

newsletter



31 January and 1 February 2015

4th Sunday, Year B



Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart

Our Mission

Through the power of the Holy Spirit we will be a parish renewed in our knowledge and understanding of the love of Jesus Christ, to enable each of us to fulfil our Christian mission

Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP

Tel: 01525 715 109, www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

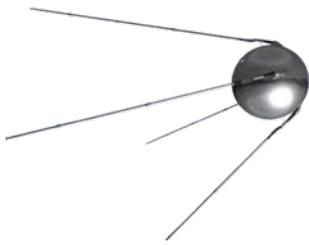


Times of Mass

Saturday	31 January	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Sunday	1 February	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Margaret and Patrick Gibbons, RIP
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	2 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	3 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Wednesday	4 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	5 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Friday	6 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

Sputnik was the first Russian word to become common currency all over the world. That little beeping satellite, encircling the planet, heralded the arrival of the space age. For communist Russia, it marked a huge propaganda victory. Communism was triumphant. Marxist ideology seemed destined to conquer. A generation later, Russia was to make another contribution to the world's vocabulary, this time twins, *glasnost* and *perestroika*. They were to mark the virtual end of Marxism, one of the most powerful political creeds ever loosed upon the world. For the best part of a century, it held sway over half the world. Its adherents could be found from one end of the globe to the other. It rivalled the great world religions in the fervour and commitment of its believers. It brooked neither doubt or dissent from its followers. No deviation from its doctrine was permitted. Then an insidious maverick made its appearance in the form of *glasnost* and began to nibble at the foundations of the Soviet monolith.



If you are new to the parish please contact the parish priest – details above.

Fr. Denis writes ...

A piece of paper flapping in the wind – that was the sign that British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain brought home with him to an anxiously waiting population when he returned from his talks with Adolf Hitler. It was 1938. Nobody wanted to hear talk of war, so recent was the memory of the slaughter of 1914–1918. Chamberlain could not conceive that anybody in his or her right mind wanted to contemplate another war. But he did not read Hitler right at all. What he wanted to believe was more powerful in his head than what was in front of his eyes.



The crowd that assembled to listen to Jesus wanted to see a sign from Him, something that they could put their trust in. Jesus was dynamic and convincing, but they needed more, so they said – they wanted ‘a sign’. The response of Jesus is telling: He Himself is sign enough. In another place, Jesus said, ‘By their fruits you shall know them’. This is true wisdom. We can gauge the genuineness of people by studying what they do, the way they behave in conversation and action. We have an ability, a gut instinct often, to recognise fraud when we see one. It may take time. Some people can be very deceiving, but ordinary human observation can be enough.



The signs that Jesus gives us are the wisdom of His words and the sign of His cross and resurrection. Read these signs and we will come to know the Lord.

INFORMATION

CONFESSIONS

Fr. Denis has resumed hearing confessions from 11.00 am to 11.30 am each Saturday.

PRAYER LINE

Please ring for intercessory prayer on 01525 634 186. We have some wonderful answers to prayers. Be assured of full confidentiality.

IN HOSPITAL, SICK OR HOUSE-BOUND?

Please let us know of anyone who needs a visit or requires Holy Communion at home.

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL GROUP

meets every Monday at 7.45pm. If you would to join us or would like more details or if you know of anyone who needs a visit, help with transport or any other need, contact Pat Rees on 01525 713 547.

CARDS, GIFTS, etc.

Are available for sale in Sacred Heart church after 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses. All are priced. Please put money in the repository box in the porch or see Clare Bevan – contact on 01525 403 589.

LITTLE 'UNS

Meet every Friday 10.15 am–11.45 am in term time, in the church hall. This is a group for babies and pre-schoolers. For further information please contact Catherine Bevan Dunn on 01525 862 253.

CHURCH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

<http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk>

We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 24 and 25 January the total was £626.53; this is £76.53 more than the amount we need each week to meet the parish running costs, and will help us to build up a contingency fund. The second collection for our worthy causes was £255.20.
With thanks, Fr. Denis.

Sunday Latin Mass: A Latin Mass is celebrated at 5.00 pm on Sundays. The Mass is from the missal of 1962 and fulfils the Sunday obligation.

POST-COMMUNION GROUP

The post-Communion group runs generally every Sunday, excluding school holidays. Our next meeting is today, **1 February**. We meet in church after the 9.00 am Mass.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS meet

fortnightly and our next meeting is on Tuesday **10 February** at 7.30pm at 80 George St., Malden. Please ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186 for more information or just to ask for prayer for your intentions.



PRE-COMMUNION GROUP

The pre-Communion group runs generally every Sunday, excluding school holidays. We meet in church after the 9.00 am Mass from 9.45 am till 10.30 am.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We will not meet until after Easter so that members of the group can attend the Exploring the Bible sessions. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



EXPLORING THE BIBLE

Starts this Wednesday 4 February until 25 March (8 weeks)

Featuring the acclaimed Bible TimeLine programme in use in parishes across the country.



For details of the programme and enrolment please see the posters and leaflets in church. (Excludes Ash Wednesday: Tuesday 17 February instead).

**Tea and coffee at 7.30 pm
Session from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm**

The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **9 February** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. Bring your sewing, knitting, crochet or whatever, and join like-minded people. For more information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



Tea and coffee will be available after 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses today. All welcome.



Newsletter copy deadline – Tuesday midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661; suz_yates@btinternet.com

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week 31 January and 1 February

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Suzanne Yates	Siobhan Campbell	Angela Turner
2 nd Reader	Christine Jackson	Darren Campbell	Dennis Horner
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Don Perrett	Myriam Rincon	Grace McKenna
Driver		Kate Mansford	

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 7 and 8 February

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Sue Barley	Marion McClurg	Hugh Davies
2 nd Reader	Judith Latham	Noelette Hanley	Martin Brennan
Eucharistic	Pat King	Martin Stynes	Catherine Davies
Eucharistic	Chris Till	Jane Crow	Clare Bevan
Driver		William Doyle	



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DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Bishop Peter warmly invites you to the Diocesan Mass for Married Life at Our Lady's Catholic Church, Corby Northants NN17 1EE on **Saturday 14 February**. He encourages all married couples and any of their family members to attend. We will gather from 11.30 am followed by Mass at 12 noon. Bishop Peter will give his pastoral blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones in their marriage e.g. 1, 10, 25, 40, 50 years etc. If you are celebrating such a milestone please contact Eamonn and Paola McMorrow on 07412 151 517 or at mfl@nores.org.uk. All are very welcome to attend. Refreshments are available after Mass.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next Baptism preparation classes will be held on **7 and 14 February** starting at 10 am for one hour in the hall at the back of the church.



The parish encourages all new parents asking for baptism of their child to attend. We also welcome parents who may wish to renew their preparation for baptism as their families grow larger. Asking for baptism for your child is the start of your child's sacramental journey in the Church. The sessions look at your role in the development of your child's faith, what you ask of the church and the promises you make on behalf of your child.

We look forward to seeing you and your family.

Godparents and grandparents are welcome to join us.

THE LAST OF POPE FRANCIS'S 10 NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

6. **Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people.** We need to be creative with young people. If they have no opportunities they will get into drugs and be more vulnerable to suicide.
It is not enough to give them food. Dignity is given to you when you can bring food home from one's own labour.
7. **Respect and take care of nature.** Environmental degradation is one of the biggest challenges we have. I think a question that we're not asking ourselves is: Is not humanity committing suicide with this indiscriminate and tyrannical use of nature?
8. **Stop being negative.** Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down. Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy.
9. **Don't proselytise; respect others' beliefs.** We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating. But the worst thing in all is religious proselytising: I am talking with you in order to persuade you. No, each person dialogues, starting with his and her own identity. The church grows by attraction, not proselytising.
10. **Work for peace.** We are living in a time of many wars, and the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive and dynamic.

Circle of Prayer for February – For Education

We pray for those in our local community who work in education, whether in schools, in colleges or in the local education authority. When education feels like an uncertain and unpredictable place to be, we pray that they'll sense the presence of Jesus, stilling their doubts, stirring their faith and breathing fresh life into their work.

