

THE YEAR OF SAINT MATTHEW – On Earth as it is in Heaven
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
ALIGNING HEAVEN AND EARTH

Sunday 23rd August 2026
Missal Page 655

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The questions are important, and so is the place where they are asked. When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is'. (Matthew: 16,30)

Caesarea Philippi is a mess! Everything that could happen to violate love or the human person would happen here. Why would Our Blessed Lord choose this setting to ask his Question or to use the title Son of Man, and to lay the keystone for his Church?

Of course, there was then, and is now mindless speculation about Him. Yet, He is absolutely clear that He is here for everyone and that He wants his Church to be born in and stay close to the darkest settings. Heaven and earth are aligned on the Rock of Peters Confession. Even if the gates of Hell are opened and all negative fury is hurled at this new community it will not prevail. Why? Because the Church has a set of keys to the kingdom of Heaven. This ability to keep the gates open will make the darkness ineffective.

We've all heard the jokes about St Peter working as a full time security officer at the gates of heaven. But seriously folks, the gates for which he has the keys are the gates of human consciousness. And this new power and new awareness will support the disciple to meet the horrors of the world head on. The Disciples mandate is to engage with all situations that uphold the sanctity of life and to disengage from those which bring death. For this work, The Lord has given us insight and gifts beyond our imagination. We take time to ponder these things and to figure out how best to bring them to bear of the brokenness of the world. We work to bring integrity to our faith and how we live in the world. Then we put flesh on the wider ideas of love, compassion and mercy.



Insights from our Parish Contemplative Movement

Our identity in Christ is locked in our understanding of love, the spark of life that procreates, co-creates, gives, forgives, and dialogues where patience prevails. The attributes of which are the building blocks of the healing environment that restores. Love is first who we are, then what we do.

Ken Maimo- Contemplative Life Lead- 07983 419021



GIVE Campaign Update #138



Thank you to those who came forward to volunteer as sacristans for the Saturday 6pm Mass. **We are now looking for sacristans to assist with the Sunday 10:30am Mass.** If this is your regular Mass and you are able to help us, please contact the office.

Thank you to those that came forward to help one of our elderly Polish parishioners fill out an important form.

The parish toddler group will be dissolved at the end of September if nobody volunteers to help run it between now and then. Any toys/equipment that are currently in our storage will be donated to local charities so they actually see use. Please, if you're interested and feel that a toddler group is something that we should be providing to ourselves and the wider community, come forward and volunteer.

The next shipping container heading to schools in Ghana at the end of September courtesy of Thomas Donkor is now open for donations. We are looking for any books, sporting equipment, or anything else that you think a primary school would be able to put to good use.



Bernard O'Neill is looking for someone with a working knowledge of customs and excise to assist in a query regarding importing a statue from Ireland. If you can help, please contact the office.



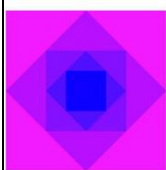
New and exciting Parish outings are as follows:

-Sat 31st October 2:30pm @ South Hill Park: Come From Away- Musical, £22

- Tues 1st December 7:15pm @ Bracknell Cinema: Nutcracker by the Royal Ballet, £23

-Sat 2nd January 7:00pm @ South Hill Park: Aladdin - Adult Panto version, £30

Please call or text 07395 077913 (Rita) to register your interest, or to discuss future events.



**marriage
care**

better relationships
better lives

Marriage Care [Volunteering]

Marriage Care are pleased to inform you that they will be hosting an in-person Preparing Together Day on **Saturday 17th October** at Corpus Christi, Wokingham, RG40 2HE.

For couples who may find it difficult to access the course, such as those with low level English, literacy or from the Traveller community or those who may struggle to pay the fee, please call their appointments service to book on 0800 389 3801, Monday-Thursday, 9am-6pm. Marriage Care are also looking for more volunteers. Join Marriage Care in continuing to make the world of difference to thousands of couples - many of whom say their service helped them rebuild their relationship and keep their family together! Whether you can spare a few hours a month or much more, and whether you want a front-line role or prefer to work 'behind the scenes', there's a volunteering opportunity to suit you and a welcoming community for you to be a part of.

To enroll on a course or to find out more about volunteering please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk.



Gospel Community Singing

The local gospel community choir will be singing LIVE at the Lexicon, Bracknell, on **Saturday 5th September at 11:15am**. If the attendance is strong they will come and perform for us at church, so please do try and make it if you can! There might be one or two familiar faces partaking so a strong local show of support would be great.

Parish Events	When?	Where?
Gospel Outreach with Music	26/08, 2pm-3pm	Bracknell Care Home, RG12 7DN
RCIA	Resumes in September	Church Hall
New Parent Coffee Morning	04/09, book in advance	Church Hall
Soup & Roll	11/09, 12:45pm	Church Hall
Parish Prayer Group 🙏	25/08, 7pm	Church Hall
Monthly Filipino Mass	06/09, 5pm	St. Joseph's Church
Orthodox Mass	23/08, 12:30pm-2:30pm	St. Joseph's Church

Rest In Peace...



We pray for the repose of the souls of **Vilma Taborda** and **Canon Peter Turbitt**. Peter Turbitt was born in Blaydon-on-Tyne, Tyne and Wear on 3rd December

1943. He was one of three siblings and his brother died a few years ago. He is survived by his sister Mary. Following formation at Ushaw, he was ordained to the priesthood on 10th March 1968 at St Joseph's, Blaydon, Durham by Bishop James Cunningham for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. He was later incardinated into the Diocese of Portsmouth in 1974. Fr Peter first served as an assistant priest at Sacred Heart, Fareham until 1976, followed by the Annunciation, Netley from 1976 to 1980 before his first appointed as Parish Priest for St Patrick's, Jersey, until 1983 when he was appointed as parish priest of St Michael and All Angels, Leigh Park until 1989. He was then appointed to St John Vianney, Wantage in 1989 and then Coordinating Pastor of the North Downs Pastoral Area in 2010, additionally becoming Dean in 2016. In 2015 he was additionally appointed parish priest of Sacred Heart, Lambourn and Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford, and of Blessed Hugh Faringdon, Buckland and Faringdon. He was invited to join the Chapter of Canons of the Diocese in 2001. He was also a member of the Council of Priests. Canon Peter Turbitt retired in 2019 when his thirty year tenure as parish priest was recognised by Wantage Town Council when he was awarded the Freedom of Wantage.



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May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.
Amen.

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

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

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	22 nd	5pm	Confessions	
		6pm	Mass	<i>Angela Jacobs RIP</i>
Sunday	23 rd	8am	Confessions	
		8:30am	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving- Susan & Simon Mwanje</i>
		10:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions

ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle, *feast*

Monday	24 th		NO MASS
Tuesday	25 th	10am	Communion Service
Wednesday	26 th	10am	Communion Service

St Monica, *memorial*

Thursday	27 th	10am	Communion Service
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St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, *memorial*

Friday	28 th	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		12 noon	Communion Service

The Passion of St John the Baptist, *memorial*

Saturday	29 th	10am	NO MASS
		11am	NO CONFESSIONS

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday	29 th	6pm	Mass	<i>Jacob & Maria Ramos RIP</i>
Sunday	30 th	8:30am	Mass	<i>Rochelle Joyce Alexander-90th Birthday</i>
		10:30am	Mass	Parish Intentions

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://www.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