

THE YEAR OF SAINT MATTHEW – On Earth as it is in Heaven
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DO NOT BE AFRAID

Sunday 21st June 2026

Missal Page 619

The first words of the Gospel for this Sunday are an Instruction from the Teacher to His disciples. 'Do not be afraid'. Funnily enough, this instruction is to be found in Sacred Scripture, exactly 365 times! One for every day of the year! (Except a leap year lol)

We must choose to be intentional disciples of Jesus or not. Do you know if you have done this yet? Check to make sure that you have really chosen to follow Him.

If our answer is yes, we must take into account that He does not offer a soft option. Persecution and suffering are as sure to follow the disciple as it did the Master. But, as St Paul reminded Timothy, the Word of the Lord cannot be sent to prison! (2 Tim 2,9). There will always be some who want to silence true disciples. 'They' want the words and deeds of Jesus to be stopped. But this will never happen. Sin may slow down Gods activity, but it can never crush it.

Intentional disciples must carry this reassurance with them and deepen it in their hearts. We will have to face those who want to silence us. We might become objects of scorn, or gossip. We may lose our status, we might be laughed at or taken for fools. We might risk losing everything. All these things might make us afraid, but, as we overcome our fear, we will transform darkness into light, silence into sound, death into life.

But here's the thing. When Our Lord instructed his disciples to move without fear into the open with what they knew, he wasn't sending them out with information, facts and figures. He gave them a new identity as daughters and sons of their Father in Heaven. Children of God with hearts on Fire. What they have received, they must share with others. The future of humanity and of the earth depend on their passion and faithfulness.

Every intentional disciple of Jesus is blessed with and burdened with the truth He has revealed. If we choose Jesus, he unseats our souls and makes us stand on housetops to share what we have received. The fire in our hearts will warm people in different ways. Intentional disciples love God more than the suffering they fear. We finally understand Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. He wants the cup to pass. He has no love affair with suffering. But his desire to unleash the power of love and reconciliation in the world means He has to go on. The Beloved Son of God cannot be silent in the face of persecution. What He has heard as Beloved Son of God must be told to every daughter and son. The more He prays, the more he realises what must be done, the more fear falls from Him, like drops of blood, watering the earth.

The Beloved Son of God makes His decision and asks us to do the same. What will we do?

Many are called, but most are frozen in corporate or collective cold. These are the stalled who choose not to be chosen, Except to be bought, Except to be sold.



Insights from our Parish Contemplative Movement

The time may be delayed; the manner may be unexpected; but the answer is sure to come. Not a tear of sacred sorrow, not a breath of holy desire poured out to God will ever be lost; but in God's own time and way will be wafted back again in clouds of mercy and fall in showers of blessings on you and on those for whom you pray.

St Therese of the Child Jesus

GIVE Campaign Update #129



- ❖ **Fr Danny update** Fr Danny would like to let all parishioners know that he has been asked to stand back from the day to day parish work to aid his recovery. We will provide regular updates. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.
- ❖ **We are still looking for two additional sacristans** for the **Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass**. If you're already attending the Saturday Vigil Mass, can you help set up the church? Full training will be provided.
- ❖ **Confirmation 2027** Any young adult (year 10 to 13 school age) who wishes to be considered for Confirmation in 2027, please send an email to the office to register your interest **before 17th July**. This will allow us to plan for the 2026/27 Confirmation programme.
- ❖ **Pastoral Area & Catechesis Day: Saturday 25th July** There is to be a day for all Sacramental Catechesis (Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage, RCIA) from 11am until 3:30pm at Corpus Christi, Wokingham. Anyone who currently is or wishes to be a catechist is invited.
- ❖ **ChurchSuite registration** thank you to those who recently registered. If you need any help with this, please call the office.

Day for Life



His Holiness prays that all parents grieving the loss of a child, especially an infant, may find comfort and peace in the knowledge of God's love for them and for their child, "for to him all of them are alive" (Lk 20:38). It is likewise his hope that these parents find the support they need in the Church community and especially in a life nourished by prayer and by the Sacraments.

Baptism Preparation Evening

Baptism preparation for any parents wishing their child to be Baptised between now and the end of the year will be held on **Monday 20th July**, 7:30pm until 9:00pm in the hall. This is the last opportunity for 2026.

In order to seek Baptism for your child you must be registered in the parish.

You can do so here: <https://bracknellcatholicchurch.org/parish-life/parish-registration/>



The School for Synodality is holding a unique retreat day on **Saturday 27 June**, held **online** and open to all those who wish to explore knowing themselves 'beloved by God'.

The School invites you to rediscover the joy of your baptism, unpacking that gift with inspirational Catholic speaker David Wells, and a mixture of personal reflection and the opportunity to share prayerfully with others.

Time: 12 noon - 4pm BST

Please register on: [Select tickets – Beloved - Online Day Retreat – Zoom](#)



Holy Ghost and Sandhurst Parish SUMMER FAYRE

Saturday 27th JUNE 10am - 4pm at Immaculate Conception Hall Sandhurst GU47 9BS.
Everything for the garden plus cakes, books, jigsaws and much more. Raffle and refreshments too.
We look forward to seeing you.



Samuel's MacMillan
Swim It Challenge

Samuel, one of our Altar server, is taking part at the MacMillan Swim it challenge and is aiming to swim 21 miles (equivalent distance of the Channel) in **June and July** to raise funds for cancer care. Samuel is hoping to accrue his swims from school and his swim club trainings towards the challenge. If you would like to support Samuel and MacMillan, please go to his donation page: [Will you donate to Samuel's MacMillan Swim It Challenge?](#)

ClothesBank

We will be holding our Summer ClothesBank Giveaway on **Tuesday 7th July** from **10.15am to 1pm** at St Mark's Church, RG42 4AH. The 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 12pm.

Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	24/06 , 2pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
Gospel Outreach with Music	03/07 2pm-3pm	Bickerton Care Home, RG12 2JB
RCIA	Thursdays 7:30pm-9pm	Church Hall
Children's Liturgy (please pre-book online)	21/06, 5 & 19/07	Church Hall
Cuppa & Chat (60+) (term time only)	Tuesdays 2pm-3pm	Church Hall
New Parent / Parishioner Coffee Morning (please book in advance via the office)	03/07	Church Hall
Soup & Roll	10/07 , 12:45pm	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group (every 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday of the month)	23/06 , 7pm	Church Hall
Monthly Filipino Mass	05/07 , 5pm	St. Joseph's Church
Orthodox Mass	21/06 , 12:30pm	St. Joseph's Church

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

Amanda Killestein	Claire Berry	Evelyn Caruso	Mary Phelan	Sarah Flemming
Angela Dossett	Claire Hose	Inge Walker	Mary Stocking	Stan & Margaret Aburn
Ann D'Ambrosio	Colleen McCormack	Jacqueline Marshall	Mary Sullivan	Susan Tobin
Ann O'Sullivan	Debbie Hanley	Janet Read	Patricia Holmwood	Terri & Andy Landmann
Anne Hardy	Dorcas Innes-Grant	Jean Lovejoy	Paula Sandford	
Arthur Hardy	Douglas & Bernadette Hunt	Judith Newman	Peggy McCullough	Vilma Taborda
Audrey Lam	Dymphna Slade	Margaret Finnieston	Raf Roberts	Vivienne Halfpenny
	Eamon McNeill	Marie Swash	Rico Morales	
Bridget Riordan	Edmund & Kate Carroll	Mary King	Rita Hayes	
Charles Beard	Eileen Tanner	Mary Murray	Sally Torode	

To add or remove a name to this list with consent, please contact the 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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saturday	20th	6pm	Mass	<i>Alvaro Dos Santos & Joana Ferreira RIP</i>
Sunday	21st	8:30am	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving Birthday for Rishal Pais</i>
		10:30am	Mass	<i>Raymond Savage RIP</i>
Monday	22nd	NO MASS		
St Etheldreda, Abbess				
Tuesday	23rd	10am	Communion Service	<i>Margaret Brady RIP</i>
The Nativity of St John the Baptist, solemnity				
Wednesday	24th	10am	Communion Service	<i>Grazeil Abat</i>
Thursday	25th	10am	Communion Service	<i>Brian Stapley RIP</i>
Friday	26th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		12 noon	Communion Service	<i>Olivia & Markos (for their marriage on 27/07)</i>
Our Lady on Saturday				
Saturday	27th	10am	Mass	<i>First Holy Communion families</i>
		11am	Confessions	
Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles, solemnity				
Saturday	27th	6pm	Mass	<i>Parish Intentions</i>
Sunday	28th	8:30am	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving Mass Riyan Pais</i>
		10:30am	Mass	<i>First Holy Communion families</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

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