

Fifth Sunday of Easter

A NEW HORIZON

Sunday 28th April 2024

Mass Book Page 264

Every day I give thanks to God for the blessing of serving as priest in our community. Every day, I am given many chances to be grateful again when I witness the wonderful works that are being done by so many, inside, and outside of the Parish.

This weekend, your leadership team will be clearly visible and available. They are an amazing team. Working with them over the last six months has been very satisfying. I have been moved to tears at times by the depth of their understanding and their love for the Lord and for His church. I have been humbled by the amount of time they have given to bring a whole range of life-giving opportunities to birth in the parish. This team is growing all the time as we ask the Lord to enrich our understanding of the real situation we are living in and respond to it with love.



The vision I am asking everyone to ponder and to embrace,

'To be with Christ and to be sent by Him to relieve the suffering of the world',

is not hard to grasp or understand. That each one of us chooses, really chooses, every day, to draw closer to Jesus and to ask Him to send us to relieve the suffering of our sisters and brothers. Here too we must include all sentient beings and Mother Earth herself who call to us for help. This vision has not been plucked out of thin air. It comes straight from the mouth of God. Jesus makes the first move. His horizon touches ours. We are elevated and begin to see everything with new eyes. This transformation doesn't happen automatically. It needs us to welcome the gift and to try to grow in our understanding of who Jesus is and what He is teaching. If you like, we must choose to abide in Him as he chooses to abide in us. Jesus points to a wonderful possibility but it will only become real if we work with Him to make it real.

There is an old saying that goes, "Make all your cares into a single care and God will see to all your cares". In the fifth Sunday in Eastertide, Saint John's Gospel lays before us the image of the vine, the vineyard, and the vinedresser! Just as the vine connects the plant to the nourishing earth, Jesus is the connection between God and Creation. He asks us to be more aware of this connection in our daily lives. He is the true vine because He never forgets or loses this flow of life from the Father. His horizon now and is Eternal, His gaze on us and on the face of God. Just as the vine grows, so He calls us to grow. Being a disciple is not static and it is not a status. It is a process, a journey. We have to want this horizon and we have to work hard with what we have been given.

The vinedresser knows the laws of spiritual and biological growth. He cuts away the dead and dying branches because He can see there is no effort to grow. But where people are trying to grow, His pruning shears are life giving. The possibility of more and better fruit is what guides the hand of the vinedresser. Anything that blocks the flow of life between us and Jesus will be cut away. He sets us free from competing agendas so that we can focus on the one thing necessary. The contrasting images of "branches bearing much fruit" and "withered and burned branches" set out the options.

The word of Jesus will, if we let it, create in us a single wish. The wish to be close to His Abba. The wish to mediate the flow of Love, which flows into us, out and into the world. He calls us to look up. To see more than we had ever seen. The new horizon grows and becomes even more attractive. Can fruit be far behind?



GIVE Campaign Update #021



If you would relish the responsibility of helping to set up for Mass, we need more Sacristans at all Masses and would really appreciate you reaching out. Please contact the office if you think you could help us.

For those that volunteered for Fire Marshal training, booklets are now available in the office. If you could pick one up and complete it ASAP, we can add you to the rota. Thank you to those who came forward!

The campaign focus is turning towards the Diocese plan for the Parish and we will be able to provide more information soon.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

For adults seeking to join us in our Catholic faith.

You are invited to a 'Come and See' information evening that will be held on Wednesday 1st May at 7:30pm, in the parish hall. Please RSVP in the office to confirm your attendance.

Tea & Coffee Notice

Please can everyone who attends tea and coffee after mass ensure they keep nuts off the premises. Children should be offered biscuits and cakes by their parents and not help themselves. Only people running the tea and coffee should be in the kitchen and no children under 16 are permitted in the kitchen.

An Invitation for Eucharistic Ministers

The Diocese is organising a Training Day for Eucharistic Ministers on Saturday 4th May, from 9.30am to 2.30pm at St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX. The day starts with Mass at 9.30am and includes talks and reflections to help people to encounter Christ through the liturgy. Refreshments are included. Please enrol by emailing liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Sudan Crisis: Millions Facing Famine and in Desperate Need of Aid One Year On

As the world marks the one-year anniversary (15 April) of the devastating conflict in Sudan, the plight of its people has reached unprecedented levels of suffering. The war has forced millions of people to flee their homes - and these families now face a hunger crisis. Please pray with us for peace in Sudan, please donate if possible (<https://cafod.org.uk/?form=sudancrisisappeal>) and speak to your MP- Ask the government to act now.

Baptism Preparation Evening

If you are planning to have your child baptised, our next Baptism Preparation evening is Thursday, May 2nd 2024, at 7:30pm. To book a place please click on the following link:

<https://stjosephandstmargaretclitherow.churchsuite.com/events/5ypn1xt3> or email baptisms@bracknellcatholicchurch.org.





Clergy Mission Sacrament of Reconciliation Dates

As part of our ongoing mission to integrate with Corpus Christi Wokingham and the Parish of Crowthorne and Sandhurst, Father Danny will be at Corpus Christi Wokingham on 10th May at 4:30pm to hear confessions from those due to be confirmed.

Bickerton House Care Home Events (RG12 2JB):

<p>Canine Café</p> <p>The first Wednesday of each month, 2pm – 4pm</p> 	<p>Friendship Café</p> <p>The second Thursday of each month, 10:30am – 12noon</p> 	<p>Community Cinema</p> <p>The third Thursday of each month, 2:30pm – 4:30pm</p> 
---	--	---

Parish Events:

<p>Care Home Singing</p> <p>28/05, 2-3pm, Clement House, RG12 2 GH 🎵</p> 	<p>Cuppa & Chat, 60+</p> <p>Every Tuesday, 2pm-3pm</p> 	<p>Children's Liturgy</p> <p>New dates to be added soon</p> 	<p>Soup & Roll</p> <p>10/05, 07/06 after 12 noon mass</p> 
--	---	---	--

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	Douglas & Bernadette Hunt	Dymphna Slade	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	Eamon McNeill
Maureen Baxter	Patricia Holmwood	Paula Sandford	Phyllis Lewis	Rico Morales
Sally Torode	Terri Landmann	Terry and Peggy McCullough	Tony Andrews	Ursula Docherty
Vilma Taborda	Vivienne Halfpenny			

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	27th	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions <i>Canon Peter Wilkie RIP</i>
Sunday	28th	8:30am	Mass	
		10:30am	Mass	<i>David Gannon RIP</i>
ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, Religious & Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe, feast				
Monday	29th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	30th	10am	Mass	<i>Obinna Okoronkwo</i>
ST JOSEPH THE WORKER, optional memorial				
Wednesday	1st	10am	Mass	
ST ATHANASIUS, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial				
Thursday	2nd	10am	Mass	<i>Marie Danielle & Marie Claire RIP</i>
SS PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles, feast				
Friday	3rd	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	<i>Catherine White RIP (1st anniversary)</i>
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS (1535-1680), feast				
Saturday	4th	10am	Service	
		11am	Confessions	
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	4th	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	5th	8:30am	Mass	<i>Rita Robinson</i>
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Mr & Mrs Tom Robinson RIP</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://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**

JOBS AVAILABLE IN THE DIOCESE: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

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