

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

Sunday 14<sup>TH</sup> January 2024

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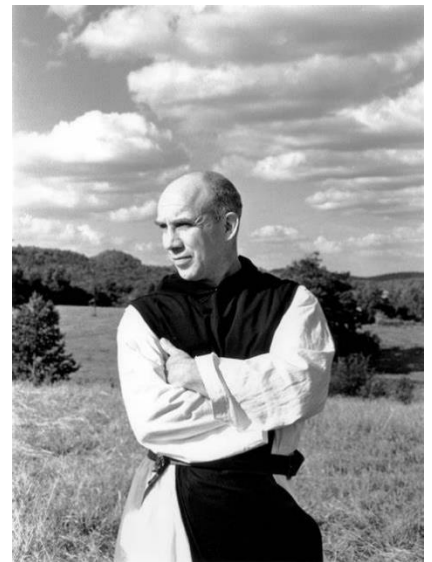
Every reading for this weekend explores something about our experience of the Sacred and the Holy. It suggests that it doesn't matter so much that we tell ourselves that we are searching for God; because the moment we say the words it becomes clear God has already found us. And, having found us, He talks to us of the Spirit and the Truth that is universally available (Jn.4,21,24). The Spirit shakes the house in which we live and puts Justice, Mercy, Peace, Love and Compassion at the top of our agenda. God is present to us always but speaks most clearly to us in the voice of the poor and of those who are suffering. The High Altar, symbol of the rock which is the Beloved Son of God, and the rock that is Peter, becomes the mirror in which we see ourselves passionately committed together to building a new humanity and a new community where Peace reigns over all.

Eknath Easwaran was travelling from Delhi to Simla. The train stopped at the historic battlefield of the Bhagavad Gita. The train filled with excitement as the passengers talked about the great battle which took place on the ground on which they were now standing. But Eknath stayed in his seat for he knew that the real battlefield was right inside each passenger on the train. (The End of Sorrow, the Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living, vol 1, Nilgirie Press, 1975) What if the Gate of Heaven, the house of God is inside each of us? What if this is the only place from which true Peace can come?

Thomas Merton (pictured) put it so beautifully.

*At the centre of our being is a point of nothingness which is untouched by sin and illusion, a point of pure truth, a point or spark which belongs entirely to God, which is never at our disposal from which God disposes of our lives, which is inaccessible to the fantasies of our own mind or the brutalities of our own will. This little point of nothingness and of absolute poverty is the pure Glory of God in us. It is, so to speak, His name written in us, as our poverty, as our indigence, as our dependence as daughters and sons. It is like a pure diamond, blazing with the invisible light of heaven. It is in everybody, and if we could see it we would see these billions of points of light coming together in the face and blaze of a sun that would make all the darkness and cruelty of life vanish completely. I have no programme for seeing this. It is only given. But the Gate of Heaven is everywhere.*

(Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander, p.142, Garden City, N.Y. Doubleday, 1966)



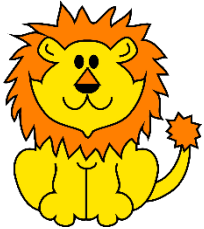
The funeral service for Mark Stephen Sophocleous will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium.

The funeral service for Thelma Briggs will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 1pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium.

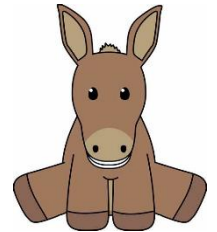
**MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED,  
THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE.  
AMEN.**

By contrast, have a look at some of the poetry on the Pax Christi website which explores the other side of Peace and why it is so important that it takes centre stage in our journey as disciples of Jesus.

### **LIONS AND DONKEYS**



*And after all the carnage,  
after all the millions of dead  
and the billions of bullets  
had been expended,  
do you know the greatest moral failing of them all?  
Beyond all the bayonettings, shootings, gassings, pulverisings,  
something far more deadly in effect took place  
in a railway coach at Compiègne  
and in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles:  
the Humiliation of the Vanquished  
and the Vengeance of the Victors,  
grinding Germany into the dirt  
and the Jews into the Camps  
and the World back into War.  
All for want of imagination and forgiveness,  
reconciliation and friendship  
and a Christ-like love of enemy.*



### **GIVE Campaign Update #005**



#### ***Sacristan Duties:***

We are in dire need of a Sacristan to help set up Church on Fridays at 12 noon. If you think it could be you, please reach out to the office.

#### ***Plea for Intercessory Prayer Writers:***

Composing our Intercessory Prayers is a very rewarding privilege. Key points are to reflect prayerfully on the readings of the day and to keep the language simple. As part of the GIVE campaign, is there someone who would like to undertake this very special role? Please consider whether that someone is YOU, we need more, different, voices.

Mentoring can be given.

#### ***First Aiders & Fire Marshals needed:***

We had a good response for first aiders, however we still need someone capable of administering first aid at the 10:30am Sunday mass.

If there is a fire at Church at either the 6pm Vigil mass or the 10:30am Sunday mass we have nobody trained to manage the situation, so anybody willing to become a fire marshal will be very much appreciated. Training provided.

*If you think of a way you may be able to help the Parish that isn't on the GIVE section of the website, please reach out to the Parish office who will be able to assist you. Thank you!*

## CAFOD School Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop?

Supported by CAFOD with training and all resources provided please consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Jo Lewry: [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk) or phone 07710 094447.

## Clothes Bank Giveaway

The Winter ClothesBank giveaway will be held on Tuesday 23rd January 2024, 10:15am-1pm at St Mark's Church, Popeswood Road, Binfield, RG42 4AH. There will be a free shuttle bus from Bracknell train station should you need it, leaving every half an hour between 10am – 12am.

To receive an e-voucher for the giveaway please contact the Parish office.

## Saturday Vigil Tea and Coffee Trial

Thank you to those that came to the first Tea and Coffee trial after last Saturday's Vigil mass.

The next one will be January 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:45pm. Please support this opportunity to meet and chat with other parishioners.

### Care Home Singing

17/01, 2pm – 3pm,  
Bracknell Care Home,  
Crowthorne Road,  
RG12 7DN



### Cuppa & Chat, 60+

Back ongoing, every  
Tuesday, 2pm – 3pm



### Children's Liturgy

21/01, both Sunday  
masses



### Soup & Roll

09/02, 08/03, 12/04  
after 12 noon mass



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

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

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 office on 01344 425729 or email [office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

## PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL

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

**Parish Administrators:** Francis Barton and Donna Mody

**Safeguarding Team:** Marion McGuire, Sarah Birch, Paula Read

**07712 048695** [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

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

**Office Hours:** Monday - Tuesday 9:00-3:00pm, Wednesday - Friday 9:00-5:00pm

**Telephone:** 01344 425729

**Email:** [office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) **Website:** <https://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org>

### MASS TIMES

#### SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	13th	6pm	Mass	<i>Freda Crookall RIP</i>
Sunday	14th	8:30am	Mass	
		10:30am	Mass	

Monday	15th	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tuesday	16th	9am	Mass at St. Joseph's School	

#### ST. ANTHONY OF EGYPT, *Abbot, memorial*

Wednesday	17th	10am	Mass	<i>Leandrinha Barretto RIP</i>
Thursday	18th	10am	Mass	<i>Mother's Prayers Group</i> <i>10th Anniversary</i>
Friday	19th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12pm	Mass	<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Patrick Ann Grattan RIP</i>
Saturday	20th	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	

#### THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	20th	6pm	Mass	<i>Kochu Teresa Anthony Pulikotil RIP</i>
Sunday	21st	8:30am	Mass	<i>Aidan O'Connor, sick</i>
		10:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions

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

**New to our parish or not yet registered?**

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



**01344 425729**

[office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

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**

[office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

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://bracknellcatholicchurch.org/give/>

**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