

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

COME AND SEE

19th January 2025

Missal Page 841

The story of the events at Cana, starts by declaring that they took place 'on the third day'. St. John wants the reader to be aware that something Sacred is about to reach its fulfilment and that what is about to unfold is in the hands of God. This happens at a wedding feast. But in this case the 'two' who are to become 'One' are not just a bride and a groom but humanity - represented by the Blessed Mother - and God - present as the Beloved Son.

The Mother of Jesus speaks on behalf of humanity. She presents our brokenness, our lack, our pain resulting from our distance from God. She expresses this to the Beloved Son of God with the haunting and poignant words, "They have no wine". She tells it like it is. Our broken communion with God and with each other is killing us. How many times in the Gospel does this plea express itself in other ways? The official whose son is dying, the cripple who has no one to put him in the pool, the Apostle who does not have enough bread for the hungry, Martha and Mary at the tomb of their brother. Each of these sing the song of human affliction; a dirge which allows for no celebration.

In reply, the Beloved Son calls his mother 'Woman' - mother of all the living. It is a title of reverence and an acknowledgement of her vocation to seek the wellbeing of her children. And when He asks her how this 'hurt' belongs to Him and to her, He is preparing her heart for Revelation. It is the Mission of the Beloved Son to give life to the world. (Jn:3:16-17). Her answer places their concern for everything right in the middle of their relationship. Jesus supplies the wine for the imperilled marriage of the Sacred and the Human. His mother knows who to turn to when the wine runs out!

When Jesus, who lives close to the Father's heart, saw two disciples tailing Him, He asked them to "Come and See" what this closeness was like. Later in the Gospel, when Jesus asks where they have laid Lazarus, He is told, "Come and See". As He is drawn into the tears of loss, He becomes one with those He loves. He embraces the utter vulnerability of human life. This is the path Sacred Love takes. It does not save from the outside but enters in to save from the inside. This is why, the hour, the condition for the production of great wine at the wedding in Cana, is drinking the sour wine of Golgotha. This is the truth of the 'hour' and one of the most precious truths of our faith.

The Mother of the Beloved Son knows this and, as the spokesperson for humanity in danger, she instructs the servants - that's us - to do whatever He tells them. All our efforts to stay ritually clean with water poured from outside - the six stone jars of water - are useless. Instead, the Beloved Son fills them to the brim; an abundance of wine now, that fills from the inside. A beautiful image of the Holy Spirit. It is God who holds the communion and provides what is needed. It is the Spirit, poured into our hearts who gives life.

This 'Sign', the first, works on two levels, the sensual and the spiritual. The reader is challenged to follow the clues beyond what can be seen, heard, touched, tasted, smelled and felt to taste the truth of Jesus' Glory and then give their heart to Him. Others will follow. Not in sequence 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 but as windows opening on the same truth. Each 'Sign' will call those who gaze through them from surface to depth, from exterior religion to interior adoration. In short, the reader has, in the words of one anonymous disciple, to dream that they danced with Jesus at the Wedding Feast, and pressing their ear to His Heart entered the secret, saving, Sacred presence of God!





GIVE Campaign Update #055



If you have items you'd like to donate to a good cause please check with the office before dropping them off at church, as we're not always in a position to receive items. Thank you for understanding.

FLAME Fundraising Volunteers We are seeking the support of a few parents who can assist with our fundraising efforts for the upcoming FLAME day out in Wembley next year. Your help would make a significant difference and directly benefit the whole group. Please reach out to Bernard or the office if you're able to help, thank you!

Winter ClothesBank Giveaway The winter ClothesBank Giveaway will be held on Tuesday 28th January from 10:15am to 1pm at St. Mark's Church, Popeswood Road, Binfield, RG42 4AH. We are once again providing vouchers for the ClothesBank to those in need, so please contact the office should you need a voucher. If you also need transport to the ClothesBank, a free minibus shuttle courtesy of Newbold College will be operating between Bracknell train station and St. Mark's Church, and will leave from the train station at 10am, 10:30am, 11am, 11:30am, and 12 noon. Please let us know in advance if you intend to travel using the minibus so a seat can be reserved.

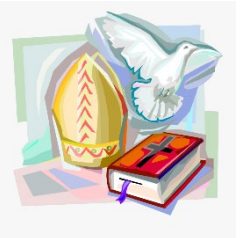
Baptism Preparation Evening

If you are planning to have your child baptised soon, please book onto the next baptism preparation evening on February 3rd at 7:30pm. Please note that the session after won't be for a while, and baptism can only occur once you have attended this evening. Please click on the link below to book your place:

<https://stjosephandstmargaretclitherow.churchsuite.com/events/z18qmvzg>

Introducing Our Confirmation Candidates – January 25th/26th Weekend Masses

Next weekend, January 25th and 26th, we will have the honour of introducing our 44 Confirmation candidates to the parish community during Mass. This is a special moment in their faith journey, and we invite all families of the candidates to attend their usual Mass to join in this celebration. Father Danny will formally present each candidate to the congregation and ask for your prayers and support as they prepare for their upcoming Confirmation retreat.



This retreat marks a key milestone as they continue their spiritual journey toward receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Let us come together as a parish family to surround these young people with love, encouragement, and prayer, strengthening their path toward a deeper relationship with Christ. We look forward to celebrating this meaningful moment with you next weekend!

A Church Renewed: An Update from Dr. Austen Ivereigh

Join us for a webinar with Dr. Austen Ivereigh on February 5th at 7:30 PM. Following his insightful talk at Corpus Christi in 2023, Dr. Ivereigh will discuss the latest developments since the conclusion of the Synod on Synodality. Learn why this shift towards a more participatory Church is crucial for the future. Register now for this important event which is free of charge: <https://bit.ly/CCAlw>.



Sound System

If you have access to our sound system, please don't take it upon yourselves to alter any settings to try and improve the quality, as this typically does more harm than good- thank you!

World Day of Peace

On the 1st January each year, the Catholic Church observes the World Day of Peace, first instituted in 1967 by Pope St. Paul VI. In England and Wales, the Bishops have designated the second Sunday in Ordinary Time as 'Peace Sunday', a day when you are encouraged to reflect on the Pope's message for the year. This year the message is **'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'**. You can read the full message here: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/20241208-messaggio-58giornatamondiale-pace2025.pdf>

Safeguarding Training

On Saturday 1st February, there will be safeguarding training in the church hall. The morning session (10am-1pm) will address safeguarding adults, and the afternoon session (1pm-5pm) for children. To confirm your attendance, please reach out to safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org

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):

<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> 
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Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	22/01, 1:45pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Gospel Outreach with Music	31/01, 1:45pm-3pm	Bickerton House, RG12 2JB
Gospel Outreach with Music	26/02, 1:45pm-3pm	Bickerton House, RG12 2JB
Cuppa & Chat (60+) ☕	21/01	Church Hall
Children's Liturgy (please pre-book) 👧👦	02/02, 16/02, 02/03	Church Hall
Soup & Roll 🍲	14/02 (second Friday of the month)	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group 🙏	21/01	Church Hall
RCIA 📖	Every Wednesday, 7:30pm-9pm	Church Hall

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO ARE SICK, HOUSEBOUND OR IN HOSPITAL AND FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Amanda Killestein	Angela Dossett	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	Mary King	Mary Murray	Mary Phelan	Mary Stocking
Maureen Baxter	Maureen Taylor	Patricia Holmwood	Paula Sandford	Phyllis Lewis
Raf Roberts	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

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	18 th	6pm	Mass	<i>Stuart Birley RIP</i>
Sunday	19 th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Norah Broomfield RIP</i>
Monday	20 th	NO MASS		
St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, memorial				
Tuesday	21 st	10am	Mass	<i>Brian Rushby RIP</i>
Wednesday	22 nd	9am	Mass at St. Joseph's school	
Thursday	23 rd	10am	Mass	<i>Maureen Taylor RIP</i>
St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial				
Friday	24 th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	<i>Margaret Whitehead & Family</i>
THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, feast				
Saturday	25 th	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	25 th	6pm	Mass	<i>Breda O' Regan RIP</i>
Sunday	26 th	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