

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

LISTEN TO THE TEACHER, FOLLOW WHAT HE TEACHES

Sunday 14th July 2024

Mass Book Page 106

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The Kingdom of God is coming, and the signs of its arrival are clear. There is a new teaching which is accompanied by new deeds. But Teaching comes first. We welcome the teaching of Jesus and make it our own if we want to move forward. So, when we read that the Twelve were 'given authority over unclean spirits', we are not in an episode of Supernatural or Grimm fairy tales. The Twelve urged communities and individuals to rethink the 'taboos' and restrictions around clean and unclean boundaries. The truth of which they speak is that all need a change of heart and mind. The Twelve, the new leaders of the Twelve tribes of Israel, are sent to create a new community based on a new teaching about true holiness. So instead of fearing what is 'unclean', and pushing people away, they have to have faith, and mirror the God who is Mercy and Compassion. The re-entry of those who have been written off, will only be possible if the whole community have nurtured a new awareness that supports this kind of Kingdom activity.

Jesus teaches disciples and disciples teach others. If they are going to be successful, everything about them needs to be authentic. Disciples must themselves be 'at one' with this new teaching. How we work with others to create a more inclusive sense of community is as important as healing and exorcising. So, Jesus gives His disciples a way of working. They must not go it alone but walk with each other. Walking stick and sandals mean that they must not settle down. A single tunic speaks of a confidence in what they bring. Without bread, bag or money, they unite themselves with those in need. Their lack of resources will elicit the compassion that is the foundation stone, indeed the cornerstone, of this new community. Welcoming disciples is the first step to welcoming the One who has sent them. Also, disciples are not to fight with those who do not accept their Kingdom activity. They are not to retaliate. They are to shake the dust on their feet as they go. In this way, those who refuse them will know that God has moved on. There are other people and other places to visit, and the Good News must be preached. When disciples become an invitation for others to undertake a spiritual adventure, great things happen. We come to see that Jesus is not asking for goals to be reached, but paths to be walked. Paths that will lead us to deeper awareness.

Jack Kornfield tells the story of following the injunction to bow. As a young man, and the only westerner in a Bhuddist monastery in Thailand, he was instructed to bow to every monk that was older than he was. If he respected an older monk, there was no problem. But when he had to bow to some of the others, he struggled. Nevertheless, he bowed. He wrote, "I began to look for some worthy aspect of each person I bowed to. I bowed to the wrinkles in the retired farmers eyes, for all the difficulties he had suffered and triumphed over. I bowed to the vitality and playfulness of the young monks, the incredible possibilities each of their lives held yet ahead of them". (After the Ecstasy, the Laundry: How the Heart Grows Wise on the Spiritual Path. ix-xi)

From following the injunction to bow, he learned how to be open to whatever life brings and learn from it. This reminds me of a beautiful poem by Rumi, from The Guest House, in The Illuminated Room:

*This being human is a guest house.  
Every morning a new arrival.  
A joy, a depression, a meanness,  
some momentary awareness comes  
as an unexpected visitor.  
Welcome and entertain them all!  
Even if they're a crowd of sorrows,  
who violently sweep your house empty of its furniture,  
still, treat each guest honourably.  
They may be clearing you out  
for some new delight.  
The dark thought, the shame, the malice,  
meet them at the door laughing  
and invite them in.  
Be grateful for whoever comes  
because each has been sent  
as a guide from beyond.*



Can you see it now? The disciples return with walking stick, sandals and one tunic and still without bread, bag or money. As they tell Jesus what they did and what they taught, He asks them, "Did you lack anything?" They say, "Nothing". "Ah!" He says.



### GIVE Campaign Update #031



Our lovely parishioner Remy arrived at the crack of dawn earlier this week and single-handedly de-weeded the whole church! Thank you Remy!

Please can anybody with experience fitting carpets contact the office?

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

The campaign focus is turning towards the Pastoral Area plan, and we are developing a pamphlet that sheds more light on it.

### 'Life in the Spirit'

We praise and thank God that last Saturday, the Holy Spirit day, was Spirit-filled and fruitful. Our 7<sup>th</sup> and final session is on **Thursday 18th July**, and the talk is about

*TRANSFORMATION IN CHRIST*. If you wish to come and join us, please do so, from 7:30 to 9:00pm in the hall, or through this link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#). Thank you for the prayer support for our Life in the Spirit Seminar!



### Public Speaking



On **16<sup>th</sup> July**, CAFOD is offering an hour training session at 11am for anyone who would like to build their confidence in public speaking. Please register here: [Public speaking in Church training - Formstack](#) if you're interested!

### Children's Liturgy Team Meeting

The children's liturgy team are meeting on Tuesday 16th July in the parish library at 7pm to review the last year and look forward to the next. New members always welcome and encouraged to turn up. Come and see!

### Caritas Holiday Club

Holiday clubs can make a huge difference to some families during the summer holidays, giving some much needed fun, escapism and social activity. If you would like to find out how you and our parish can get started, please contact the office.



### Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass

The diocese is holding a significant wedding celebration event on the 7th September in Basingstoke. To obtain an application form, email the diocese at [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk), or contact the office.

### Bracknell Community Activities Map

If anybody is interested in free/cheap local community activities, this interactive map is amazing for finding out about what's happening: [Have Your Say Today - Bracknell Forest Community Map - Commonplace](#). If you're struggling to access the map, please contact the office- we're more than happy to help!



### Bickerton House Care Home Events (RG12 2JB):

#### Canine Café

The first Wednesday of each month, 2pm - 4pm




#### Friendship Café

The second Thursday of each month, 10:30am - 12noon

#### Community Cinema

The third Thursday of each month, 2:30pm - 4:30pm

**Parish Events:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Care Home Singing</b></p> <p>19/07, 23/08, 1:45-3pm<br/>Clement House,<br/>RG12 2GH 🎵</p> <p>02/08, 1:45-3pm Bickerton<br/>House, RG12 2JB 🎵</p> <p>28/08, 1:45-3pm<br/>Farningham House,<br/>RG12 0XR 🎵</p> | <p><b>Cuppa &amp; Chat, 60+</b></p> <p>Stopped until after Summer Holidays</p> | <p><b>Children's Liturgy</b></p> <p>New Dates Coming Soon</p>  | <p><b>Soup &amp; Roll</b></p> <p>09/08 after 12 noon mass<br/>Every second Friday of the month</p>  | <p><b>Life in the Spirit- Church Hall</b></p> <p>04/07, 7:30pm-9pm<br/>'Transformation In Christ'</p>  |
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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 | 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 & Andy Landmann     | Terry & 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](mailto:office@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

*Thursday, 11th July, was the Feastday of St. Benedict (480 – 547), the founder of Western monasticism and Patron Saint of Europe. Born of a well-to-do family, Benedict spent his childhood in Nursia with his twin sister, St. Scholastica. He went to Rome to complete his education, but was appalled at the corruption, and so he eventually fled the city. He realised he had a call to become a solitary, and so he became a hermit in the mountains of Subiaco. To quench the temptations of the flesh, he developed some extreme practices, including rolling naked in thorns. His fame spread, and he was invited to become the abbot of a monastery in Vicovaro, but shortly afterwards the monks soon regretted this when faced with his strict rules. It is even said they tried to poison him. He returned to Subiaco, where he attracted many new followers. He organised them into a community of twelve small monasteries, emphasising prayer and manual labour. The monks as yet had no formal rule but based their way of life on the example of Benedict himself. In 525, Benedict moved to Monte Cassino, where he demolished the pagan temple and began work on the great abbey that was to become the cradle of western monasticism (pictured). It was there, he completed the final version of his famous Rule, incorporating the traditions of some of the Eastern Fathers and his own sober, common sense, emphasising obedience, community life and moderation. The main duties of a Benedictine monk were prayer, reading and manual labour, and the Rule avoids excessive individual asceticism. The Rule proved itself to be a practical and flexible model for monasteries throughout the West. We know little of Benedict's sister Scholastica, beyond the fact that she is said to have consecrated herself to God from an early age, and that she and Benedict met annually. Tradition holds that on one occasion, when Benedict had refused her entreaties to stay and talk with her for longer, she brought down by her prayers such a violent storm that he was obliged to remain with her. St. Benedict died at Monte Cassino in 547, traditionally in prayer, supported upright by his brethren before the altar, having received Holy Communion. He was buried at Monte Cassino next to Scholastica. In 1964, Pope St. Paul VI proclaimed him patron saint of Europe.*

*Pray for all the Benedictine male and female religious who live in the monasteries of our Diocese.*

## 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

#### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|          |      |         |      |                   |
|----------|------|---------|------|-------------------|
| Saturday | 13th | 6pm     | Mass |                   |
| Sunday   | 14th | 8:30am  | Mass | Parish Intentions |
|          |      | 10:30am | Mass |                   |

#### ST SWITHUN, Bishop, memorial

|         |      |                |      |                            |
|---------|------|----------------|------|----------------------------|
| Monday  | 15th | <b>NO MASS</b> |      |                            |
| Tuesday | 16th | 10am           | Mass | <i>Margaret Pierce RIP</i> |

#### ST BONAVENTURE, Religious, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial

|           |      |         |                                     |                                                         |
|-----------|------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday | 17th | 10am    | Mass                                | <i>Des Bentley RIP<br/>(1<sup>st</sup> anniversary)</i> |
| Thursday  | 18th | 10am    | Mass                                | <i>Fr Tim Sullivan RIP</i>                              |
| Friday    | 19th | 9am     | Mass                                | <i>SMC Year 6 Leaver's Mass</i>                         |
|           |      | 11am    | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |                                                         |
|           |      | 12 noon | Mass                                |                                                         |
| Saturday  | 20th | 10am    | Mass                                |                                                         |
|           |      | 11am    | Confessions                         |                                                         |

#### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|          |      |         |      |                              |
|----------|------|---------|------|------------------------------|
| Saturday | 20th | 6pm     | Mass | Parish Intentions            |
| Sunday   | 21st | 8:30am  | Mass | <i>Annakutty Abraham RIP</i> |
|          |      | 10:30am | Mass |                              |

**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](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.

#### Bereavement Support

**07852 497 218 / 07851 200 987**

[bereavement@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:bereavement@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.

#### SVP 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