

Sunday 16th June 2024

Mass Book Page 95

Jesus uses Parables to teach about the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is being born, is coming to be, in and through His disciples. Their struggle for a new humanity and a new community will drive all darkness away. It is not something we experience only on the other side of the grave. It is here! It is now! It is in the very heart of us! And boy do we know it when it speaks and makes itself known!

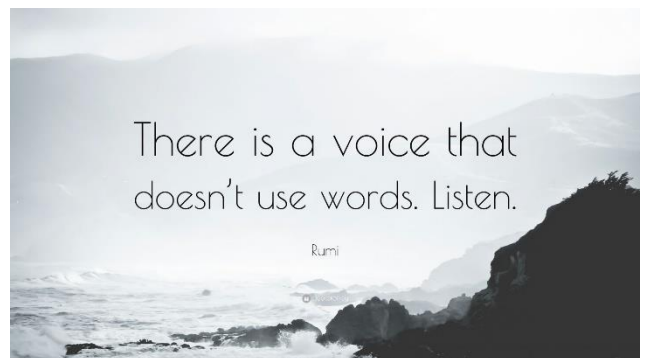
Parables are not like other stories. They are laden with depths of meaning which cannot be accessed by the casual listener. Serious apprentices listen over and over again to the Parable so that it might reveal its meaning and offer up its treasure to us. Ordinary events illuminate spiritual realities. The Kingdom of God is like this, but it isn't not like this either. The images are deliberately open ended. They open a territory but do not map it. They discipline the heart to look in certain direction, but they do not tell the heart what it will see. What the teacher is trying to do is to raise awareness, to heighten the consciousness of the disciple.

This Sunday, we are given the gift of two Parables. The first is about seed and soil and urges us to trust the natural growing process. Once contact has been made between the seed (the word) and the earth (the receptive heart) a process of development begins. This process is more mysterious than we know and we should not interfere in it. We can live our lives and we can sleep easy. Sower Control is not permitted! Hence the story of the farmer who wanting to see it all, poked around his crop every day and ended up with nothing. For those who lack trust, nothing grows! But for those who trust, the miracle unfolds. Step by wonderful step we gaze on the ripeness that will be harvested to become bread for the hungry.

The second Parable is very reassuring. God likes to hide in small things. The greater is contained in the lesser. What we now know may be as small as a mustard seed. But once the seed has been sown into mystery it will grow. What will be harvested will be the enhanced ability of disciples to defend, shelter, protect and comfort others.

The Gospels make it clear that Jesus does not want casual listeners among His disciples. He wants to give His words to serious apprentices. His words are wings. He sees more in us than we see in ourselves. It takes real humility to know ourselves as mustard seeds and to sit in the presence of the One who sees us as the sheltering tree of life. Paul Murray's poem, 'Know Yourself' captures some of this energy:

*There is a world within you no one has ever seen,
A voice no one has ever heard, not even you.
As yet unknown, you are your own seer,
Your own interpreter.
And so, with eyes and ears
Grown sharp for voice or sign
Listen well-
Not to these words
But to that inward voice
That impulse beating in your heart
Like a far wave.
Turn to that source, and you
Will find
What no one has ever found.
A ground within you
None has ever seen.
A world beyond the limits
Of your dreams horizon.
(The Absent Fountain [Dublin:Daedalus Press,1991]12)*





GIVE Campaign Update #028



Thank you to the two individuals who offered to become first aiders for the Sunday 8:30am Mass!

However we still need more first aiders at all the Masses. First Aid training will be held on **Saturday 22nd June**. The training is paid for by the Church.

If you would like helping us to set up for Mass, we need more Sacristans at all our Masses. We will also be needing Sacristan cover for the Friday and Saturday 10am Masses during the period of the **5th August - 29th August**. Thank you in advance.

SHARE are in need of a spare bunk bed if anybody happens to have one, and a volunteer electrician who can- on an infrequent basis- help install electrical appliances into the homes of the people they are assisting. Please reach out to the office to enquire about any of the above. Thank you. The campaign focus is turning towards the Pastoral Area plan and we will soon be providing regular updates on our progression.

The Communion Journey

Last week, the children preparing for First Holy Communion and their families attended sessions at the church, where they took part in several activities to help support them on their journey. One of which was creating a vine display showing how they are all joined together in God's love, and some of the ways that they can show kindness to each other. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers, that they may continue to grow in God's love and make the most of their Communion journey.



Extended Social Lunch After Mass

After the 10:30am Mass on the 30th June, our usual Tea & Coffee in the church hall will be replaced by a shared social lunch, that will run to approximately 1pm. We encourage everybody to come along and bring some of their favourite food and drink bits to share with fellow parishioners- the more variety the better!

Third 'Life in the Spirit' Talk

The third Life in the Spirit talk will be **Thursday 20th June, from 7.30 - 9.00pm** in the Parish Hall. *The third talk is NEW LIFE, by Geoff Paulter.* Everyone is welcome- just turn up! If you wish to join in the comfort of your own home, please register at [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#) to participate. There will also be a live Holy Spirit Day at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 29th June** running after the 9.30am Parish Mass until 1pm, when you are invited to stay and share your packed lunch. Please register via the office.

Corpus Christi Safeguarding Training

There will be a Safeguarding Training day for both adults and children on **Saturday 22nd June** at Corpus Christi Wokingham, RG40 2HE. Child protection will be in the morning, with adult safeguarding in the afternoon. Please e-mail safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to confirm your attendance.

Parishioner Days Out

We are looking into scheduling days out for some of our older parishioners. To gauge interest please forward your name on to the office, so we can determine numbers for potential trips. Thank you!

Parish Pro-life Group

There is a Bracknell parish pro-life group where occasional emails about prolife events are sent out. If you feel passionately about the cause, please contact Dominica Roberts at dominica.roberts@gmail.com to receive them. Dominica is also looking for somebody to take on the responsibility of sending these e-mails out on a periodic basis. If you think you'd be able to help please send her an e-mail.





Couple Counselling

If you are experiencing any difficulties in your relationship with your spouse/partner, we have collaborated with a local relationship counsellor based in the Bracknell area who will be able to assist you. For more information please visit <http://www.marriagecare.org.uk> or call 0800 389 3801. Your call is confidential.

Bickerton House Care Home Events (RG12 2JB):

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

Parish Events:

Care Home Singing	Cuppa & Chat, 60+	Children's Liturgy	Soup & Roll	Life in the Spirit-Church Hall
21/06, 1:45-3pm, Bickerton House, RG12 2JB ✪ 25/06, 1:45-3pm, Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN ✪ 28/06, 1:45-3pm Clement House, RG12 2 GH ✪	Every Tuesday, 2-3pm 	30/06 	05/07 after 12 noon mass 	20/06, 7:30pm-9pm 'NEW LIFE' with Geoff Paulter 

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
	Inge Walker	Janet Read	Jerry & Susan Tobin	John Moir
Leonie Macintosh	Louis Burgisser	Lucia Saligo	Margaret Finnieston	
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



The Requiem Mass for Ethna Sweeney will take place on **Wednesday 26th June at 10am** at St. Joseph's, Bracknell

*May the SOUL of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saturday	15th	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	16th	8:30am	Mass	
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Terence Smith RIP</i>
Monday	17th	NO MASS		
Tuesday	18th	10am	Mass	<i>Anna Lynch RIP</i>
Wednesday	19th	10am	Mass	
Thursday	20th	10am	Mass	<i>Alvaro Dos Santos & Joana Ferreira Dos Santos RIP</i>
ST ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, Religious, memorial				
Friday	21st	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	<i>Peter Dossett RIP</i>
SS JOHN FISHER, Bishop & THOMAS MORE, Martyrs, feast				
Saturday	22nd	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	
TWELTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saturday	22nd	6pm	Mass	
Sunday	23rd	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>CDR Camba (thanksgiving Mass)</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