

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY / TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FINDING OR LOSING OUR LIFE

Sunday 3 September / Sunday 10 September 2023

Mass Book Page 122 / 125

It looks like the suffering and death of Jesus will be the work of the religious leaders in Jerusalem. Still, Jesus must go, must suffer, must be killed and must be raised from death. All Peter can hear is the first bit, so he takes Jesus aside to talk some sense into him. He wants God to forbid the suffering and death of Jesus. The Lord turns. The rock on which the New Humanity is to be built now looks like a stumbling block. Jesus speaks to Peter, taking back the role of leader that Peter has just stolen. Peter must submit. He must set aside ordinary thinking and reach for higher ground. To do this, Peter will have to deny himself and his desire to avoid suffering and loss at any cost. He must make space in his panic for what he cannot hear - Resurrection. Disciples are to take up the cross gladly. If they do this, it will be a path of transformation for others and the doorway to resurrection for themselves.

Jesus hopes they will have the wisdom to see that when they are following Him, what looks like loss is really gain. Nothing the world has to offer can come close to the Kingdom of Heaven. They cannot be traded. And, at the end of time, the Son of God will come and repay everyone in accordance with how they have responded to His offer of a new humanity. The whole scene - the Father's Glory, the Son of Man, the Angels, the gathering of all time and space - is an invitation to see how our small contribution has been well received. The end of history judges all history and the end of history belongs only to the Son of Man and the new humanity who follow Him.

It is a sad fact of life that those who stand up get knocked down. A police officer reports corruption in his team and is shunned for the rest of his working life. A woman reports accounting 'inaccuracies' in her office. She is thanked and made redundant a few weeks later. Criticism and cover up go hand in hand. And Jesus was a fierce critic of the hypocrisy of many so-called religious leaders. They were taken up with their own importance, loving the trappings of their status rather than its substance. They loved money, elaborate robes, seats at the top table, ego massages in the town centre and being called teachers. They polished the outside of the cup. They kept people from the knowledge that would help them. They laid burdens on others and enjoyed watching them stumble and fall. Jesus saw the organisational abuse and he named it. When He did this, he was not naive. He knows that those who have power over others, destroy those who question them.

Anyone who takes a stand knows that there will be reprisals. So why do people continue to criticise this kind of wrongdoing? Some say, 'I just couldn't let it go on.' Others say, 'I couldn't live with myself if I kept quiet any longer.' But whatever the reason for the critique, it is because the right thing means so much for them. And in the Gospel, the deeper life of God depends on the voice of prophets. Every time the 'Cross' is taken up, a double revelation unfolds. God's Love is easier to see, as is the resistance of those who stand against it. The Cross is the symbol of the standoff between divine Love and Human sin.

And Jesus must take you and me aside to explain to us why this is necessary. Given who God is and who we are, it cannot be any other way. And as Jesus talks to us about the need to take up our cross and follow Him, He must keep saying the word we cannot hear - the word that was lost in the sound of our hearts pounding and our feet running from suffering and death. The sacred word. The most sacred word of all. Resurrection.



We are recruiting for a **Parish Administrator** to work for 30 hours per week (Monday–Friday 9am–3pm) based in the parish office in Bracknell, to provide a full clerical and administrative support service to the Parish clergy, the parish, and support the administration of day-to-day parish work, providing a sympathetic focal point for enquiries. This post would be suitable for either one person to work all hours, or a job share.

Salary - £12 per hour. Please contact recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for a full job description and details of how to apply. **Closing date for applications:** 22 September 2023.



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.

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 expired 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. **N.B.** We are not issuing new car park windscreen stickers to those who are *renewing* their subscription. Please leave last year's sticker on your windscreen instead.

FANCY A CUPPA AND A CHAT? Every Tuesday in the hall from 2pm. Resumes 5th September. Everyone is welcome.



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





DATES FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY THIS TERM

8:30am Mass

10 Sep, 24 Sep, 1 Oct, 15 Oct, 29 Oct, 12 Nov, 26 Nov, 10 Dec.

10:30am Mass

24 Sep, 1 Oct (*we are hoping to get more volunteers for this Mass so that we can offer Children's Liturgy more frequently*).

SAVE THE DATE - DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS 30 September 10am-4pm in Winchester parish hall, led by the Dominican Sisters from Lymington.

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

New to our parish or not yet registered?

<https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org/parish-life/parish-registration>

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



01344 425729

stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Are you lonely? 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 do 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 are struggling financially and need practical assistance, the local Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) may be able to help. Do call us in confidence for a chat.

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

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

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:30am-2:30pm **Telephone:** 01344 425729

Email: stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk **Website:** <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org>

MASS TIMES

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 2 nd	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday 3 rd	8:30am	Mass	Thomson Family
	10:30am	Mass	Marie Ducasse RIP
Monday 4 th	NO MASS – OFFICE CLOSED		
Tuesday 5 th	10am	Mass	Gregory James Arthur RIP
Wednesday 6 th	10am	Mass	Holy Souls
Thursday 7 th	10am	Mass	Marie-Danielle Tichbon RIP
THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, feast			
Friday 8 th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12 noon	Mass	John Kelly RIP
Saturday 9 th	10am	Mass	Amanda Oliveira Dunn (FHC)
	11am	Confessions	
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 9 th	6pm	Mass	Harley Skyler Zane Aquino (FHC)
Sunday 10 th	8:30am	Mass	
	10:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
Monday 11 th	NO MASS – OFFICE CLOSED		
Tuesday 12 th	9am	Mass at St. Joseph's School	
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial			
Wednesday 13 th	10am	Mass	
THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, feast			
Thursday 14 th	9am	Mass at St. Margaret Clitherow School	
OUR LADY OF SORROWS, memorial			
Friday 15 th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	12 noon	Mass	
Ss CORNELIUS, Pope & CYPRIAN, Bishop, Martyrs, memorial			
Saturday 16 th	10am	Mass	
	11am	Confessions	
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 16 th	6pm	Mass	Shirley Mathuria RIP
Sunday 17 th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
	10:30am	Mass	Millie Flanagan & Moyo Njoku (FHC)