

newsletter



2 and 3 September 2017

22nd Sunday of 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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Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 8 September

If you are quick with maths, you've probably already worked out that 8 September is exactly nine months after 8 December, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Christians normally celebrate the day on which saints die, because that is when they entered into eternal life. And indeed, Catholics celebrate the end of Mary's life in the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. But we also celebrate three birthdays and Mary's is one of them. The other two are the births of Christ and St John the Baptist, and the common thread tying these feasts together is that all three, Mary, Jesus, and St John, were born without original sin.



In earlier centuries, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated with greater fanfare; today, however, most Catholics probably do not even realise that the Church has a special feast day set aside to celebrate it. But, like the Immaculate Conception, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an important date in our salvation history. Christ needed a mother, and Mary's conception and birth, therefore, are events without which Christ's own birth would have been impossible.

It's no surprise, then, that the Christians of the second century AD recorded the details of Mary's birth in such documents as the Protoevangelium of James, and the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary. While neither document bears the authority of scripture, they provide us with everything that we know about the life of Mary before the Annunciation, including the names of Mary's parents, St Joachim and St Anna. It is a good example of tradition, which complements (while never contradicting) scripture.

Adapted from <http://catholicism.about.com>

Questions about the Future of the Parish

We are repeating the following question as it is important.

With only one Mass on a Sunday in the future, where will I park?

You are right to be concerned about the capacity of our parking space. We cannot use the space around the church to expand our parking capacity – due to planning and traffic restrictions. **HOWEVER**, with some creative thinking and the cooperation of Flitwick Lower School we will be providing additional car parking, five minutes walk from the church. We would encourage the use this additional space.

To ensure that parking is best used we make the onsite parking for **visitors and permit holders only**. These permits will give priority to the disabled, frail, elderly and those with other needs. Apart from visitors, ALL of the remainder of the parish community will be encouraged to use the school car park or elsewhere, walk to church and find other ways to limit their need to park near the church. We know this is inconvenient. If you have particular needs, or you have any ideas on practical ways to improve parking please get in touch with Deacon Philip.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Macmillan Coffee Morning here on Friday **29 September** immediately after 9.30 am Mass.



FR. S. JAYASEELAN (FR. JAY)

On 10 August this year, Fr. Jay was installed as the new Provincial of MSFS (Missionaries of St Francis de Sales) at the MFSF Provincialate in Pune, India. Fr. Jay has served with us a number of times in the past few years while he has been in Rome.



Fr. Jay celebrating his installation.

We congratulate him on this wonderful position and wish him every success.

Please remember him in your prayers.

Tea and coffee will be available after 9.00 am Mass.

Parish Pilgrimage in 2018

Planning Meeting

Saturday, 30 September 2017

11.00 am in the church room

All parishioners are cordially invited to attend and have a say in where we go next!

Presentation on places of pilgrimage
Refreshments

THE ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

Celtic Journeys

Exploring with St Brendan and the Celtic Saints

Saturday 16 September 9.30 am to 3.30 pm at Buckden Towers

Reserve the date in your diary and look out for the registration leaflets. Space on the retreat is limited to 20 people. Donation for the day £10.00 – pay on the day – bring a shared lunch.



SUMMER PARISH BRUNCH

We are holding a summer brunch NEXT Sunday **10 September** after 9.00 am Mass. Tickets are £5.00 per person and £12.00 per family. These will be available after all Masses.



HELPERS NEEDED

We need helpers for the Summer Brunch. If you can help, please phone Rose Horne on 01525 750 188 or Pat King on 01525 402 598.

Young-Mi Smith-Sawa, RIP

Please remember in your prayers Young-Mi Smith-Sawa who died recently. Her Funeral Service was held here on **Friday 1 September**. All our sympathy and prayers go to Young-Mi's family.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

We are looking forward to starting our Sacramental programme soon.

If your child is in Year 2 she/he is ready to start Reconciliation on 12 November.


If your child is in Year 3 and completed the Reconciliation programme, the Communion programme will start on 25 February 2018. Both programmes will run every week after the Sunday Mass.


Post-Communion will run alongside both classes fortnightly.


It is **vital** to register for these programmes, please email sacrament@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk to receive enrolment paperwork. Please make sure you include your child's Year in September 2017.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **6 September**, 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 **11 September** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589. 

Mothers' Prayers will resume meeting on Monday, **4 September** at 7.30 pm at 80 George Street, Maulden. We thank Our Lord for 16 years of warm fellowship and answered prayers for our children, grandchildren and families. 

As we start our new year you would be very welcome to join us to pray for your family intentions in full confidentiality. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186. We meet fortnightly.

SVP APPEAL

Most of you are aware of the work of the SVP in the parish, visiting those who may be lonely and being ready to help those in need. You are always amazingly generous to us and we want to thank you for all your support. This year's appeal will be on the weekend of **16 and 17 September**. A member of the parish SVP group will speak at both Masses and there will be retiring collections.



On the weekend of the appeal, we will also present our annual report, and be on hand to answer any questions that you might want to ask.

If you are able and want to Gift Aid your donations, we will have pens and envelopes available.

Thank you in advance for all your support in both prayer and financial giving.

Congratulation to Sarah Ayres and Patrick Crow who were married here at Sacred Heart on Friday 1




September. We wish them every blessing for their future together.

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 26 and 27 August the total was £534.19. The second collection for Peter's Pence raised £268.17. With thanks, Finance Committee.

We welcome Georgia, daughter of Gemma and Ray Ward, who was baptised into the Catholic community on Saturday. 

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

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER – WORKERS

O Lord, you imposed a duty on all human beings to work together to build up the world. Help us to develop the earth by the work of our hands and with the aid of technology, in order that it may bear fruit and become a dwelling place worthy of the whole human family. Let us realise that we are obeying Christ's command to place ourselves at the service of others in bringing forth a more human world, through your Son Jesus Christ. 

INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and THIS 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 | 2 September | 6.00 pm | Mary Hall, Recently Deceased, RIP |
| Sunday | 3 September | 9.00 am | Private Intentions |
| Monday | 4 September | 9.30 am | Intentions of Kate Garalay, who is seriously ill |
| Tuesday | 5 September | | No Service |
| Wednesday | 6 September | 7.30 pm | Maureen Dullaghan, Anniversary, RIP |
| Thursday | 7 September | 9.30 am | Young-Mi Smith-Sawa, Recently Deceased, RIP |
| Friday | 8 September | 9.30 am | Tom Turner, Anniversary, RIP |

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

| Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 2 and 3 September | | |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|
| Mass | 6.00 pm | 9.00 am |
| 1 st Reading | Michael Burgess | Bernadette Basterfield |
| 2 nd Reading | Emma Burgess | Victoria Basterfield |
| Eucharistic Minister | Deacon Philip Pugh | Martin Stynes |
| Eucharistic Minister | Helen Burgess | Clare Bevan |
| Driver | | William Doyle |
| Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 9 and 10 September | | |
| Mass | 6.00 pm | 9.00 am |
| 1 st Reading | Pat Crowe | Pauline Chambers |
| 2 nd Reading | Adrian Hamilton | Noelette Hanley |
| Eucharistic Minister | Deacon Philip Pugh | Hilary Brennan |
| Eucharistic Minister | Helen Wilson | Ros Penn |
| Driver | | Ros Penn |