

**THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK**  
**EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B**  
**CHAIN REACTION**  
**SUNDAY 2 MAY 2021**

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Once upon a time a king was riding in a coach on a miserable, cold winters day. He sees a poor man trudging along the road and stops the coach and offers him a ride. But life has taught the poor man to be suspicious. "What will it cost me"? he asks. "Only the courage to accept it", the king replied!



start  
where you  
are.  
use what  
you have.  
do what you  
can.

The Law of Completion states that we only understand what we have received when we give it away. So the Unbounded Joy which Jesus Celebrates and offers can only be experienced when disciples see themselves as links in a chain - from the Father to Jesus, from Jesus to them and from them to others. All the old hierarchies are dissolved, now there are only friends moving effortlessly in the Fathers Love.

So here's the question to ponder. Can we tell ourselves the story that Jesus tells his disciples and that he wants us to tell others? Or to put it perhaps more in the language of the Gospel, can we allow ourselves to be chosen by Love for Love?

James Mackey, in 'Jesus: The Man and the Myth' has noted that the only way to give others the experience of being themselves grace and treasure, into treat them as treasure and be gracious to them.... [the gospel] will be lost on me unless the warmth of another human being envelops me, unless some other human person refresh the weariness of my defeated days. (p.170)

This week, think of someone who has loved you and treasured you and see in that person a revelation of the unconditional, universal love of God. Some people are sacramental carriers of that Love. Then, contemplating the Word of Jesus, notice how he ignites a fire, begins a chain reaction that allows people to join the chain of Love. Notice too, that for Him, it doesn't really matter how we get there. It only matters that we get there!



ENCYCLICAL LETTER  
**FRATELLI TUTTI**  
OF THE HOLY FATHER  
**FRANCIS**  
ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP

***Liberty, equality and fraternity***

103. Fraternity is born not only of a climate of respect for individual liberties, or even of a certain administratively guaranteed equality. Fraternity necessarily calls for something greater, which in turn enhances freedom and equality. What happens when fraternity is not consciously cultivated, when there is a lack of political will to promote it through education in fraternity, through dialogue and through the recognition of the values of reciprocity and mutual enrichment? Liberty becomes nothing more than a condition for living as we will, completely free to choose to whom or what we will belong, or simply to possess or exploit. This shallow understanding has little to do with the richness of a liberty directed above all to love.

104. Nor is equality achieved by an abstract proclamation that “all men and women are equal”. Instead, it is the result of the conscious and careful cultivation of fraternity. Those capable only of being “associates” create closed worlds. Within that framework, what place is there for those who are not part of one’s group of associates, yet long for a better life for themselves and their families?

105. Individualism does not make us more free, more equal, more fraternal. The mere sum of individual interests is not capable of generating a better world for the whole human family. Nor can it save us from the many ills that are now increasingly globalized. Radical individualism is a virus that is extremely difficult to eliminate, for it is clever. It makes us believe that everything consists in giving free rein to our own ambitions, as if by pursuing ever greater ambitions and creating safety nets we would somehow be serving the common good.

**A UNIVERSAL LOVE THAT PROMOTES PERSONS**

106. Social friendship and universal fraternity necessarily call for an acknowledgement of *the worth of every human person*, always and everywhere. If each individual is of such great worth, it must be stated clearly and firmly that “the mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity”.[81] This is a basic principle of social life that tends to be ignored in a variety of ways by those who sense that it does not fit into their worldview or serve their purposes.

107. Every human being has the right to live with dignity and to develop integrally; this fundamental right cannot be denied by any country. People have this right even if they are unproductive, or were born with or developed limitations. This does not detract from their great dignity as human persons, a dignity based not on circumstances but on the intrinsic worth of their being. Unless this basic principle is upheld, there will be no future either for fraternity or for the survival of humanity.

108. Some societies accept this principle in part. They agree that opportunities should be available to everyone, but then go on to say that everything depends on the individual. From this skewed perspective, it would be pointless “to favour an investment in efforts to help the slow, the weak or the less talented to find opportunities in life”.[82] Investments in assistance to the vulnerable could prove unprofitable; they might make things less efficient. No. What we need in fact are states and civil institutions that are present and active, that look beyond the free and efficient working of certain economic, political or ideological systems, and are primarily concerned with individuals and the common good.

[81] Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (24 November 2013), 190: AAS 105 (2013), 1100.

[82] *Ibid.*, 209: AAS 105 (2013), 1107.

## WE ARE NOW OFFICIALLY LIVE!

All Masses and Exposition, weekday and weekend, are now streamed live;  
please see page 4 of the newsletter for Mass times.

**MASS TIME CHANGE – FRIDAY MORNING MASS WILL NOW BE AT 12.00noon EVERY WEEK, except for Requiem Masses.**  
To **Watch Live** or **book your seat**, head over to our website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org)



**ST MARGARET CLITHEROW CHURCH SITE:** Bracknell Borough Council have approved the planning application relating to the church site. This was submitted by the Diocese on behalf of the parish and the Diocesan Trustees. The local authority was very complimentary towards everyone involved. The next stage of this project will be to enter into an agreement with the local authority called a Section 106 Agreement which details obligations that must be made in relation to the application and at the same time the Diocese Property Department will commence the process of selling the land. Professional fees have been spent to date which have been supported by the Diocese and these funds will need to be repaid to the Diocese on land disposal. The parish have asked for detail of these fees so that everyone can be made aware of the cost.

**Please note, there are no weekday Masses from Monday 3 May to Friday 7 May as Fr Danny is taking a well-earned break during this time. Also, please note that the Parish Office is closed on Bank Holiday Monday 3 May.**



**WEEKEND MASSES COMMENCE:** As from weekend **Saturday 1 May** and **Sunday 2 May** the Saturday 6.00pm Mass and Sunday 8.30am Mass will be celebrated each weekend as part of the gradual opening of our Church but within the Government guidelines. Mass seats to be booked via the parish website [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org) which opens at 9.00am every Monday for the weeks' Masses, 35 seats available as single and double seats.

### PRIVATE PRAYER & EXPOSITION – CHANGES TO TIMES

Private Prayer and Exposition after all Masses until dusk, see times on page 4. Access to the porch only, no access to the rest of the Church. Hand sanitiser, anti-bacterial cleaning spray and blue tissue paper available for you to clean the area where you have sat/knelt before leaving the porch so that the area is clean for the next persons to use. Stewards will not be in attendance. There are Emergency Contact details on display in the porch.



**JOIN US** to reflect upon and discuss the Sunday readings in our online **FAITH FORMATION GROUP** weekly on **Thursday evenings 7:30pm-9pm**. We aim to develop a better understand of how scripture calls us to a continuing and deepening of our faith, including what it means to be Catholic in our world in these times. Please email Mary at [bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bracknellpa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) who will send you the Zoom link.



**POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LETTER – 'FRATTELI TUTTI'** - Pope Francis' third encyclical inspired by the life and example of St. Francis of Assisi, completed during the pandemic, speaks to the possibility that, through it, we may rediscover a sense of common humanity, we are serialising the whole letter. This week: **'Liberty, Quality and Fraternity'** and **'A Universal Love that Promotes Persons'**.

### PASTORAL CARE AND BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

**PASTORAL CARE:** Are you lonely? Are you shielding? Are you ill and in need of prayer and/or support? Perhaps you haven't had contact with the Catholic Church for a while. Whatever the reason, please get in touch for a chat by emailing [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) or by calling **07394 440 938** (Pastoral Care team mobile).

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** Are you in the land of loss & would appreciate a chat with one of our group? If so please either phone **07376 790256** or contact the parish office on 01344 425729, or email [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)



**"Let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation." Pope Francis**



**SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT de PAUL** - Do you need help, particularly, as a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The local Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) may be able to provide some assistance, as we have access to limited additional hardship funds from a variety of sources, including the generosity of local parishioners. Please contact **IN CONFIDENCE** the local SVP on 07731 862 349

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

Brenda Theobald, Olga Maguire, Ena Stanton, Inge Walker, Eddie Moore, Peggy Pendergast, Ann Newton, Joyce Newland, Bridie Maughan, Josephine Timms, Anne Hardy, Patricia Holmwood, Evie & Ruby Shallom, Blanche Shap, Mike Garnham, Ethna Sweeney, Mary King, Mary Phelan, Tony Andrews, Derek Alexander, Margaret Clark, Shaun Howard, Sally Torode, Dorcas Innes-Grant, Veronika Jastrzebski, Jerry Tobin, Rico Morales, Reynalita Leysan, Donal Hanley, Jim McEvoy, Mary Murray, Thelma Briggs, Margaret Pearce, Audrey Lam, Marie Swash, Terri Landmann, Jennie Tucker, Vilma Taborda, Zac Hoy, Terry Brennan, Brenda Lynch, Amanda Killestein, Doreen Pryor, Sharon Bryan, Chantal Addley, Terry and Peggy McCullough, Meg Knowles. John Moir, Terry Dixon, Beryl Pilgrim, Charles Hose, Douglas Hunt.

**To add a name to this list with consent, or if you want a name removed, please contact the Parish Office.**

## PARISH OF ST JOSEPH and ST MARGARET CLITHEROW, BRACKNELL

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30am	Limited Attendance Mass	<i>Parish Intention Olga Rogulska, RIP</i>
		10.30am	Limited Attendance Mass	
		12.00noon	Private Prayer & Exposition, Porch access only	
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Limited Attendance Mass	
		11.00am	Private Prayer & Exposition, Porch access only	

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Limited Attendance Mass	
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Limited Attendance Mass	<i>Parish Intentions</i>
		10.30am	Limited Attendance Mass	
		12.00noon	Private Prayer & Exposition, Porch access only	

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*PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEAT FOR THE ABOVE MASSES  
VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE FROM 9.00am ON MONDAY MORNINGS,  
DETAILS TO BOOK MASSES AND "WATCH LIVE" ARE ON PAGE 2 OF THE NEWSLETTER*

**STAY HOME = SAVE LIVES = PROTECT THE NHS**

*Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA*

*Telephone: 01344 425729 Email: [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)*

*Pastoral Care: 07394 440938 Email: [pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bracknellcatholicchurch.org) Bereavement Support Group: 07376 790256*

*Website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org) Follow us on Facebook*

#### **DONATIONS TO PARISH FUNDS, PLEASE CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING:**

**ONLINE 'GIVE AS YOU LIVE' BUTTON; DIRECT DEBIT, STANDING ORDER AND GIFT AID FORMS  
ARE ALL ON THE PARISH WEBSITE (drop down "Planned Giving")**

**BANK DETAILS: Account Name: PRCDTR Bracknell St Joseph  
Sort Code: 30-93-04; Account Number: 00875520; Bank: Lloyds Bank Plc, Palmerstone Road, Southsea  
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO (FULL NAME): PRCDTR BRACKNELL ST JOSEPH**

**South Berkshire Pastoral Area, Portsmouth Roman Catholic Diocese, Registered Charity No. 246871**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Daniel McAvoy Deacon: Rev. Aidan Lynch*

*Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Fisher Pastoral Assistant: Mary McNab*

*Safeguarding Representatives: Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read*

*Safeguarding phone and email: 07712 048695 [safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@bracknellcatholicchurch.org)*