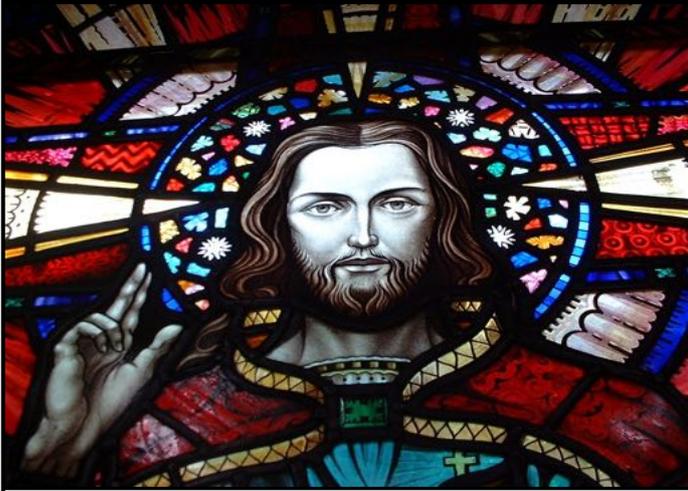


newsletter



1 and 2 July 2017

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A



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
www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Telephone: 01525 715 109 (checked every day), 07711 953 926

Canon Bennie Noonan, Parish Priest frbennie@btinternet.com, 01462 813 436

Deacon Philip, Pastoral Administrator deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk, 07711 953 926

Suzanne Yates, Parish Secretary secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk



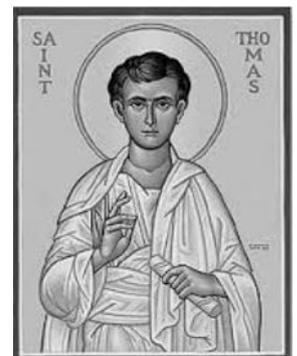
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Feast of St Thomas the Apostle – 3 July

The Apostle Thomas is famous for doubting the resurrection of Jesus when his fellow Apostles told him about it; but if he is the sceptical apostle, he is also the believing Apostle, for having seen and touched a risen man, he made the immediate leap of faith and so became the first Apostle to call Jesus, God.

Nothing is known about Thomas's later career. A well-known apocryphal document called the *Acts of Thomas* relates his missionary journeys to Persia and India. Although the document as it stands is not historical evidence (it was written to provide evidence for certain heretical Gnostic teachings), it still bears witness to the likelihood of a tradition that Thomas did go to India. If you are writing something that you intend to use to convince people of a controversial doctrine, you do not invent completely new facts, instead, you weave the existing facts and traditions into something that suits your purpose. Thus the very fact that the heretics used a journey of St Thomas to support their case shows us that, in the third century at least, there would have seemed nothing implausible about such a journey. The journey would have been easy enough – important trade routes lay that way – and if some of the Apostles went west, to Rome, the centre of the world, there is no reason why some others should not have chosen to go east, to the edge of the known world.

We will probably never know for certain; but the Christians of Kerala have called themselves for centuries St Thomas Christians, and they may very well be right.



Adapted from Catholic Calendar app by Universalis Publishing

Questions about the Future of the Parish

1. Deacon Philip will continue as our pastoral administrator for the parish, what does that mean for us in the parish?

There have been several pastoral administrators appointed in the diocese in recent times. They have been commissioned by Bishop Peter where there is no longer a resident priest, as is the case here in Flitwick in all matters related to the liturgy. Among these are Masses and other services, Mass intentions, the sacraments of baptism, weddings and funerals. In addition, there is the pastoral care of visiting the sick and people in need; and the spiritual care of parish prayer life and retreats. In other words, Deacon Philip is here as the first person to call for help on most aspects of parish and personal life. Deacon Philip will continue in his work as our deacon; serving on the altar, leading other liturgies and offering support in many other ways.

Deacon Philip will need our help more than ever to ensure the smooth running of the parish as we go through these changes. He will work closely with Fr. John, our new parish priest, Hugh Davies our finance chair, Suzanne Yates our parish secretary and Siobhan Campbell who chairs the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). He will also be relying on many people like the catechists and others who help run the parish and contribute to the liturgy, sacraments, pastoral care and spiritual life of our community. If you think you can join our amazing team of helpers, please contact Deacon Philip.

RETIRING COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection on **8 and 9 July** for Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea. Many people have never stopped to consider how important seafarers are to our standard of living. Without them we would not have most of the items we use in our everyday lives.

Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers who visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AoS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work; it takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need. Sea Sunday is the principal fundraising and awareness-raising event of the year for AoS.

This second collection will be taken at Masses throughout the country; this annual event is absolutely vital for AoS to continue their work. Please give generously, and remember seafarers in your prayers.



There is an opportunity for **prayer ministry** straight after both Masses **this weekend**. Please come forward to bring to the Lord your needs, and the team will pray with you, always confidential. 'Before they finish praying to me I will answer their prayers' (Isaiah 65:24).

BOOK CLUB

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21 September at 7.30 pm (in the home of Ros Penn)

New members made very welcome and we will chat about this next book.

The next book is *Impressions of Jesus* by Denis McBride

COLUMBAN MISSIONARY SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE IN PERU – 12 JULY 17

CAFOD is delighted to have Fr. Peter visit our diocese. Fr. Peter is an Irish Columban priest who has spent most of his life as a missionary based in Lima. He is a close collaborator of Gustavo Gutierrez and is active throughout Latin America as a consultant to national and regional Church bodies. Come and listen to Fr. Peter and hear about our latest campaign:

Holy Ghost parish centre (the lounge room), 33 Westbourne Road, Beech Hill, LUTON LU4 8JD. 7.00 pm (refreshments) for 7.30 pm start till 8.30 pm

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 24 and 25 June the total was £524.26. With thanks, Finance Committee.

**PARISH VISIT TO THE
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE MUSEUM
AT CHICKSANDS
THURSDAY 27 JULY
10.00 AM TILL 12 NOON**



We have been able to organise a visit to this museum to any who are interested. A group of 30 people is able to be accommodated. People will need to make their own arrangements to get to the museum

Housed at Chicksands, the museum of the British Army's Intelligence Corps offers a fascinating journey through the origins and development of the work of this important arm of our armed forces.

Knowledgeable guides will help us to explore the story from the Boer War and to experience aspects of the historical modern-day work of the members of this corps.

We are well aware that our government relies on intelligence about a wide range of threats and organisations, in its efforts to secure our collective safety.

Chicksands functions as a training and operational centre for the Intelligence Corps. We are therefore, as individuals, required to complete a screening process in order to access the site.

After the visit is completed, the party will retire to the Stone Jug public house, Clophill, for lunch.

You must register by the form in the foyer to attend.

Closing Date – 14 July

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **5 July**, 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **10 July** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on Monday **3 July** and break up for the Summer with an Agape meal on 17 July. We thank Our Lord for so much answered prayer over the last sixteen years. New members are welcome to join us in September to prayer for their families.

Tea and coffee will be available after 11.00 am Mass. All welcome



CONFIRMATION 2018

We invite families with children who will be in year 8 in July 2018 to register for the confirmation programme starting later in the year.



Please email Deacon Philip at deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk with the name or names of your child or children.

FOODBANK

We are part of the NEED Project which operates a Foodbank for people in Flitwick and Ampthill. The NEED project is asking for **tinned fruit, jam and 500g (1lb) bags of sugar**. Please assist if you can.

We welcome Harry, son of Beth and Kevin Dawes, who will be baptised into the Catholic community today, Sunday.



We ask the parish to pray for him and his family on this special day, and wish him and his family all God's blessings on their journey of faith.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR JULY – SEAFARERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Almighty God, we give thanks for all those who work at sea. We acknowledge our need for the food and raw materials they transport. We recognise that they are sometimes in danger and their long absences often involve sacrifices in their family life. Help us to show our gratitude not only in our words, but also in our actions. Amen.



INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and NEXT Wednesday at 7.15 pm.

PRAYER LINE

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

CARDS, GIFTS, etc.

Are available for sale in Sacred Heart church after Mass. All are priced. Please put money in the repository box at the back of the church.

SAFEGUARDING

For information contact Paula Bates on 07834 715 978 or safeguarding@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

CHURCH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

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

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 7.30 pm. If you would like to join us or want more details or if you know of anyone who needs a visit, help with transport or any other need, contact John Flanagan on 01525 406 810.

LITTLE 'UNS

Meet every Friday 10.15 am to 11.45 am in term time, in the church hall. This is a group for babies and pre-schoolers. For further information please contact Deacon Philip on deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk.

MASS INTENTIONS

For Mass intentions contact Deacon Philip who will arrange for Canon Bennie or another local priest to say a Mass.

Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Saturday	1 July	6.00 pm	Catherine and James McParland, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday	2 July	11.00 am	People of the Parish
Monday	3 July	9.30 am	Michael Fitch, Recently Deceased RIP
Tuesday	4 July		No Service
Wednesday	5 July	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	6 July		No Service
Friday	7 July	9.30 am	Intentions of the Johnson Family

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 1 and 2 July

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Michael Burgess	Dennis Horner
2 nd Reading	Angela Bartlett	Pat Rees
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Adrian Hamilton	Hilary Brennan
Driver		C./J. Gallagher

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 8 and 9 July

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Pat Crowe	Una McAlinden
2 nd Reading	Noreen Weighell	Catherine Davies
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Peter Hyde	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Till	Nicky Paterson
Driver		Louis Chadwick