

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK - EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B
BLENDING TIME AND ETERNITY

Sunday 13th October 2024

Mass Book Page 143

The running man is eager and respectful. He is a true seeker. He calls Jesus 'Good Teacher' and he is right! But Jesus needs him to shift his focus elsewhere - to the goodness of God. Eternal life is God's gift to us. It flows from the heart of love. In this Sunday's Gospel, both seeker and disciple will receive a masterclass in how to understand God and the goodness of God.

The seeker has a problem or two! He is focused on being good in order to get the best. He lives in a world of action and reward. He has kept the commandments from his youth. He has a young person's spirituality, all eagerness, energy and EGO! Before Jesus takes him to the next level, He looks at him and loves him. All he has done has brought him to Jesus. He has completed step one and now step two beckons him. What Jesus is about to say is not a criticism but a leg up to the answer to his question. How does someone receive the life that flows from the goodness of God?

Suddenly Jesus starts talking about 'treasure in heaven' v.21. The thing we must prize more than anything else is our relationship with God. The path to this 'God centredness' is to let go of all that now possesses him and give it to the poor. The seeker understands but cannot believe what he is hearing! In shock and grief he turns away. Jesus sweeps a penetrating gaze towards his disciples and suggests that all who are weighed down by wealth will find it difficult to enter the kingdom of God. His disciples are first puzzled and then astonished by this. Then Jesus escalates the situation from 'difficult' to 'impossible'. Now His disciples are in shock. The Teacher waits, then makes His final thrust. He must lift them out of conventional consciousness to illumination. What is impossible for human beings is possible for God! This is the karate chop which will dismantle the obstruction and open their hearts to another Way.

The good God wants to give them eternal life and they must look to Heaven as Jesus does so often. Humans are addicted to looking everywhere else. No earthly treasure will be a ticket to eternal life. Owning and accumulating does not work in the world of the Spirit. If the heart longs for 'eternal life' it is wrongheaded in the extreme if the heart thinks it can do this by accumulating good deeds.

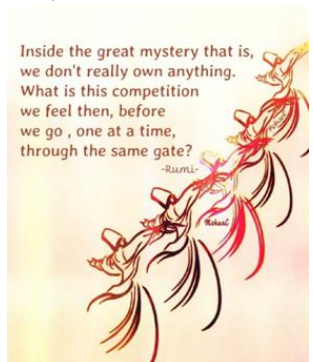
Peter jumps in. "Okay, let's not talk about this guy or other rich people. We haven't walked away. What's in it for us?" Peter is still playing 'quid pro quo' with God. In return for his sacrifice he expects a reward. Peter is fearful of being cheated. He may have left everything but his mind has not. Jesus addresses his fear with comic exaggeration. All you have given will be returned with interest - the good God is not stingy. But the spiritual law still applies - If you want to be first, you will be last. But if you are last, thereby opening yourself to the goodness of God, you will be first. Every blessing has to be received as a free gift.

The drive to assuage insecurity can be ruthless. It can make us extremely self-absorbed and, worse still, it leads to terrible injustices. Even worse, we may tolerate injustice and cruelty as long as we benefit from them! Couple the moral defects which come with the drive to accumulate, with spiritual ignorance, and the whole project is doomed to failure. Accumulation is futile in the face of death. Temporal life is insecure by its very nature. No strategy within time will ever change that.

In Anthony de Mellos' 'The Song of the Bird', there is a great little Parable about holding onto life with an open hand.

In the 19th century an American tourist visited the famous Polish Rabbi Hafez Hayyim. He was astonished to see that the Rabbis' home was only a simple room filled with books. The only furniture, a table and a bench. 'Rabbi, where is your furniture?' asked the tourist. 'Where is yours?' Replied Hafez. 'Mine? But I'm only a visitor here'. 'So am I,' said the Rabbi.

As someone who dances to the rhythms of time and eternity, we must live in time but have our eyes fixed on heaven. This will turn our lives around, we will instantly cure ourselves of anxiety and the desire to have power over others. We must not delude ourselves. Even while we have possessions, we must disown them. We cannot allow them to own us in such a way that they close our hearts to the suffering of others or to the astonishing generosity and goodness of God.





GIVE Campaign Update #042



-We are in need of a supporting Sacristan on Tuesdays at the 10am Mass. If you're free on a Tuesday morning, we'd really appreciate your help!

-St. Joseph's school are looking for 3 foundation governors; one specialised in numeracy, one in GDPR, and one general governor. If you fit any of these descriptions, please reach out- the fate of young children depends on it!

-We would like to thank all the people who have come forward to help with Children's liturgy, but we still need leaders for the 10.30am Mass, as we do not have any at the present time.

-If anybody needs spare carpet, please contact the office.

-Denise Williams is looking for someone to help clean her house in Warfield. If you know of anyone that may be able to help her, please contact the office.

-SHARE is looking for more volunteers. If you're free on a Friday night or a Saturday morning and would like to help sustain those in need, please contact the office.

-We have some new parish excursions happening for some of our older parishioners:

06/11: 7.00pm - Joseph & His Technicolour Dreamcoat. Performed by EBOS. Cost: £24.50

08/12: 3.00pm - Cineworld Bracknell. Andre Rieu's Christmas Concert. Cost: £13.45/14.45.

03/01: South Hill Park – Robin Hood & The Magic Arrow. Pantomime for adults. Cost: £26.50.

If any of these events appeal to you, please put your name down on the lists in the hall/entrance!

Youth Group

New youth group meetings are scheduled!

Monday 11th November, 7pm – 8pm

Monday 9th December, 7pm – 8pm

We look forward to seeing all the youth here in the church hall for a night of fun and relaxation!



Confirmation Programme 2024/25

The Come and See session for parents and candidates will be at 7.30pm to 9 pm on the 24th October in the church hall. Everyone who has responded is invited to the meeting.

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion

To all parents and guardians - If you have a child aged between 8-11 years old as of 1st September 2024 and 31st August 2025, attend Mass regularly and would like your child to make their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion please come along to an information evening at 7.30pm on Thursday 17th October in the Church Hall.

To register for this event, please use the link below.



<https://stjosephandstmargaretclitherow.churchsuite.com/events/zxa4zj2z>

St. Margaret Clitherow York Pilgrimage

During the weekend of the 26th-27th October 2024, Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be organising a pilgrimage to Catholic York, including a visit to St. Margaret Clitherow's Shrine, the Bar Convent and St. Mary's Bishophill – the oldest Church in York.

This event is aimed at Young Catholic Adults and Catholics interested in history.

For details of how to book onto this free weekend and for more info see:

<https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2024>.

Energy Saving Road Show

Come along to the Methodist Church on Shepherds Lane, RG42 2DD, on Thursday 17th October from 4pm, to see how you could reduce your energy prices over these cold winter months. There will be a lot on offer to help you keep costs low!

Called and Gifted Teaching Day

To begin to discover *how* Christ calls and equips you for a unique work of love only you can do, the Called & Gifted (C&G) teaching team will be at Corpus Christi Church, Wokingham on Sat 19/10/2024, 8:30am-4:30pm. Please contact the office for more information.

After the several years of lockdown, Parish funds have become depleted. The parish really struggles with paying all its bills every quarter –these include the normal things like heating, lighting, cleaning, routine maintenance, but also extra projects like building disabled facilities, toilets, ramps, security cameras, cutting down dangerous trees etc. If you could pay even a small amount by standing order (for example £3 per month) that would be really helpful. Please scroll to the bottom of this webpage <https://bracknellcatholicchurch.org/give/financial/> and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	21/10	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Gospel Outreach with Music	04/11	Edmonds Court, RG12 2HP
Cuppa & Chat (60+) ☕	Every Tuesday, 2pm-3pm	Church Hall
Children's Liturgy (please pre-book) 👧👦	13/10, 27/10, 03/11, 17/11, 01/12, 15/12	Church Hall
Soup & Roll 🍲	8/11	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group 🙏	15/10, 7:00pm-8:00pm	Church Hall
RCIA 📖	Every Wednesday, 7:30pm-9pm	Church Hall
Called and Gifted Teaching Day 🙏	19/10/2024, 8:30am-4:30pm	Corpus Christi Wokingham
Union of Catholic Mothers	17/10/2024, 1:30pm	Corpus Christi Wokingham

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	Eamon McNeill	Eddie & Flo Moore
Edmund & Kate Carroll	Inge Walker	Janet Read	Jerry & Susan Tobin	Joe Rice
Leonie Macintosh	Louis Burgisser	Lucia Saligo	Margaret Finnieston	Marie Swash
Marie Swash	Mary King	Mary Murray	Mary Phelan	Mary Stocking
Maureen Baxter	Patricia Holmwood	Paula Sandford	Phyllis Lewis	Rico Morales
Sally Torode	Terri 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



We pray for the repose of the soul of Mike Cleary who passed away recently. The Requiem Mass for Mike will be held here on the 29th September at 11:30am, with the funeral taking place afterwards at Easthampstead Park Crematorium.
May the souls of all 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

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saturday	12th	6pm	Mass	
Sunday	13th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Alvaro Dos Santos & Joana Ferrera RIP</i>
Monday	14th	NO MASS		
ST TERESA OF AVILA, Foundress, Doctor of the Church, memorial				
Tuesday	15th	10am	Mass	<i>Jurgens Family (living & deceased)</i>
				<i>Terri and Andy Landmann (prayers for health & private intentions)</i>
Wednesday	16th	10am	Mass	
ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, Bishop, Martyr, memorial				
Thursday	17th	10am	Mass	<i>Eddie McGrath RIP</i>
ST LUKE, Evangelist, feast				
Friday	18th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	<i>The Mc Tague Family</i>
Saturday	19th	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saturday	19th	6pm	Mass	<i>Rita, Liam & Breeye Wright & Family</i>
Sunday	20th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		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

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

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: 119956