

THE YEAR OF SAINT MARK EATING WITH THE BRIDEGROOM

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

MAKING THE DARKNESS VISIBLE

SUNDAY 29 AUGUST 2021

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The heartbeat, the core of the 'Great Charter for Justice' (sometimes called the 10 commandments) is a Command to Love God, and a Command to Love our neighbour as ourselves. Each generation adapts the charter to meet the new situation. In theory, they might add something new, but they must never do it in such a way that it causes heart failure. In reality, new traditions take on a power of their own. The distinction between the heart and the edge becomes unclear. What was once a matter of the heart can become an obsession with externals.

The problem is that the heart is on the inside. It cannot be measured directly. External behaviours are on the outside and can be, or so it seems, be more easily measured. Clean hands, pots and pans can be scrutinised. But the heart may not be available for inspection. Therefore, the guardians of the 'tradition' are prone to policing externals. They ask trivial questions and forget to ask the important one. They can no longer distinguish God's Command from human custom.

But the Beloved Son of God lives out of the Heart, the Centre. He confronts their hypocrisy. He confronts their refusal to hold the inner love of God and neighbour and the outer ways this can be embodied as one dance.

These guardians of the law, the Scribes and the Pharisees, are concerned with ritual defilement, about putting something 'unclean' inside yourself. They move from the outside in, and fret about contamination. With this in mind, all of their energy is focused on the outside world and whatever might make someone unclean.

But Jesus, like all good spiritual teachers, is more concerned about moral defilement, and the havoc it unleashes in the world. This happens in exactly the opposite way. It begins and grows in the human heart, in the cultivation of evil thoughts and intentions. People are destructive from the inside out if their hearts are fixated on fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, slander, envy. Discover what is driving these things and you may know how to make Peace.

But this is the problem. We can agree with Jesus that the heart is a strange landscape, but the reason why we do certain things may not be clear to us. This is why we need to know ourselves well. This is why we need to come regularly to confession. This is why we need the gift of a friend who challenges our worst behaviours and tells us the truth about ourselves. As we become more aware of what drives us we have better choice in whether to go with it or not. If we surround ourselves with 'flunkies' who only tell us what we want to hear, we might never grow in wisdom or understanding. Worst still, we might be destroying love and not know how to reverse the trend.

Over the course of my life, I have been invited by certain events and challenged by friends to take a good hard look on the 'inside'. I do not find this kind of inner scrutiny easy or enjoyable. Knowing my hidden self doesn't always match the scrubbed up persona I like to present to the world. Lifting the veil and humbly acknowledging who I really am is not an activity most are willing to do. But when I have found the courage to shine a light into my darkness there has always been a payoff. I find I can be a better person. Perhaps this is what Carl Jung meant when he said that we grow up, not by entertaining figures of light, but by making our darkness visible.





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

**CHAPTER 5 - continued**

**189.** We are still far from a globalization of the most basic of human rights. That is why world politics needs to make the effective elimination of hunger one of its foremost and imperative goals. Indeed, “when financial speculation manipulates the price of food, treating it as just another commodity, millions of people suffer and die from hunger. At the same time, tons of food are thrown away. This constitutes a genuine scandal. Hunger is criminal; food is an inalienable right”.<sup>[188]</sup> Often, as we carry on our semantic or ideological disputes, we allow our brothers and sisters to die of hunger and thirst, without shelter or access to health care. Alongside these basic needs that remain unmet, trafficking in persons represents another source of shame for humanity, one that international politics, moving beyond fine speeches and good intentions, must no longer tolerate. These things are essential; they can no longer be deferred.

***A love that integrates and unites***

**190.** Political charity is also expressed in a spirit of openness to everyone. Government leaders should be the first to make the sacrifices that foster encounter and to seek convergence on at least some issues. They should be ready to listen to other points of view and to make room for everyone. Through sacrifice and patience, they can help to create a beautiful polyhedral reality in which everyone has a place. Here, economic negotiations do not work. Something else is required: an exchange of gifts for the common good. It may seem naïve and utopian, yet we cannot renounce this lofty aim.

**191.** At a time when various forms of fundamentalist intolerance are damaging relationships between individuals, groups and peoples, let us be committed to living and teaching the value of respect for others, a love capable of welcoming differences, and the priority of the dignity of every human being over his or her ideas, opinions, practices and even sins. Even as forms of fanaticism, closedmindedness and social and cultural fragmentation proliferate in present-day society, a good politician will take the first step and insist that different voices be heard. Disagreements may well give rise to conflicts, but uniformity proves stifling and leads to cultural decay. May we not be content with being enclosed in one fragment of reality.

**192.** In this regard, Grand Imam Ahmad Al-Tayyeb and I have called upon “the architects of international policy and world economy to work strenuously to spread the culture of tolerance and of living together in peace; to intervene at the earliest opportunity to stop the shedding of innocent blood”.<sup>[189]</sup> When a specific policy sows hatred and fear towards other nations in the name of its own country’s welfare, there is need to be concerned, to react in time and immediately to correct the course.

**FRUITFULNESS OVER RESULTS**

**193.** Apart from their tireless activity, politicians are also men and women. They are called to practice love in their daily interpersonal relationships. As persons, they need to consider that “the modern world, with its technical advances, tends increasingly to functionalize the satisfaction of human desires, now classified and subdivided among different services. Less and less will people be called by name, less and less will this unique being be treated as a person with his or her own feelings, sufferings, problems, joys and family. Their illnesses will be known only in order to cure them, their financial needs only to provide for them, their lack of a home only to give them lodging, their desires for recreation and entertainment only to satisfy them”. Yet it must never be forgotten that “loving the most insignificant of human beings as a brother, as if there were no one else in the world but him, cannot be considered a waste of time”.<sup>[190]</sup>

**194.** Politics too must make room for a tender love of others. “What is tenderness? It is love that draws near and becomes real. A movement that starts from our heart and reaches the eyes, the ears and the hands... Tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women”.<sup>[191]</sup> Amid the daily concerns of political life, “the smallest, the weakest, the poorest should touch our hearts: indeed, they have a ‘right’ to appeal to our heart and soul. They are our brothers and sisters, and as such we must love and care for them”.<sup>[192]</sup>

<sup>[188]</sup> *Address to Participants in the World Meeting of Popular Movements* (28 October 2014): AAS 106 (2014), 853.

<sup>[189]</sup> *Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together*, Abu Dhabi (4 February 2019): *L’Osservatore Romano*, 4-5 February 2019, p. 6. <sup>[190]</sup> RENÉ VOILLAUME, *Frères de tous*, ed. Cerf, Paris, 1968, 12-13.

<sup>[191]</sup> *Video Message to the TED Conference in Vancouver* (26 April 2017): *L’Osservatore Romano*, 27 April 2017, p. 7.

<sup>[192]</sup> *General Audience* (18 February 2015): *L’Osservatore Romano*, 19 February 2015, p. 8.

**PLEASE NOTE: Monday 30 August 2021 is a Bank Holiday and the Parish Office will be closed. The Parish Office will have limited support from Friday 3 September until Friday 17 September 2021 inclusive, please give the office support team your respect and patience.**



**KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA – ST EDMUND CAMPION 2021 PILGRIMAGE:** You are invited to join the 2021 Pilgrimage in honour of St Edmund Campion and the Martyrs of England and Wales. A Relic of St Edmund Campion will be carried by the Knights of St Columba to Tyburn resting overnight at 42 Churches from Oxford to Tyburn, Marble Arch, starting at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 1 September** and ending the Pilgrimage at Tyburn Convent on **Sunday 24 October**. Details of this year's pilgrimage go to [www.province30.co.uk](http://www.province30.co.uk). Please join us at St Joseph & St Margaret Clitherow Church on **Wednesday 1 September** at 10.00am Mass to celebrate the lives and work of St Edmund Campion and the Martyrs of England and Wales.

**CAFOD** just one world **CAFOD RESPONDING TO MULTIPLE EMERGENCIES ACROSS THE WORLD.** CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organizations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the **CAFOD** website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

**IF YOU WISH TO APPLY FOR ANY OF THE SACRAMENTS: BAPTISM, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION, MARRIAGE, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE PARISH FOR ONE YEAR. REGISTRATION VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE.**

**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT! – We hope to commence our precious Sacramental journeys of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.** We need volunteers to join teams of Catechists who walk with families through these wonderful Sacraments, without volunteers we cannot run these Sacraments. Full training will be given. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in volunteering.



**POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LETTER – 'FRATTELI TUTTI'** - His 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 we continue with Chapter 5.

**SICK AND/OR HOUSEBOUND:** If you or your relative are housebound or because of illness cannot come to Mass wish to receive Holy Communion at your home, please inform the parish office (telephone 01344 425729 or email [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)) so that arrangements may be made for you to receive Holy Communion from a Minister of the Holy Eucharist. Ministers are now allowed to resume visits and continued safety protocols will be adhered to: wearing masks, social distancing, hand sanitizing, etc.



***"The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace". 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

#### **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***

#### **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, 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, Beryl Pilgrim, Charles Hose, Douglas & Bernadette Hunt, Phyllis Whitehouse, Clarita Kokou-Tchri, Margaret Finnieston, Louis Burgisser, Prim & Ian Maynard, Susan Thomson, Vivienne Halfpenny, Francis Franklin, Ann O'Sullivan.

**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

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

|        |                  |           |                                   |                          |
|--------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am    | Mass                              | <i>Parish Intentions</i> |
|        |                  | 10.30am   | Mass                              | <i>Parish Intentions</i> |
|        |                  | 12.00noon | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                          |

## Ss MARGARET CLITHEROW, ANNE LINE & MARGARET WARD, Martyrs

|           |                  |                |                                   |                                               |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | 30 <sup>th</sup> | <b>NO MASS</b> |                                   |                                               |
|           |                  | 10.00am        | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                                               |
| Tuesday   | 31 <sup>st</sup> | 10.00am        | Mass                              | <i>Carmen Myrna Catherine Page</i>            |
|           |                  | 11.00am        | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                                               |
| Wednesday | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 10.00am        | Mass                              | <i>Gregory Arthur James, RIP (Foundation)</i> |
|           |                  | 11:00am        | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                                               |
| Thursday  | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 10.00am        | Mass                              | <i>Catherine &amp; Peter Considine, RIP</i>   |
|           |                  | 11.00am        | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                                               |

## ST GREGORY THE GREAT, Pope, Doctor of the Church

|          |                 |           |                                   |                       |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Friday   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 12.00noon | Mass                              | <i>Julia Godden</i>   |
|          |                 | 1.00pm    | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                       |
| Saturday | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am   | Mass                              | <i>Zuzanna Pawlik</i> |
|          |                 | 11.00am   | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                       |

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

|          |                 |           |                                   |                          |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 6.00pm    | Mass                              | <i>Parish Intentions</i> |
| Sunday   | 5 <sup>th</sup> | 8.30am    | Mass                              | <i>Parish Intentions</i> |
|          |                 | 10.30am   | Mass                              | <i>Parish Intentions</i> |
|          |                 | 12.00noon | Private Prayer, Porch access only |                          |



All Masses, weekday and weekend, are now streamed live.  
To **Watch Live** head over to our website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org)  
**CONFESSIONS by appointment only, please contact the Parish Office.**

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

Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Fisher    Pastoral Assistant: Mary McNab

Parish Office: 39 Braccan Walk, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 1HA    Follow us on **Facebook**

Telephone: 01344 425729    Email: [stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)    Website: [www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org](http://www.bracknellcatholicchurch.org)

### 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

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

Safeguarding Representatives: Sarah Birch, Marion McGuire, Paula Read

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