

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**WHAT WILL MY LEGACY BE?**

25<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Missal Page 400

St. John's Gospel begins with a revelation that we are loved beyond our wildest expectations. Now, in today's Gospel he tells us that loving Jesus in return is the only thing needed to receive and understand what He chooses to reveal. Those who love Him open their hearts, and all of their lives, to another kind of loving - a Sacred Love. This love brings strength instead of power. The Strength that will be needed to walk the pathways of Sacred Love in time.

As Jesus prepares His disciples for His death and departure, He speaks directly to their breaking hearts. There is a secret hidden in the heart of every death. Wherever there is loss there will be a gain! Even more, The Holy Spirit will take up residence in the heart of every disciple and help them to remember and make this teaching their own. You might want to pause here to consider the beauty of this reveal. Like every person who knows they are dying, Jesus wants to leave gifts for those who love Him. But there is no financial legacy in His will. Instead, He bequeaths the spiritual/mental enhancement that the revelation of His dying makes possible.

And so, it is Peace that He wants to leave them. But not just any old peace. He calls it MY Peace. This is very different from the absence of stress, distress and fear. As Saint Paul wrote in his amazing letter to the Church in Rome, it is nothing less than the conviction that nothing can separate us from the Love which is our life. The non-abandoning presence of God is everywhere. On Calvary, the place of total loss, this Sacred Love is revealed as a protecting nearness which will not permit the final destruction of the Beloved.

Someone once said, "Where there's a will, there's a war". Few of us have not witnessed, or heard stories of the trouble caused by the cash inheritance. Inherited money can be dangerous. What was intended to help can cause hurt and division. Perhaps this is why in St. Luke's Gospel (Lk 12:13-14) Jesus refuses to divide a man from his brother over money. This same theme is repeated again in St. John's Gospel, where relationships are valued and cherished above all else. This is why Jesus' bequest to His disciples is something that will not hurt them or tear them apart.

He leaves another gift - one that will be an active energy in keeping them in community. He leaves Peace, the only gift which can guarantee them a future. Peace does not divide people but restores them to one another. If someone has left us the gift of money in their will, we might choose to spend it. Jesus has left us the gift of Peace. This gift cannot be spent. We can only remember it and act on it. Jesus is very clear that the gift of the Holy Spirit is given so that we will not forget, but perhaps even more, to teach us the ways of Peace. We remember and we learn.

I heard a great story once of a man who left his family home in Ireland. He was not the eldest brother and the farm would never be his. So, he went to America to seek his fortune. He worked hard to make a comfortable life for his wife and three children. He wrote to his brother every month 'with no news from this end' but always sent a cheque to help his family. His brother Michael wrote back every month 'with no news from his end' but never mentioned the cheque.

When Tom reached the age of sixty-five a yearning to visit his home grew stronger in him. He decided to go and take his granddaughter with him. When he arrived back at the family home, there was tension in the air. His brother expected a rich 'yank' and he expected to meet a wealthy landowner. In each case, it wasn't true!

As the evening unfolded the two brothers found themselves alone in front of the big fire. Michael went to the cupboard and pulled out a beautiful homemade crusty loaf. Tom found his duty-free bag and produced a good Irish whiskey. When his granddaughter woke in the morning, she found crumbs on the table and a half empty whiskey bottle. But of Tom and Mick she saw nothing. She went to the back door as the sun climbed into the sky, and in the field, she saw them both, having a smoke and inspecting the earth the way a parent checks a new-born. They had stayed up all night. When they saw her, they waved and walked stride by stride together back to the house. As she waited, she knew that although she had not yet had to stay up all night to beat back the darkness with her love, when the time came, she would be able to do it. She shouted to them, "Wow, you made it all the way to morning!"

Peace. Is St. John right to say it is the only inheritance of any real value?





## GIVE Campaign Update #074



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

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!**

**\*THERE ARE SOME OTHER EVENTS\*** that may be of interest to you here:

Wed 4<sup>th</sup> June- Toby Wright, Solo Singing Recital, TW20 0EX

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> June- Crowthorne Choral Society, Summer Concert, RG45 7PU

### Confirmation Celebration

On the 10<sup>th</sup> May, we celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. Joseph's. It was a wonderful occasion, with 81 young people from across South Berkshire being Confirmed! Let us pray for these newly Confirmed youngsters, that they will keep the flame of faith alive in their hearts.



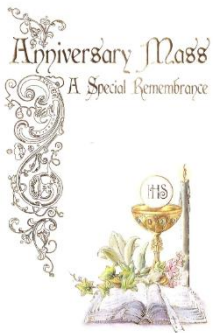
### Children's Masses

We are organising Masses led by the children on 29th June at 8:30am and 13th July at 10:30am. If any children would like to be involved in the readings and helping with the offertory and collections, please let a member of the children's liturgy team know!



### Significant Anniversaries Mass: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June:

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 11am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact the office or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to request a form for you to complete and return.



### Life in the Spirit Talk and Seminars

*The fourth Life in the Spirit session is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 7:30pm (arrive slightly earlier for refreshments), in the hall, and is titled 'Receiving God's Gift' by Stephanie Pena.*

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/joining/register/LQ4MG1bfT\\_aXurqoU3UMyg#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/joining/register/LQ4MG1bfT_aXurqoU3UMyg#/registration)

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



### 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/)





## Join the Journey of a Lifetime – The Jubilee 2025! ✨

Are you ready for a transformative adventure through Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Italy, and France? The Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025 is more than just a journey—it's an extraordinary experience of faith, culture, history and breathtaking landscapes!

Journey in the footsteps of saints, national Jubilee churches, places of the Eucharistic miracles, shrines of which you've never known, but will mark your memory for ever and surprises on the way 🌐 Discover stunning cities and sacred sites 🤝 Connect with fellow pilgrims from around the world 🎉 Celebrate the Jubilee in a spirit of unity and renewal.

From the majestic cathedrals of Belgium to the awe-inspiring Alps of Switzerland, the serenity of Luxembourg, the historic grandeur of Italy, and the spiritual essence of France—every moment will be unforgettable!

For a chance to embark on a journey that will inspire your soul, strengthen your faith, and create memories to cherish forever, please contact the office for more details.

Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	28/05, 1:45pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Gospel Outreach with Music	11/06, 1:45pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Cuppa & Chat (60+) ☕	Every Tuesday, 2pm-3pm	Church Hall
Children's Liturgy (please pre-book) 👧👦	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		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 souls of Neville Nesbitt and Bernie Morris.  
*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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Mass	<i>Martin and Rachel Chambers- 35th Wedding Anniversary</i>
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup>	8:30am	Mass	
		10:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
<b>St Philip Neri, Priest, Founder, memorial</b>				
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bishop, feast</b>				
Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Mass	<i>Katherine &amp; Derry's wedding anniversary (58 years)</i>
Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Mass	
<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD, solemnity</b>				
Thursday	29 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	Mass	
		7pm	Mass	
Friday	30 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Mass	
<b>THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, feast</b>				
Saturday	31 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Mass	
		11am	Confessions	
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER				
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup>	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:30am	Mass	
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Jurgens Family (living &amp; deceased)</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](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