                               |
|----------|------------------|---------|------|-------------------------------|
| Saturday | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm  | Mass | Eileen and Lance Perkins      |
| Sunday   | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 8.30am  | Mass | Parish Intentions             |
|          |                  | 10.30am | Mass | Abdon and Leonora Arriba, 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, 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:** stj@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 Telephone No:** 07712048695

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](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).



**SEASON OF CREATION** – From **Friday 1 September 2017** until the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on **Wednesday 4 October 2017** we are called to focus on the wonders of God creation, our impact and the responsibility to care for it as resource shared by everyone. See if you can take action to celebrate the beauty of creation, take a photo of nature that inspires joy and post it to Twitter using the hashtag #beautyofcreation or post to Facebook page. For more information and ideas go to <http://seasonofcreation.org/>



**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 33th 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.

Denise Naughten is raising £1000 for a 7 year old boy who has Muscular Dystrophy. The money will provide extra hydrotherapy and physio. To make a donation, please go to her JustGiving Page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/denise-naughten?utm\\_id=2&utm\\_term=9K22g6xRG](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/denise-naughten?utm_id=2&utm_term=9K22g6xRG)

Please donate Sainsburys vouchers towards sporting equipment for our schools.



**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:-

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October - 10.30am to 12.00pm

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 10.30am to 12.00pm

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> 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/>



**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.



**ALTAR SERVERS** – The definition of "Millionaire" is someone with an abundance of ..... So a massive **THANK YOU** from the hearts of our community to all our "Millionaires" who have shown an abundance of generosity and love for the sanctity of our Mass. Your very kind donations have helped us purchase the beautiful cassocks and cottas, our Altar Servers will wear them with pride and dignity.

**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 - SEPTEMBER** – 27<sup>th</sup> St Vincent de Paul; 29<sup>th</sup> Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael; 30<sup>th</sup> St Jerome.

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

**GOSPEL CHALLENGE** – Monday 25 September at 75 Qualitas; Monday 9 October at 86 Qualitas. Meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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

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



**MASS OFFERINGS – THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY:**

Total amount £1,544.45, Home Mission Sunday £148.43. Please make cheques payable to "PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph". **Gift Aid envelopes and bankers/standing order forms available in the porch.**

**SECOND OFFERINGS FOR SEPTEMBER: 24<sup>th</sup> Cathedral. SECOND OFFERING OCTOBER: 22<sup>nd</sup> World Missions**

**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

**Those who are unwell or in hospital:**

Una Gilligan, Freda Edgington, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Fr Vincent Convery, Teresa Bullock, 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

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING.....



**WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY** – Baby Fernando Rassi Cabezas who is being baptised on **Sunday 24 September 2017** at 12 noon at St Joseph and St Margaret Clitherow Church. Please pray for Fernando and his parents Miguel and Lydia.



**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** – The parish office will be closed from **Monday 25 September 2017** until **Friday 6 October 2017** inclusive. Telephone coverage during this time.



**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:

**UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES – Part 2**  
Wednesday 27 September

**UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC ABUSE**  
Thursday 5 October

**UNDERSTANDING TALKING THERAPIES COUNSELLING**  
Thursday 12 October

**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**

**26 September – God's Love**

**3<sup>rd</sup> October – Salvation**

**10<sup>th</sup> October – New Life**

**17<sup>th</sup> October – Receiving the Gift**

**24<sup>th</sup> October – Inviting Him into our Lives**

**31<sup>st</sup> October – Growth**

**7<sup>th</sup> November – Transformation in Christ**

If you wish to attend but need transport, or can offer transport to someone wishing to attend please contact the parish office on 01344 425729 or email [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AUTUMN MEETING – Tuesday 3 October 2017** at 7.30pm St John's Church, Waterloo Road, Crowthorne, RG45 7NT. An interdenominational meeting with a speaker from a local charity "Children of the Dump" helping the children of the Phillipines, all welcome.



**Dementia Friends Champions** - Champions run community Information Sessions and inspire others to help dementia sufferers live well. To become a Dementia Friends Champion an Induction Day on

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017** from 10:00 – 16:00 in Reading at Conference Hall, RISC 35-39 London Street,

Reading, Berkshire, RG1 4PS. Booking a space online at [www.dementiafriends.org.uk](http://www.dementiafriends.org.uk)



**DEATH CAFÉ – Thursday 5 October**

**2017, 7.00pm** at Beatons Tearooms & Bookshop, 241 High Street, Crowthorne, RG45 7AH. A group of people sitting together and talking around the theme of

death and dying. The idea is to make it easier to communicate about death and increase awareness of death, dying and making the most out of life. Book your place at [deathcafecrowthorne@gmail.com](mailto:deathcafecrowthorne@gmail.com).



**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY - FRIDAY 6**

**OCTOBER** - This Harvest fast day we are

standing with Eldemira, a farmer in El Salvador as she works to provide for her family. With your help CAFOD has given her fruit trees, training and strong seeds. Please help us to give this support by giving whatever you can to other farmers, Fast Day envelopes will be available in the next few weeks. Many thanks.



**CLOTHESBANK** –

ClothesBank Giveaway, held every quarter in our Church Hall and coordinated by St Mark's Church Binfield, will be 10.15am - 1pm on **Wednesday 11 October 2017**. The ClothesBank need donations of good quality used clothes for children of all ages and trainers, especially sizes 10 – 2. Some items cannot be passed on though, eg, pyjamas, underwear and socks, etc, need to be new. Please contribute new packs of children's socks or underwear would be appreciated. Please leave your donations in the ClothesBank container in the porch weekend **7th/8th October**. Help will be needed on **Monday 9th October** at St Marks sorting out the clothing and from 9am-1pm in our Church Hall on **11th October**. If you feel able to help or interested in knowing more about the ClothesBank, please contact the Parish Office or contact Gisele at St Mark's Binfield.



**FACING DEPRESSION TOGETHER**

**AWARENESS DAY** - Learn about depression and

how to support those living with depression. Includes a clinical, a personal and a pastoral perspective of depression, a dramatic perspective to challenge stigma and an introduction to the work of **PeerTalk**, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church. This free event takes place on **Saturday 14 October 2017**, 10am – 3.30pm, at The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford. Lunch is provided. Booking essential. More details contact [admin@peertalk.org.uk](mailto:admin@peertalk.org.uk) [www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events](http://www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events)



**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** - The October

Chaplet will be on **Sunday 15 October** at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church at

2.30pm. All welcome

**WARFIELD BIBLE COURSE 2017** – An informative 8 session course

as an introduction to the Bible. The course is at St Michael's Church, Warfield, every Wednesday from **4 October** to **29 November**, 7.45pm to 9.30pm, enquires to [admin@warfield.org.uk](mailto:admin@warfield.org.uk), telephone 01344 886900

**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](mailto:soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)