

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

LETTING GO AND LETTING BE

Sunday 21st January 2024

Mass Book Page 129

First, a Prayer of Wholehearted Commitment:

Lord, you have the reputation of taking people to places they never wanted to go. Witness Jonah, delivered by whale to Nineveh, and Habakkuk flown by angels to Babylon. Also, I have heard that you do not consult. Abraham is suddenly ordered out of Haran and Moses called out of retirement for the Egypt assignment. Furthermore, Paul says you take a chiropodist's delight in Achilles heels, spurn eloquence for the stutter and reveal yourself in the thorns of the flesh. And what was that unpleasantness with your Beloved Son shortly before his appointment to your right hand?

So, it is that to you my most resounding "Yes" is a "maybe" and it is with one eye on the door that I say, 'Behold, Lord, your servant is waiting.' (The Hour of the Unexpected. John Shea)

John is in prison, and, for now, Jesus is free. The torch has passed. God is working in history to bring about a better world. Jesus will need friends to work with Him, but where will He find them? I guess the answer lies in where He looked. In ordinary places among ordinary people. We might say that while the same urgency is in the air, it is no longer possible for us to leave it to the experts! The beautiful Document 'Lumen Gentium' speaks of a universal call to holiness and mission. What are we doing with this call in our own lives?

Rumi, the Sufi Mystic, and poet, answers the question like this:

The Master said, "There is one thing in this world that must never be forgotten. If you were to forget everything else, but did not forget that, then there would be no cause to worry; whereas if you performed and remembered and did not forget every single thing, but forgot that one thing, then you would have done nothing whatsoever. It is just as if a king had sent you into a country to carry out a specific task. You go and perform a hundred other tasks, but if you have not performed that particular task on account of which you had gone into that country, it is as though you have performed nothing at all. So, each human person has come into this world for a particular task and that is each one's purpose. If one does not perform it, then that one will have done nothing.

(Discourses on Rumi. Trans A J Arberry. London 1961, p.26)

For Jesus, this one thing to which all are called is to follow Him, with a new mind, and join Him in His work of transforming the world. It does not matter that this urgent journey will be a roller coaster successes and failures, meeting and misunderstandings, ease and suffering or hope and regret. We never know what we are getting into with God! This might, as the prayer above suggests leave us squinting at the exit routes. However, I have never met anyone who really risked it who did not find a hope larger than their individual life.



YOUR HEART KNOWS THE WAY
RUN IN THAT DIRECTION



The funeral service for Thelma Briggs will take place on 22nd January, 1pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium.
The funeral service for Jason Datt will take place on 22nd January, 3pm at Easthampstead Park Crematorium.
**MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED,
THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE.
AMEN.**



GIVE Campaign Update #006



Sacristan Duties:

Thank you to Cristina Lao for volunteering as Friday Sacristan! We are grateful for the time you have pledged to the Parish.

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:

Thank you to those that have stepped forward to help!
We still need more Fire Marshals and First Aiders at all 3 weekend masses.
Full training provided.

Finance Update:

Deacon Aidan will be speaking at all 3 weekend masses, beginning 27th January 6pm, to provide clarity and insight into the financial position of the Parish.

CAFOD Meetings

You are warmly invited to come to a CAFOD meeting to find about the difference that your donations make. On Saturday 27th January the meeting is at Corpus Christi Church hall 60 Sturges Road, Wokingham RG40 2HE from 10:30am to 1:30pm or on Saturday 3rd February at St Philip Howard Church hall, Bishopsfield road Fareham PO14 1ND. A simple lunch will be provided at both meetings so please book a place in advance to give us an idea of numbers by emailing Jo at jlewry@cafod.org.uk or phoning 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.



Douai Abbey Lent Events

Douai Abbey has released a list of events that will be taking place over lent and beyond. These include workshops and reflection days (priced from £15), and retreats (priced at £180). Email pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk if you would like to know more.

	Cuppa & Chat, 60+ Every Tuesday, 2pm – 3pm 	Children's Liturgy 04/02, both Sunday masses 	Soup & Roll 09/02, 08/03, 12/04 after 12 noon mass 	
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WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, HOUSEBOUND OR IN HOSPITAL AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

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	Dymphna & John Slade	Eddie & Flo Moore
Edmund & Kate Carroll	Ethna Sweeney	Inge Walker	Janet Read	Jerry & Susan Tobin
John Moir	Leonie Macintosh	Louis Burgisser	Lucia Saligoi	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

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

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

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

MASS TIMES

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Monday	22nd	NO MASS		
Tuesday	23rd	10am	Mass	

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, *Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial*

Wednesday	24th	10am	Mass	<i>Una Lees RIP</i>
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THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, *feast*

Thursday	25th	10am	Mass	<i>Marie Danielle, Marie Claire & Frank Ducasse RIP</i>
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ST TIMOTHY, *Bishop, Martyr* & ST TITUS, *Bishop, memorial*

Friday	26th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12pm	Mass	<i>Breeda Worsford & Neal Worsford RIP</i>
Saturday	27th	10am	Mass	<i>Sadew Fernando FHC</i>
		11am	Confessions	

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	27th	6pm	Mass	<i>Stuart Birley RIP</i>
Sunday	28th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Philip Kuroblowski FHC</i>

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>



PASTORAL CARE

01344 425729

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.



Bereavement support

07852 497 218 / 07851 200 987

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://www.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