

newsletter



7 and 8 February 2015

5th 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	7 February	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Sunday	8 February	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Bernie Corrigan, RIP
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Joan Greene, RIP
Monday	9 February	5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
		9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	10 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Wednesday	11 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	11 February	2.30 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Funeral for Ian Barry Hughes
Friday	13 February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

I am sure you heard the saying that it is better to light a candle than curse the darkness. One candle does not give a great deal of light, but imagine a room in total darkness, and someone enters it bearing a lit candle. It is important to remind ourselves that the kingdom of God is made up of tiny acts, and most of them are hidden. There is another saying that if each before his own door swept, the whole village would be clean.



The gospel can be just beautiful in its simplicity. Jesus had declared Himself as the light of the world and He told us that we are to be the light of the world. I would rather be guided by a lighthouse than to be rescued by a lifeboat. Without preaching from a butter-box in the town square, I can preach the Christian message through everything I do, and every word I say. If the Spirit of God lives within me, then naturally, wherever I go, I bring the spirit with me. When Jesus ascended into heaven, when He returned to the Father, with mission accomplished, He brought the body He had with Him. He then sent His Spirit, and asked us to provide the body. He has no other feet, hand or voice but ours.

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

Fr. Denis writes ...

Pilgrimages are very popular today. Increasing numbers of young people are walking to holy places all over Europe. Santiago de Compostela, the shrine of St James in northern Spain, is a favourite destination, and the European Union has given large grants to repair the old pilgrim roads as well as providing hostels on the way. Sociologists attribute this new interest to people's searching for a spiritual meaning of life.



Also St James is a good patron because of his journey with Jesus when he experienced spiritual growth and development. Jesus teased him and his brother, John, with the nickname 'Boanerges', meaning 'Sons of Thunder', which seems to have reflected their impetuous personality: when the inhabitants of a Samaritan village rejected Jesus, James suggested they should bring down fire from heaven on them. More than once they seemed to have been at the centre of an argument among the apostles about which of them was the greatest. The gospel depicts their mother as very ambitious for them, though Mark attributes the ambition to the brothers themselves. This elicited the memorable response from Jesus that the 'Son of Man came not to be served but to serve'.

James learned that Christians are not to throw their weight around either in the Church or in secular life, but to think of responsibility as service. Like Jesus he gave his life, the first apostle to be martyred. Gradually, walking with Jesus changed him. He had learned what St Paul recognised, that 'we are only earthenware jars that holds this treasure' (2 Corinthians 4:7).

INFORMATION

CONFESSIONS

Saturday mornings from 11.00 am to 11.30 am, please see newsletter for changes.

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 31 January and 1 February the total was £759.03; this is £209.03 more than the amount we need each week to meet the parish running costs, and will help us to build up a contingency fund.
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.

THE POST-COMMUNION GROUP

The post-Communion group runs generally every Sunday, excluding school holidays. We meet in church after the 9.00 am Mass.

THE 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday **18 February** is Ash Wednesday and Masses will be held at 9.30 am and 7.30 pm.



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



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We will not meeting till after Easter so that members of the group can go to the Exploring the Bible sessions. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



EXPLORING THE BIBLE Continues this Wednesday 11 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 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	

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 14 and 15 February

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Michael Burgess	Christopher McMellon	Eamonn Diver
2 nd Reader	Mary Brown	Stephen Russell	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic	Noreen Weighell	John Flanagan	Tony Davis
Eucharistic	Helen Burgess	Hilary Brennan	Nicky Paterson
Driver			John Gallagher



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YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE!

If you want a better understanding of our faith, and a deeper relationship with God, then you should join

us for *A Quick Journey Through the Bible*, which began on 4 February.



The first session of *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* was held last Wednesday. In this session we had an introduction to how scripture fits into our lives as Catholics, and how to read the Bible.

We looked at how the Old and New Testaments are connected and are part of the history of the Church and of God's plan.

The Bible Timeline chart groups the stories into twelve consecutive historical periods, which are colour coded in the course to assist with our remembering them.

We were also shown a wonderful timeline poster that not only shows the Bible stories in chronological order but also the events in secular history that occurred at the same time.

Please remember in your prayers Ian Barry Hughes who died recently. The funeral will be held on Thursday 12 February at 2.30 pm followed by committal at Flitwick Cemetery. All our sympathy and prayers go to Ian's family.

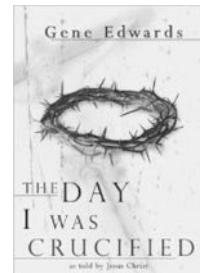


BOOK CLUB

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday **5 March 2015** at 7.30 pm at Ros Penn's home (Refreshments served)

Our next book is *The Day I was Crucified as told by Jesus the Christ ...* written by Gene Edwards



New members are very welcome to this informal gathering to have a chat about the books we read, if you feel like joining us, please purchase the book in paperback or download to your Kindle or iPad. If you want any further information, please contact Ros at rospenn@gmail.com or call her on 07545 705 543.

Quite simply this is one of the most powerful, moving pieces of Christian literature of modern times.

Other books have recorded the crucifixion and resurrection, but never before has the reader been ushered into unseen realms to witness the power of the cross as seen from the view of God the Father. You will discover a whole world of new meaning of Christ's death as you witness the destruction of the world systems, the annihilation of the law, the end of Adam's fallen race and the death of Death. Here is an unequalled drama of power and depth which Christian literature has rarely, if ever, achieved.

Edwards *The Day I Was Crucified as Told by Jesus the Christ* now takes its place among the greatest of Christian literature. We will still be reading this book 200 years from now, and still weeping (and praising) as we read. This is one of those rare life-transforming books.

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.

