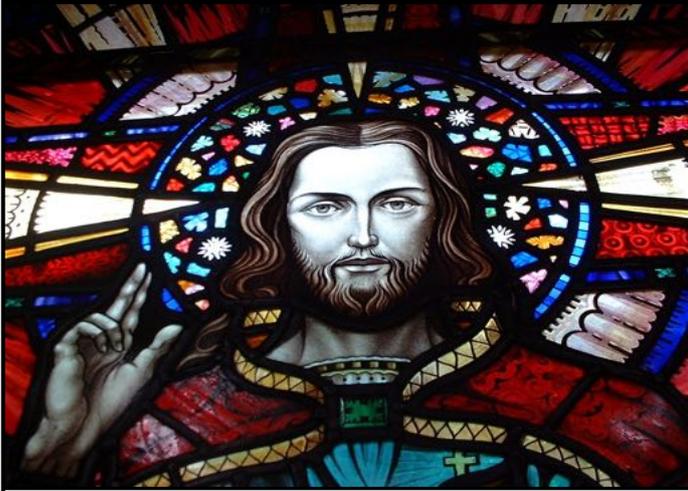


newsletter



6 and 7 May 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 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



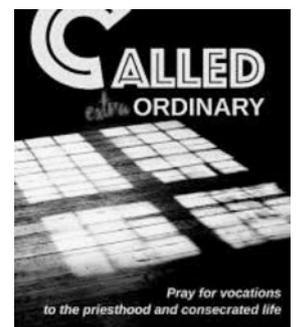
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THIS SUNDAY IS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND CONSECRATED LIFE

In Northampton we have ten men training for the priesthood, seven at St Mary's College, Oscott, two at the Venerable English College in Rome and one at Valladolid in Spain. Michael Bates will be ordained in July in Daventry. The others will be ordained over the next three to four years. Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

Key Moments in the Seminary

During his time of preparation, the student reaches various landmarks on his journey to the priesthood; at some stage after the initial two years, he will be accepted as a candidate for Holy Orders. For the first time he publicly proclaims his desire to be a priest and his commitment to continue his formation. The bishop receives him as one he hopes will persevere in his training and become a priest. He will receive the Ministry of Reader. Although a lay ministry, this will also remind him of his need to prepare for the priest's task of proclaiming the Gospel. He will receive the lay Ministry of Acolyte, looking ahead to the priest's role in the Eucharist and the other sacraments. Towards the end of his time at the seminary he will be ordained a deacon. He may now baptise, preach, preside at weddings and funerals, and lead the people in prayer. He commits himself to lifelong celibacy and to praying the Divine Office. The new deacon will exercise his ministry either in the seminary or in a parish.



Vocations Sunday

Good Shepherd Sunday John 10: 1-10

This week the Gospel reading is taken from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel, the major theme of which is that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. In this role he cares for his people. He protects them even at the, cost of his own life.



The concept of the Good Shepherd is preceded in today's extract with the idea of Jesus being the gate of the sheepfold.

The image drawn is not a simple one. A person who does not enter the sheep pen through the gate but some other way is a criminal and the sheep take no notice. The shepherd alone knows the sheep and leads them.

As the entrance to the sheepfold, Jesus contrasts himself with the Pharisees, who lead the people astray. The only effective leaders for the people are those who come through Christ. This is not the easiest symbolism but it does summarise the role of Jesus. All who would receive salvation do so through, with, and in him.

Adapted from *The Word of God, Year A Luke's Gospel* by Robin Cooper

BOOK CLUB

Next Meeting – 10 June

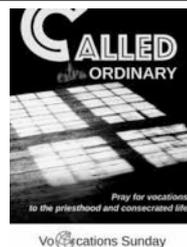
Next Book – *A Nun's Story* by Sister Agatha
At Ros Penn's home from 7.30 pm

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



First Holy Communion will take place at 11.00 am Mass this weekend.

Aiden and Caitlin will receive their First Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers.



There will be a second collection this weekend, **6 and 7 May**. This collection is for the Priests' Training Fund. This money is to cover the costs of training new priests for our diocese. Gift Aid envelopes are available this week. Please be as generous as you can.



SAVE THE DATE!

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM
10 JUNE 2017**

This year we have decided to book a coach for the diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham. We arrive in time for Mass with Bishop Peter at 12 midday. At 3.00 pm there will be a short procession along the pilgrim route from the Chapel of Reconciliation to the priory grounds, where there will be a short service. The coach will leave at 8.00 am and we hope to return by 6.00 pm. You will need to bring a packed lunch. The cost will be between £25 and £30 depending on final numbers. Please put your name and contact details on the sign-on sheet. Tickets will be available soon.



Are you interested in a youth group? Have you got questions about your faith? Come along to our youth group, **YouCat**, which is for all young people who have been Confirmed. We will be meeting in the St Frances Suite on **20 May** after 6.00 pm Mass for Food, Fun and Questions.

Please Note

Canon Bennie will be on retreat from 9 to 12 May. This week we will have Service of the Word and Communion on Wednesday and Friday.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 14 TO 20 MAY STANDING WITH REFUGEES LIKE NEJEBAR

Nejebbar and her family have fled horrors in Afghanistan, where her husband was threatened with torture and death for being a government worker.

You have helped us be there for refugees since 1945

Thanks to you, Christian Aid has been there for refugees like Nejebbar since 1945, providing essential food, shelter and legal assistance for people far from home. And we still believe in life before death.

This Christian Aid Week, 14-20 May, our church is continuing to walk with refugees.

We are not going to turn our backs on refugees now. Speak to Eamonn to join us.

**WE NEED COLLECTORS FOR OUR AREA!
IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT EAMONN
DIVER ON 01525 714 904
YOU ONLY NEED TO DO YOUR OWN STREET!**



Nejebbar, with her sons Hinayat (left) and Sudai, outside their home in Greece

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **17 May**. 30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **8 May** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on **17 May**. We meet from 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Meetings are at 80 George St, Maulden. Contact Sue Barley on 01525 634 186.



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'

Save the date!
The AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 25 May at 7.30 pm. All Welcome

PARKING PROTOCOL

Due to the size of our car park parking here at Sacred Heart is difficult so please take these ideas into consideration.

- If you live near church and are in good health, consider walking instead of driving to church.
- If you have to drive, consider offering to car share.
- Fill up the car park from the far fence end, so spaces are not blocked.
- Park so that no spaces are blocked off.
- Make two rows in the area between the marked spaces, once they are full.
- Keep the access route from the road to the church door clear, for emergency vehicle access.
- Please respect our neighbours in Pope Close and do not park in front of these houses.
- Leave the spaces near the front door till last, as they may be needed for the less able.
- Remember, if you are staying on after a service, move your car if it is blocking others,
- If parking in nearby roads, do so in a way that respects our neighbours.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR MAY – VOCATIONS

O God, you sent your Son, Jesus, to bring eternal life to those who believe. I join him in praying for labourers for your harvest. May your Holy Spirit inspire men and women to continue his mission through your priesthood, diaconate, religious life and lay ministry. May this same Spirit make known your will for my life.



INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and THIS 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

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	6 May	6.00 pm	Cath and Jim McPartland, Anniversaries, RIP
Sunday	7 May	11.00 am	Tom Fagan, Anniversary, RIP
Monday	8 May	9.30 am	Diana Noppen, Recently Deceased, RIP
Tuesday	9 May		No Service
Wednesday	10 May	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	11 May		No Service
Friday	12 May	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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 6 and 7 May

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Pat Crowe	Noelette Hanley
2 nd Reading	Angela Bartlett	Brendan Spillane
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Adrian Hamilton	Grace McKenna
Driver		Ros Penn

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 13 and 14 May

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Alison Braniff	Ros Penn
2 nd Reading	Judith Latham	Dennis Horner
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Peter Hyde	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Till	Hilary Brennan
Driver		David Toland