

Third Sunday of Easter

WHO IS THE GREATEST?

4th May 2025

Missal Page 388

Jesus has returned to the Sea of Galilee, where He had made miracles with loaves and fishes. Now He is about to do the same, only this time, His disciples will fully understand what is being revealed. He has been shaping them over time, to be the kind of disciples who catch people. But the 'catch' live in the depths which, so far, they have not been able to see. Drawing fish from these depths, suggests a new awareness has arrived, and with it, a new day and the new dawn.

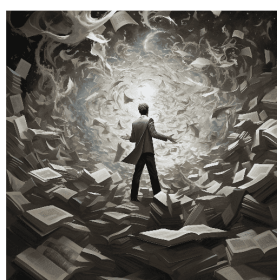
The focus in today's Gospel is St. Peter. His horror at the idea that Jesus should wash his feet (Jn.13:1-38) his triple denial (Jn.13:36) and bitter tears, reveal a man who wants to be close to Jesus but does not yet understand Him. The ability to follow Jesus depends entirely on receiving and understanding the foot washing. Peter has to plug his beautiful ego into something even more beautiful. It is not his calling to lay down his life to save Jesus, but to be receptive to the gift, and draw strength from the source of all life. (Jn.1:3). And Jesus trusts that Peter will find the way. There is an 'afterwards' that Jesus is looking forward to - a Morning of enlightenment where Peter will see that his unplugged ego will not bring him to the place where he will understand and follow. Only after the dark night of emptiness has run its course will Peter find Jesus waiting on the other shore, offering the Kingdom of God for breakfast.

The Risen Jesus does what the earthly Jesus does. He invites His disciples to sit and eat a 'breakfast' - symbol of this new dawn. Whatever is on the menu, it is Jesus Himself who is the nourishment. Disciples must eat and ingest the Love that holds out the bread and the fish. This is the third appearance of the Risen One. As such, it marks an end to one thing and the beginning of another. In this new era, whenever Jesus' disciples gather for a community meal, they will feed on a Love which will fill their famished souls. And now that Peter has allowed Jesus to feed him, he understands and knows what he must do. Peter will say to the One who knows all things, "You know that I love you". Only now that he has made the connection does he have the strength to feed Jesus disciples and to give his life for them. Peter's following will be faithful and complete to the end. (Jn.13.1)

The Gospel story ends with the instruction 'Follow Me'. Disciples will only catch fish when they have made the journey from the charcoal fire of the night, where ego can only deny and betray the truth, to the charcoal fire of the new dawn. Only those who allow Jesus, the Beloved Son of God, to teach and feed them will be effective in making new disciples of the Kingdom. It depends totally on the conversion which constantly seeks to mirror that teaching and actions of the Christ.

Margaret Wheatley offers this Sacred model for modern times: "Many writers have offered new images of effective leaders. Each of them is trying to co-create imagery for the new relationships that are required, the new sensitivities needed to honour and elicit worker contributions. Here is a very partial list of the new metaphors to describe leaders: gardeners, midwives, stewards, servants, missionaries, facilitators, conveners. Although each takes a slightly different approach, they all name a new position for leaders, a stance that relies on new relationships with their network of employees, stakeholders and communities. No one can hope to lead any organisation by standing outside or ignoring the web of relationships through which all the work is accomplished. Leaders are being called to step forward as helpmates, supported by our willingness to have them lead us. Is this a fad? Or is it the web of life insisting that leadership join in with appropriate humility".

(Leadership and the New Science: Discovering Order in a Chaotic World [San Francisco:Berrett-Koehler Publishers,1999]165)





GIVE Campaign Update #071



WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to assist us with refreshments after the 11am Confirmation Mass on Saturday 10th May. If you happen to be free from around 12:15pm, to help set things up for when the Mass ends around 1pm and then serve tea/coffee/snacks, please reach out to the office- your help will be very much appreciated!

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. The car park will be closed on the 10th May, from the morning until early afternoon. Thank you for understanding.***



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. Posters are in the main porch and hall for more information.

Scam Warning

A parishioner has reported receiving an e-mail from Father Danny requesting financial support. Anything of this nature is a scam; please just block the sender and delete the e-mail.



A loan can be applied for without becoming a member, membership starts with the loan. Interest rates vary on which type of loan is taken out. A healthy balance in the savings account is optimal.

But if that isn't sufficient then the credit union will help out with a loan.

www.boomcb.org.uk or **0345 521 5552** or info@boomcb.org.uk

Additional Help

BFC residents are encouraged to check whether they, or know of someone who may be eligible for additional help. This includes help with food costs, help with energy costs, employment, housing and families generally. If you know of someone, then please share this link:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/cost-living-support>

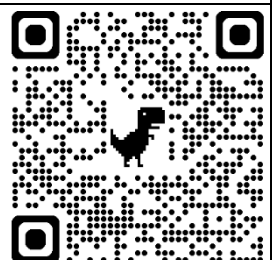
Life in the Spirit Talk and Seminars

The first Life in the Spirit session is next Thursday 8th May, 7:30pm (arrive slightly earlier for refreshments), in the hall, and is titled 'God's Love' by Chris Thomas.

The seminars themselves will run from 8th May – 26th June 2025, EVERY THURSDAY (except 29th 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/meeting/register/Ke4gfjQdSl2sAbippqI9lg>

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





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 ☺	09/05	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group 🙏	Cancelled until 8 th 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 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



A BIG shout out to the amazing team at **Top Timber**!! They have worked tirelessly to make the outside of our church safe; with new fences and new gate by the carpark, a new and wider path giving accessible access from town. Their next job is to add some climbing plants to give more privacy for Fr. Danny's garden. If you need any landscaping jobs, please give them a call on **07828 311446**.

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (celebrated by Fr. Pat Sherlock)

Saturday	3 rd	6pm	Mass	Parish Intentions
Sunday	4 th	8:30am	Mass	<i>Daisy Lewis RIP</i>
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Annie Cardoz RIP</i>
Mon 6th to Friday 9th May		NO MASS	Fr. Danny on holiday	
Saturday	10 th	11am	Confirmation Mass	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday	10 th	6pm	Mass	<i>Stuart Birley RIP</i>
Sunday	11 th	8:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Ivon Jack Lemos RIP</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

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