

newsletter



7 and 8 March 2015

3rd Sunday of Lent, 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 March	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church James McParland, RIP
Sunday	8 March	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church Private Intentions
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church Wilfred Orchard, RIP
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	9 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	10 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church No Service
Wednesday	11 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	12 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church No Service
Friday	13 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church Service of the Word and Communion

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

What temples have we turned into marketplaces today? Our world is driven by consumerism and profit at the expense of our environment and at the expense of the resources of the world's poorest people. The Book of Creation is now speaking to us to stop making this house a marketplace. Climate change is having adverse effects here in England and in the poorest regions of the world. Let us pray this Sunday that 'zeal for Your house will consume' us, that we will take the necessary steps to ensure a more sustainable world for all. World leaders are working towards a global treaty on climate change but they are not agreed on how to cut emissions to sufficient levels. They need encouragement.

May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace... And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all.

Franciscan Blessing.

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

Fr. Denis writes ...

This is the birthday of the author, Kenneth Grahame, who wrote *The Wind in the Willows*. In that book, two of the characters, Rat and Mole, paddle the boat upriver very early one morning. As the sun rises, they sense that they are in the Presence of some Divine Being, and they feel called to worship:

Slowly, but with no doubt or hesitation whatever, and in something of a solemn expectancy, the two animals passed through the broken, tumultuous water, and moored their boat at the flowery margin of the island. In silence they landed, and pushed through the blossom and scented herbage and undergrowth that led up to the level ground, till they stood on a little lawn of a marvellous green, set round with Nature's own orchard-trees: crab-apple, wild cherry, and sloe.

'This is the place of my song-dream, the place the music played to me,' whispered Rat, as if in a trance. 'Here, in this holy place, here if anywhere, surely we shall find Him!'



Then suddenly Mole felt a great Awe fall upon him, an awe that turned his muscles to water, bowed his head, and rooted his feet to the ground. It was no panic terror – indeed, he felt wonderfully at peace, and happy – but it was an awe that smote and held him and, without seeing, he knew it could only mean that some PRESENCE was very, very near. With difficulty he turned to look for his friend, and saw him at his side, cowed, stricken, and trembling violently. And still there was utter silence in the populous bird-haunted branches around them; and still the light grew and grew.

INFORMATION

CONFESSIONS

Confessions have been suspended for the present, please contact Deacon Philip for information on 07780 687 452.

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 28 February and 1 March the total was £565.67; this is £15.67 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.

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SACRED HEART PARISH MANAGEMENT GROUP**

The Parish Management Group invite you to their annual general meeting which will be held in the parish room between 7.30 and 8.00 p.m. on Thursday **12 March**. This is an opportunity for you to meet the members of this group and raise any questions you have about our work for the parish. Information about our activities is available in the annual report to January 2014 which is now available on the parish website.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS meet fortnightly and our next meeting is on Tuesday **10 March** at 8.00pm and we are meeting in the church to lead the **Stations of the Cross**. Please ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186 for more information.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We will not be 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.



THANK YOU

Thank you for all the donations to the food bank. They are in need of tinned meat, coffee, stuffing and gravy granules. All donations are very gratefully accepted.

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child. They were distributed in Belarus. For more information see their website e-reply@samaritans-purse.org.uk

The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **9 March** 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.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

The parish is holding a day of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This will be on Tuesday **31 March**, the Tuesday of Holy Week, and will run from 2.00 pm to 9.00 pm. It will provide an opportunity for quiet, reflective time with Our Blessed Lord. This is a time for you to be in prayer in the presence of God. The day will end with Benediction at 8.45 pm.



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 March

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Suzanne Yates	Dee Brady	Martin Brennan
2 nd Reader	Mary Brown	Siobhan Campbell	Pauline Chambers
Eucharistic	Chris Till	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Noreen Weighell	Martin Stynes	Hugh Davies
Driver		David Toland	

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

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Judith Latham	Darren Campbell	Dennis Horner
2 nd Reader	Michael Burgess	Marion McClurg	Angela Turner
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Helen Burgess	Jane Crow	Catherine Davies
Driver		Kate Mansford	



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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK IN OUR LENTEN PROGRAMME?

- **Tuesday 10 March** – Soup for Sudan lunch, starting at 12 midday.
- **Tuesday 10 March** – Mothers' Prayers are leading the Stations of the Cross at 8.00 pm – all welcome.
- **Wednesday 11 March** – Session six of the Bible Timeline course at 7.30 pm
- **Thursday 12 March** – AGM of the PMG at 7.30 pm - all welcome
- **Friday 13 March** – Pilgrims and the book club are leading the Stations of the Cross at 7.30 pm – all welcome

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

Continues this Wednesday 11 March

Featuring the acclaimed Bible TimeLine programme in use in parishes across the country.

For details of the programme please see the posters and leaflets in church.

Tea and coffee at 7.30 pm
Session from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR SICK AND RETIRED CLERGY FUND 14 AND 15 MARCH

Although Together in Faith supports sick and retired priests, this is an opportunity for the parishioners who were not able to commit to that, to support these priests. Some of the retired priests are in poor health and most have given over forty years of service to the Church.



On Saturday **14 March** at 7.30pm, the UK Centre for Carnival Arts, St Marys Road, Luton LU1 3JA will host a production of *The Two Loves of Gabriel Foley*, written by Jim Keary. This hilarious comedy is being staged by Leitrim Drama Group, The Acorn Players and organised by Luton Irish Forum as part of Luton St Patrick's Festival 2015. Tickets £10.00

A selection of Easter cards is now available in the repository. All have the price marked on them, please put the money in the box at the back of the church.



SOUP FOR SUDAN RETURNS

Once again the SVP invite you to their Lenten Lunch on this Tuesday **10**



March for a simple meal of soup and a bread roll. Put it in your diary and then come along between 12 midday and 1.30 pm – and bring a friend. As always there is no charge but all donations will go to the SVP Sudan Baby Feeding Project, which still needs our support.

LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION MONDAY 23 MARCH AT 7.30 PM

Attending the Sacrament of Penance is a perfect way to prepare for Easter and to complete the time of Lent. Our Lenten Service of Reconciliation will include the opportunity for personal Confession.



Churches Together in Flitwick and Ampthill

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Friday 3 April at 10.00 am

Join us to follow the cross through Ampthill.

Starting at St Andrew's Church at 10.00 am.

Walking to Ampthill Market Square, Ampthill Methodist Church, and finishing at Ampthill Baptist Church at about 11.00 am.

Walk followed by hot cross buns and tea or coffee.



Circle of Prayer for March – Candidates for Sacraments



Lord – we praise and thank You for the precious gifts of Your Sacraments for each of us. As our brothers and sisters prepare to join us in receiving these wonderful gifts, may they experience the power of Your presence and blessing. Amen