

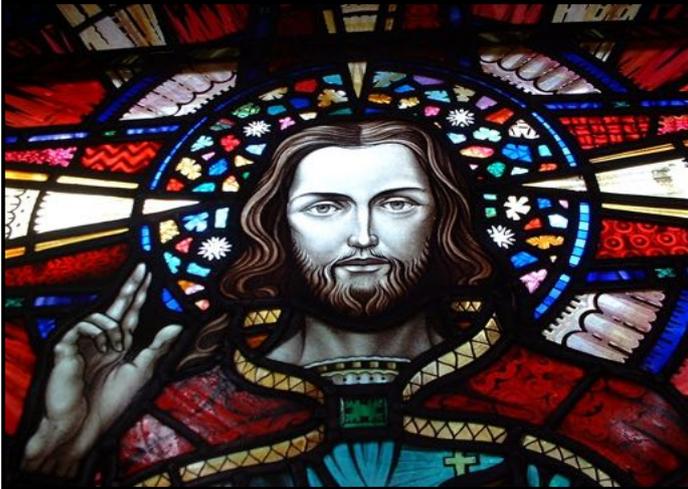


# newsletter



1 and 2 October 2016

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C



## 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](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

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

**Canon Bennie Noonan**, Parish Priest      [frbennie@btinternet.com](mailto:frbennie@btinternet.com), 01462 813 436

**Deacon Philip**, Pastoral Administrator      [deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk), 07711 953 926

**Suzanne Yates**, Parish Secretary      [secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)



Follow us on facebook

## First Corporal Works of Mercy – Feed the Hungry

It is a sight which once seen we can never forget: on the streets of our nation a poor person going through the bin looking for food. It is unsettling to realise that people go to bed hungry in the United Kingdom. The first two corporal works of mercy address our most fundamental human needs: food and drink. One very immediate way to perform this work of mercy is to help organisations in our community that feed the poor.

When we look beyond our borders we see that matters are more drastic in other parts of the world. Pope Benedict XVI has written that feeding the hungry is an ethical imperative for the universal Church, and he observes: 'Hunger is not so much dependent on lack of material things as on a shortage of social resources' (*Caritas in veritate* 27). It is a tragedy that people go hungry in our world, but it is a scandal that they do so because the abundant goods of this world are not shared.

This is an obligation for every human being, but it has a special claim on us as Christians. We worship Christ, the Bread of Life, in the Eucharist; but this worship will be hollow if we do not also reverence and serve him in the poor.



Recognising Christ in those who hunger, we will want not simply to meet their needs, but to provide them with more than leftovers.

This work of mercy can also be carried out in other circumstances. People who are experiencing stress or grief may not have the energy to cook. Bringing meals to a neighbour at a difficult time, such as after a stay in the

hospital or at the death of a loved one, is a small but effective act of charity. The elderly shut-in or resident in a home would appreciate an occasional special treat or luncheon out. A good meal – especially when accompanied by a warm heart and a generous ear – nourishes the spirit as well as the body.

In the context of this work we might also revisit the practices of fasting and abstinence, which seem to have all but disappeared from Catholic life. By foregoing a meal we can curb our own appetite (a healthy thing for us!) and use the resources to help someone who needs a meal.

As we reflect on the works of mercy during this Holy Year, we see that they open our eyes to the needs – great and small – of other people.

Adapted from <http://jubileeofmercy-eb.org>

## The Joyful Mysteries – Wednesday, 5 October, 7.30 pm

The Joyful Mysteries are taken mostly from St Luke's Gospel in the New Testament. They involve the joyful events of Jesus' childhood and will be led by the Charismatic Prayer group

*And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

When Adam and Eve sinned against God, the gates of heaven were closed. God promised to send a saviour who would open the gates of heaven. Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promise. That is why the Incarnation is the most wonderful event in human history. The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary are so called because they recount all the Joys of the Good News, namely Jesus.

- The Annunciation – The angel announces that Jesus is to be born.
- The Visitation – The baby in Elizabeth's womb leaps for joy when Mary, who is pregnant with Jesus, visits her.
- The Birth of Jesus – Jesus is born in a stable in Bethlehem.
- The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple – Jesus is presented to God in the temple in Jerusalem in accordance with Jewish Law.
- Finding Jesus in the Temple – who was lost is found in the temple in Jerusalem teaching the high priests.

Adapted from <http://www.how-to-pray-the-rosary-everyday.com/joyful-mysteries.html>

### 4 October – Feast of St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)

Saint Francis of Assisi was baptised Giovanni, but renamed Francesco. His name was Francesco di Pietro di Bernardone, born 1181 in Assisi, duchy of Spoleto and he died 3 October 1226 in Assisi. He was canonised 16 July 1228 by his former protector, Pope Gregory IX. His feast day is on 4 October. He is the founder of the Franciscan orders of the Friars Minor (*Ordo Fratrum Minorum*), the women's Order of St Clare (the Poor Clares), and the lay Third Order. He was also a leader of the movement of evangelical poverty in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. His evangelical zeal, consecration to poverty, charity, and personal charisma drew thousands of followers. Francis's devotion to the human Jesus and his desire to follow Jesus' example reflected and reinforced important developments in medieval spirituality. The Poverello (Poor Little Man) is one of the most venerated religious figures in Roman Catholic history, and he and Catherine of Siena are the patron saints of Italy. In 1979 Pope John Paul II recognised him as the patron saint of ecology.



Adapted from <https://www.britannica.com>

### ENROLLING FOR SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Our programme of preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are to begin shortly.



After assessing the feedback from parents and families we have decided to hold the sessions from 10.00 am on Sunday morning, leading up to the 11.00 am Mass.

For children in Year 2 or older who have yet to begin their progress towards First Communion, we are inviting enrolment in the Reconciliation programme. In the first instance, email to [sacraments@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:sacraments@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk), with the child's name, date of birth, parent or carer's name and contact details.

Our session begin as follows:-

Reconciliation on **Sunday 9 October**

First Holy Communion on **Saturday 15 October**  
(we begin with our usual celebratory meal).

Keep an eye out for *Operation Christmas Child* – boxes and leaflets will be available soon.



We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 24 and 25 September the total was £401.81, this is £148.19 less than needed for our running costs. The collection for Walsingham was £268.15.

We welcome Ethan, son of Louisa and Jason Philbin, who will be baptised into the Catholic community this 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.



## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI – 3 TO 7 OCTOBER

On Monday next week 32 pilgrims will be travelling to Assisi, Italy. They will be visiting the shrines of St Francis, St Clare and some will be making an excursion to Rome for the day and will go through the Holy Door at St Peter's. They will be there for St Francis' Feast Day on 4 October.



Please keep Fr. Bennie, Deacon Philip and all the pilgrims in your prayers as they make this pilgrimage, and you are invited to join them on Monday for Mass at 9.30 am before they set off.

## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **5 October** 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



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

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY DOOR OF MERCY IN NORTHAMPTON Wednesday, 26 October 2016

As part of our continuing celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy we are holding a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at Northampton Cathedral of Our Lady Immaculate and St Thomas of Canterbury.

We are blest as Bishop Peter will say Mass for us on the occasion of our visit.

We hope that as the pilgrimage has been arranged during half-term it will allow all the parishioners, young and not so young, to participate in this journey together as a parish.



Please sign up on the poster at the back of church if you wish to join the pilgrimage and please indicate on the form if you would be willing to offer lifts to the cathedral for those who do not have transport.

On our return from the pilgrimage we will carry back to the parish the Lampedusa cross, which is currently in our diocese, and hold a special evening of prayer the following week to remember that all migrants and refugees are our brother and sisters.

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS** will meet on **10 October**. New members will be made very welcome; ring Sue Barley for more information on 01525 634186. The meeting is held at 80 George Street, Maulden.



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

## CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY IS THIS FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER 2016.

This Harvest Fast Day we are invited to join 32-year-old Nicanora from Bolivia on her journey from poverty to abundance. We can stand alongside Nicanora as she learns new skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family. Please pick up a Fast Day envelope this weekend and give what you can.



## A Big Thank You from the SVP

All the members of the SVP would like to express their enormous gratitude for your wonderful generosity following the annual appeal.

The collection came to £1,231.53 of which £954.00 was Gift Aided meaning that we will be able to obtain just under £240.00 more when the paperwork is done. Thank you to those of you who took the time and trouble to fill out the envelopes.

Again, many, many thanks; you know where we are if you know of anyone needing help.

May God bless you all.



## Circle of Prayer for October – The Harvest and the Fruits of Human Work

O Lord, good Father, who in your providence has entrusted the earth to the human race, grant, we pray, that with the fruits harvested from it we may be able to sustain life and, with your help, always use them wisely.



## INFORMATION

### CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and NEXT Wednesday at 7.00 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](mailto: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 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 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 Tom Cahill 07931 700 646.

### 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 October	6.00 pm	Bill Odell, Recently Deceased, RIP
Sunday	2 October	11.00 am	Private Intentions
Monday	3 October	9.30 am	Intentions of the Pilgrims
Tuesday	4 October		No Service
Wednesday	5 October	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	6 October		No Service
Friday	7 October	9.30 am	Service of the Word and Communion

**Newsletter copy deadline** – Tuesday midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661; [suz\\_yates@btinternet.com](mailto:suz_yates@btinternet.com)

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 1 and 2 October

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 pm
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Siobhan Campbell	Pauline Chambers
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Mary Brown	Martin Brennan
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Till	Grace McKenna
Driver		Louis Chadwick

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 8 and 9 October

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 pm
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Pat Crowe	Victoria Basterfield
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Noreen Weighell	Bernadette Basterfield
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Peter Hyde	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	Arian Hamilton	Martin Stynes
Driver		Kate Mansford