

The Beloved Son of God is in Jerusalem for the Feast of the Dedication of the Temple. This Temple, planned by King David and built by his son Solomon, had seen many changes and additions over the years. But it was only after the Syrians had built an altar to Zeus over the altar of holocausts, and offered Sacrifices to Zeus, that this feast day was set. Their 'desolating sacrilege' triggered the successful revolt led by Judas Maccabee, after which the Temple was rebuilt and re-dedicated to God.

It is the right setting and the right Feast for Jesus. The new Temple is walking in the old Temple - in the portico of Solomon, on a feast of spiritual renewal. The replacement has arrived. How will He be received?

Well, because of what happened on His previous visit with the money changers, Jesus is encircled by a nervous crowd. They know that the Messiah has the right to restore and rebuild the Temple. But Jesus does not seem to have the right credentials. He is confusing them and they want plain talking. But when Jesus tries to illumine their minds they don't get it. And, as far as they are concerned, He is the problem. He will not play the game by their rules. He will not give a direct answer to their questions.

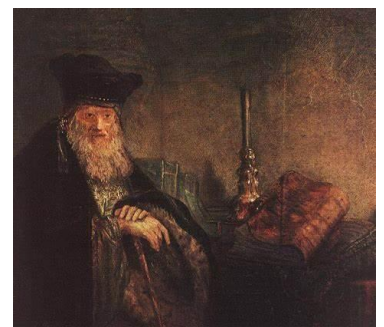
On the other hand, Jesus thinks they are the problem. He has spoken plainly about who He is and why He has come. But they will not believe Him. They are unable to hear the Word or read his actions as revelation.

But there are those who do hear his voice and understand that He is God's revelation of all that is Sacred. To 'hear' Jesus voice means much more than attending to the words He speaks. The hearer must have the wisdom to discern who the speaker is. Jesus invites insight into His identity with every word and action. When His 'sheep' hear his voice they begin to see His unique relationship with God and they begin to speak of Him as Messiah, Son of God etc.

To hear Jesus voice is to share his consciousness. Now they know themselves as Jesus knows them. Believing in Jesus' name means they can now believe in their own. (Jn 1:12-13). Knowing who Jesus is means that I now know who I am - a beloved daughter or son of God. His identity and our identity are interwoven eternally. The revelation of who Jesus is, and who we are, will continue in ways we do not yet understand. But one taste is enough to know that more is to come. From Him we receive eternal life, death can never destroy us and those who seek to snatch us out of Jesus' hand are thwarted.

They wanted plain talking and they got it, but they cannot accept it. If we discern that Jesus is the very presence of God and know that we are children of God who are safe because of the eternal life He pours into us, we will not be surprised when He declares "The Father and I are One." This declaration strengthens us to find our own voice. When we start out we may be unsure. But as our trust in Him grows, the miracles happen.

Here is a wonderful story from Jewish spirituality which is worth reflection. When Rabbi Zusya grew old and knew that his time on earth was nearing a close, his students gathered around him. One of them asked him if he was afraid of dying. 'I am afraid of what God will ask me', the Rabbi said. "What will he ask you?" 'He will not ask me, Zusya, why were you not like Moses? He will ask me, Zusya, why were you not Zusya?'





## GIVE Campaign Update #072



**\*DOES ANYONE IN OUR PARISH\*** have a knowledge or understanding of relaying/relining a car park, or happen to own a car park line marking kit? As you may be aware, we are upgrading our church, and our car park has lost its lines. Please let us know if you, or someone you know, might be able to assist us with this- thank you! ***On the topic of car parks, please can we remind everyone (again) that the car park during Mass is reserved for those with mobility issues and for the elderly. There are new bollards erected to deter people from parking, although some still insist on parking here. Again, this is to ensure that any emergency vehicles can access the car park when needed.***



**\*THANK YOU\*** to those that provide refreshments for our tea/coffee sessions in the hall. Please remember we are a fairtrade church, and so any tea/coffee that isn't fairtrade will promptly be disposed of if left in the hall.

**\*A PARISHIONER\*** is very kindly giving away a free piano. If you're interested, please reach out to the office for contact details.

**\*THERE ARE SEVERAL\*** outings planned in May and June for our over 50's parishioners. Details are as follows, prices to come soon:

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May- Longacres Garden Centre 10am

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May- SHP Cinema 2.30pm - Four Mothers (comedy)

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> June- Jersey Boys Tribute @ South Hill Park 7.45pm

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> July- Trip on Basingstoke Canal

**Telephone 07852497218 if interested!**

## Journey To Pentecost

Friday 30th May to Saturday 7th June



### Online Novena & Formation

Daily Novena: 8.00pm - 8.30pm

Friday 30th May to Saturday 7th June

Talk: Saturday 31st May | 8:30pm - 9:00pm

The Sacrament of Confession:

A Sacrament of Hope

Talk: Wednesday 4th June | 8:30pm - 9:00pm

The Sacrament of the Eucharist:

Strength and Comfort for Pilgrims

### Holy Spirit Day

In collaboration with Charis Portsmouth

Saturday 7th June | 9:30am - 1:30pm

Mass | Formation | Adoration | Prayer

English Martyrs Church, Reading, RG30 2EB



Vicariate For Evangelisation  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
PORTSMOUTH

### Register Today:

<https://zoom.us/join/register/qn3kPJHLR6uQ06beO91jyA>  
email | [ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) phone | 07966090100

[www.tinyurl.com/FFMNovena](http://www.tinyurl.com/FFMNovena)

## Life in the Spirit Talk and Seminars

*The second Life in the Spirit session is next Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm (arrive slightly earlier for refreshments), in the hall, and is titled 'Salvation' by Kristina Cooper.*

The seminars themselves will run from 8<sup>th</sup> May – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025, EVERY THURSDAY (except 29<sup>th</sup> May), and will be livestreamed in the church hall; if you can, please attend in person. If unable to attend in person - kindly register using the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/Ke4gfjQdSI2sAbippqI9lg>

Details of THE LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS are on posters in the church and hall- see you there!



## Tea & Coffee- 10:30am Mass

Please note that tea and coffee after the 10:30am Mass on the 11<sup>th</sup> is **only** for the families of those undertaking their First Holy Communion. Thank you for understanding.

## Church Entrance Change

Until the middle of next week, the back entrance (to the Sacristy) is out of use whilst we install a new ramp. To enter the office or Sacristy, please enter using the side entrance through the church.

## Week of Walks



To celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bracknell Town Council, there will be a week of walks, from 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May. These include history walks, a bird walk, and a tree walk. Otherwise, there are regular weekly events which we encourage you to join! For more details and to book, please scan the QR code, or visit the link: [https://www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk/council\\_events/](https://www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk/council_events/)



## Let it be Course



You are invited to attend LET IT BE, an inspirational five week course compiled by CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) in the Keenan Rooms at Corpus Christi Wokingham from Thursday 19th June to Thursday 17th July starting at 7.30pm until 9pm. Each week a short film will be shown about the Blessed Virgin Mary followed by a discussion. There is a handbook to accompany the course which costs £5 per copy for anyone wishing to purchase it. Please have cash with you.

Whilst it is ideal to attend all the sessions, they do stand alone. Refreshments will be available.

Please register by using the following link: <https://sdahmann.fillout.com/t/bBSosBah7nus>

Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	14/05, 1:45pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Cuppa & Chat (60+) ☺	Every Tuesday, 2pm-3pm	Church Hall
Children's Liturgy (please pre-book) 👤 👤	11&25/05, 08&22/06, 06&20/07	Church Hall
Soup & Roll ☺	13/06	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group 🙏	Cancelled until 8 <sup>th</sup> July, 7pm	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 O'Sullivan	Arthur Hardy
Anne Hardy	Audrey Lam	Bernie Morris	Beverley Spencer	Blanche Shap
Brenda Lynch	Bridget Riordan	Charles Beard	Colleen McCormack	Claire Berry
Claire Hose	Dorcas Innes-Grant	Debbie Hanley	Douglas & Bernadette Hunt	Dymphna Slade
Eamon McNeill	Eddie Moore	Edmund & Kate Carroll	Eileen Tanner	Evelyn Caruso
Inge Walker	Janet Read	Jean Lovejoy	Leonie Macintosh	Lucia Saligo
Margaret Finnieston	Margaret Whitehead	Marie Swash	Mary King	Mary Murray
Mary Phelan	Mary Stocking	Mary Sullivan	Maureen Baxter	Patricia Holmwood
Paula Sandford	Peggy McCullough	Raf Roberts	Rico Morales	Sally Torode
Sarah Flemming	Stan & Margaret Aburn	Susan Tobin	Terri & Andy Landmann	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)



We pray for the repose of the soul of Neville Nesbitt.

*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](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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	10th	6pm	Mass	<i>Stuart Birley RIP</i>
Sunday	11th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Ivon Jack Lemos RIP</i>
Monday	12th	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tuesday	13th	10am	Mass	<i>Paula Read- Thanksgiving</i>
<b>ST MATTHIAS, Apostle, feast</b>				
Wednesday	14th	10am	Mass	<i>Andrew Landmann- Healing of his back</i>
Thursday	15th	10am	Mass	<i>Eileen Spraggen</i>
Friday	16th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	<i>Gloria Evans</i>
Saturday	17th	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	17th	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	18th	8:30am	Mass	
		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: 119956