

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE HEART

Sunday 6 August 2023

Mass Book Page 108

This is a story about the Transfiguration of Jesus. More than that it is a story about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. An event unfolds on top of a mountain, but what is at stake is what is unfolding on the ground below. The disciples hear the voice of God asking them to Listen to the words of His Beloved Son. His word, is to become their only treasure. What must be heard is the sound of Love. Because when Moses and Elijah disappear only Jesus is left to teach us what we must know. He is the one who will guide us away from fear and into love.

But for now, seasoned beginners are called to silence. They are not to share yet what they have experienced when they were touched by God. What He has to tell them can be difficult to understand, and when understood, even more difficult to follow. This is especially true of His impending suffering, death and resurrection. They are granted this vision so that they will begin to dismantle their inner resistance to the vulnerability of God.

Which brings us to the question of our own vulnerability. Life is tough. It isn't that we do not have great moments of love and joy and laughter in our lives. But the hurt can often hit us from the inside. The demands of Love, pulling us out of our favourite chair seem endless. We seem to be continually having to face mental, emotional, physical and spiritual challenges.

When this happens, we need to make a special effort to stay on top of things. Gearing up for the challenge is needed because we know that what is not faced up to falls apart. Without the energy to renew the law of 'winddown' takes over. Relationships become dull and predictable, goals remain unmet, weeds grow in the garden and sagebrush rolls through ghost towns. Even more, when we are committed to Compassion and to easing the suffering of others we have to struggle not to give up or ignore them. When we are committed to Peace and meet division and hostility, we must find way to engage that doesn't make things worse. When we value honesty and integrity and face situations of corruption, it isn't easy to walk the pathways of truth. Life is difficult when we try to bring to it all that is best in us. It takes continual blood, sweat and tears to infuse the world with Love and Mercy. Virtue is hard work!



This is why we need to ponder the Transfiguration every day. This moment of illumination which will continue to light the way before us. When we sink our hearts deep into the contemplative well, it is easier to rise without fear and listen to Him, the wind suddenly shifts direction - it is no longer in our face but at our back.

The Litmus test of course is not to try and stay on top of the mountain but to check that we are headed in the direction of Jerusalem with Him. I believe it was William Vanstone who wrote,

"Therefore, He who Thee reveals, hangs O Father on that tree
helpless, and the nails and thorns tell of what Thy Love must be.
Thou art God, no monarch thou, enthroned in easy state to reign.
Thou art God, whose arms of Love, aching, spent, the world sustain."



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Saturday 12th August 2023 in the Parish Hall

Reminder: all volunteers who are involved in Parish roles where a DBS check is required (i.e., working with children and/or adults), are required to complete Safeguarding training every two years. This can be done either on-line or face to face.

Face to Face training is available in our Church Hall on Saturday 12th August 2023:

10:00am - 12:30pm Child Safeguarding Training

1:00pm - 4:00pm - Adult Safeguarding Training

If you are staying for both sessions, please bring a packed lunch.

Please contact Marion McGuire on 07712048695 to secure your place.



COMMUNITY SINGING AT OUR LOCAL CARE HOMES

We take the Love of Christ to these beautiful people through music. We meet at the Care Homes and together with the people we sing. Lyrics and percussion instruments are provided. Please email the parish office if you would like to get involved in this beautiful ministry:

stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

FINALISED DATES/TIMES: Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up. THANK YOU.

Monday 14th August, 2-3pm: Liscombe House, Liscombe, Bracknell RG12 7AL.

Wednesday 16th August, 2-3pm Bracknell Care Home, Crowthorne Road, Bracknell RG12 7DN.

Tuesday 5th September, 12-1pm: Edmonds Court, Bracknell RG12 2HP.

Wednesday 6th September, 2-3pm: Clement House, Bracknell, RG12 2GU.

Wednesday 13th September, 2-3pm: Farningham House, Farningham, Winkfield Row, Bracknell RG12 0XR.

Wednesday 20th September, 2-3pm: Bracknell Care Home, Crowthorne Road, Bracknell RG12 7DN.



CAR PARK SUBSCRIPTIONS

Current subscriptions expire on 31 August 2023. If you'd like to renew or take out a new subscription, please download the form from our website or pick up a form from the porch and return to the parish office. Please also remember to download or pick up a copy of the Car Park Rules. The

new subscription period is from 1st September 2023 – 31st August 2024, £50 per vehicle with Blue Badge Holders free of charge.



FRIDAY SOUP & ROLL LUNCH after Mass on 11th August.



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD

A range of support and low-cost activities are available in Bracknell Forest this summer to help parents and carers throughout the next six weeks. The Holiday Activities and Food scheme (HAF) is available for children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals. Cost of living vouchers are also available for eligible families under the Household Support Fund. Additionally, there are a range of free or low-cost activities to help keep boredom at bay without breaking

the bank. Find out more about what's on by visiting the council's website:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/news/2023/07/summer-holiday-activities-and-support-bracknell-forest>

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP ZOOM MEETINGS

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday 7:30pm-8:30pm. Email the parish office if you would like to be sent the link to join: stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



PARISH BANK ACCOUNT – In case you missed it, please note the change of name of our bank account to **CDP Bracknell St. Joseph** following the conversion of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth to an incorporated charity. When writing a cheque to the parish, please ensure the payee is now **CDP Bracknell St.**

Joseph. The charity number has also changed to **1199568** but there is no change in the sort code or account number and existing standing orders/DD's are not impacted by the change of charity name.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, HOUSEBOUND OR IN HOSPITAL AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Blanche Shap, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Tony Andrews, Shaun Howard, Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Mary Murray, Thelma Briggs, Margaret Pearce, Audrey Lam, Marie Swash, Terri Landmann, Vilma Taborda, Zac Hoy, Brenda Lynch, Amanda Killestein, Doreen Pryor, Sharon Bryan, Chantal Addley, Terry and Peggy McCullough, John Moir, Beryl Pilgrim, Charles Hose, Douglas & Bernadette Hunt, Clarita Kokou-Tchri, Margaret Finnieston, Louis Burgisser, Prim & Ian Maynard, Vivienne Halfpenny, Ann O'Sullivan, Lucia Saligo, Leonie Macintosh, Maureen Baxter, Ann D'Ambrosio, Edmund & Kate Carroll, Claire Hose, Arthur Hardy, Bernard O'Neill, Phyllis Lewis, Eddie & Flo Moore, Jerry & Susan Tobin, Janet Read, Ann Lynch, Bridget Riordan.



To add or remove a name to this list with consent, please contact the Parish Office.

If you or your relative is housebound, or because of illness cannot come to Mass and wish to receive Holy Communion at home, call the parish office 01344 425729.

or email stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL

Parish Priest: Fr. Daniel McAvoy **Deacon:** Rev. Aidan Lynch

Pastoral Assistant: Mary McNab **Safeguarding:** Marion McGuire, Sarah Birch, Paula Read

07712 048695 safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

Parish Office, St. Joseph's Church, 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, RG12 1HA

Usual Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:30am-2:30pm

Telephone: 01344 425729

Email: stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org>

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD			
Saturday 5 th	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday 6 th	8:30am	Mass	Joana Ferreiro RIP
	10:30am	Mass	Joseph Reddy & Oskar Sernal
Monday 7 th	NO MASS – OFFICE CLOSED		
ST. DOMINIC, Founder, memorial			
Tuesday 8 th	10am	Mass	John Gray RIP
ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, Religious, Martyr, Patron of Europe, feast			
Wednesday 9 th	10am	Mass	Marie-Danielle Tichbon RIP
ST. LAURENCE, Deacon, Martyr, feast			
Thursday 10 th	10am	Mass	
ST. CLARE, Foundress, memorial			
Friday 11 th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12 noon	Mass	Vince Cimmino RIP
Saturday 12 th	10am	Mass	Jacob John Vallanatt RIP
	11am	Confessions	
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 12 th	6pm	Mass	Veronika Jastrzebski
Sunday 13 th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
	10:30am	Mass	Allan James RIP

ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/watch-live>

New to our parish or not yet registered? <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/parish-registration>



07394 440 938

pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

Are you lonely? Are you shielding? Are you ill and in need of prayer and/or support? Perhaps you have not had contact with the Catholic Church for a while. Whatever the reason, please get in touch for a chat.



07852 497 218 / 07851 200 987

stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Are you in the land of loss & would appreciate a chat with someone in our group? If so, do not hesitate to get in touch.



Call **IN CONFIDENCE**
07731 862 349

If you need help, particularly, as a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the local Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) may be able to provide some assistance.

DONATIONS TO PARISH FUNDS Online, Bank Transfer, DD, <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/planned-giving>

BANK DETAILS: Account Name: CDP Bracknell St Joseph Sort Code: 30-93-04; Account Number: 00875520

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **CDP BRACKNELL ST JOSEPH**

South Berkshire Pastoral Area, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registration Number: 1199568