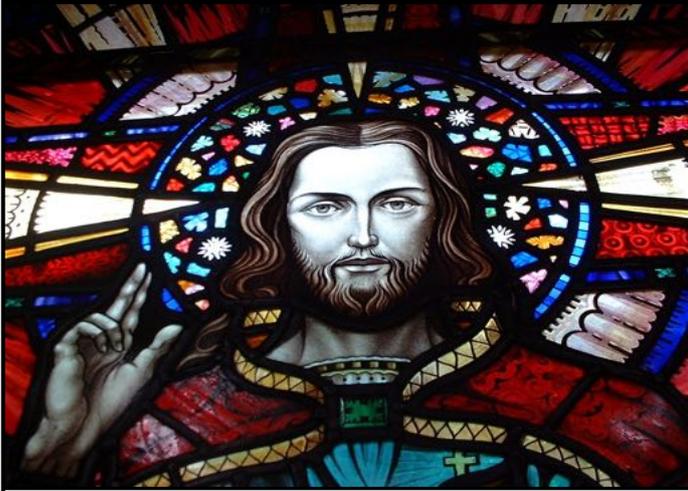


newsletter



8 and 9 July 2017

14th Sunday in 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



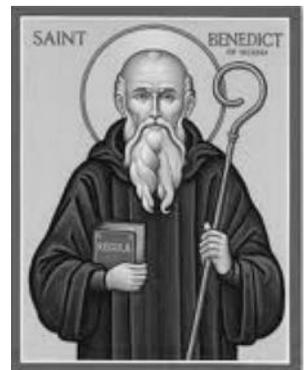
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Feast of St Benedict (480-547) – 11 July

Benedict was born in Nursia, Umbria, and studied in Rome but he was unable to stomach the dissolute life of the city, and he became a hermit at Subiaco. His reputation spread, and some monks asked him to be their abbot, but they did not like the discipline he imposed and tried to poison him.

Benedict organised small communities of monks and nuns, including at the great monastery of Monte Cassino. He drew up a set of rules to guide the communal life of monasteries, and, though not the first monastic rule ever, the Rule of St Benedict has proved so wise and balanced that it has served as the foundation of practically every attempt at communal living ever since. It recognises that people aim at perfection but often fall well short of it, and aims to be a 'rule for beginners' in which even the least perfect and least able can grow in spiritual stature. To visit a Benedictine monastery of almost any kind is to find oneself spending time among a group of people who, by their strivings to live and grow together, have become more and more *themselves*. Instead of being crushed into false uniformity by some idealistic and authoritarian regime they became as God intended.

For those of us in the world, too, the Rule of St Benedict has much to say: it drags our eyes up to the stars but keeps our feet firmly on the ground; it calls us to perfection but keeps us sane.



Questions about the Future of the Parish

How will the children's preparation for First Communion be affected by the ending of 11.00 am Mass?

Children are at the heart of our community and we are determined that that will not change. We are proposing to centre all of the sessions for our children after the new Mass time of 9.00 am on Sunday. These sessions will take place after the Mass is concluded, aiming to begin at 10.00 am and finish at 11.00 am. The programme has had to change, as we will have limited facilities when we have more people attending one Mass.

- Pre-Communion – for children in Reception and Year 1 at school, this will be weekly
- Reconciliation – for children in Year 2; these sessions will be starting in the autumn and ending at the beginning of Lent in February
- First Holy Communion – to enrol, children need to have completed their First Reconciliation; these sessions will run between February and June, the high point will be a First Communion Mass on Saturday, 23 June 2018
- Post-Communion – for children between communion and confirmation age; sessions will be fortnightly
- Confirmation – we trust that this will take place in July 2018; it is intended to keep these sessions on Saturdays, like now.

A letter with the details and rationale will be emailed to the families for whom we have details for on file. In September, the catechists will convene sessions for parents to go through the details of each individual programme. If you have yet to enrol a child in any stage in the programme, please contact Deacon Philip.

Children's liturgy will continue as part of the 9.00 am Mass.

RETIRING COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection this weekend, **8 and 9 July** for Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea. Many people have never stopped to consider how important seafarers are to our standard of living. Without them we would not have most of the items we use in our everyday lives.

Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers who visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AoS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work; it takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need. Sea Sunday is the principal fundraising and awareness-raising event of the year for AoS.

This second collection will be taken at Masses throughout the country; this annual event is absolutely vital for AoS to continue their work. Please give generously, and remember seafarers in your prayers.



FOODBANK

The NEED project is asking for **tinned fruit, jam and 500g (1lb) bags of sugar**. Please assist if you can.



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 next on **15 July** after 6.00 pm Mass.
Food, Fun and Questions.

BOOK CLUB NEXT MEETING

Thursday **21 September** at 7.30 pm
(in Ros Penn's home)

New members made very welcome and we will chat about the next book. Tea and coffee and snacks will be available. The book is *Impressions of Jesus* by Denis McBride

**PARISH VISIT TO THE
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE MUSEUM
AT CHICKSANDS
THURSDAY 27 JULY
10.00 AM TILL 12 NOON**



We have been able to organise a visit to this museum to any who are interested. A group of 30 people is able to be accommodated. People will need to make their own arrangements to get to the museum. Housed at Chicksands, the museum of the British Army's Intelligence Corps offers a fascinating journey through the origins and development of the work of this important arm of our armed forces.

Knowledgeable guides will help us to explore the story from the Boer War and to experience aspects of the historical modern-day work of the members of this corps. We are well aware that our government relies on intelligence about a wide range of threats and organisations, in its efforts to secure our collective safety.

Chicksands functions as a training and operational centre for the Intelligence Corps. We are therefore, as individuals, required to complete a screening process in order to access the site.

After the visit is completed, the party will retire to the Stone Jug public house, Clophill, for lunch.

**You must register by the form in the foyer to attend.
Closing Date – 14 July**

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **19 July**. 30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



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



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on Monday **17 July** with an Agape meal and then break up for the summer. We thank Our Lord for so much answered prayer over the last sixteen years. New members are welcome to join us in September to prayer for their families.



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



**COLUMBAN MISSIONARY SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE IN PERU
12 JULY 2017**

CAFOD is delighted to have Fr. Peter visit our diocese. Fr. Peter is an Irish-Columban priest who has spent most of his life as a missionary based in Lima. He is a close collaborator of Gustavo Gutierrez and is active throughout Latin America as a consultant to national and regional Church bodies. Come and listen to Fr. Peter and hear about our latest campaign: Holy Ghost parish centre (the lounge room), 33 Westbourne Road, Beech Hill, Luton LU4 8JD. 7.00 pm (refreshments) for 7.30 pm start till 8.30 pm

CONFIRMATION 2018

We invite families with children who will be in Year 8 in July 2018 to register for the confirmation programme starting later in the year. Please email Deacon Philip at deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk with the name(s) of your child(ren).



Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 24 and 25 June the total was £456.77. With thanks, Finance Committee.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR JULY – SEAFARERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Almighty God, we give thanks for all those who work at sea. We acknowledge our need for the food and raw materials they transport. We recognise that they are sometimes in danger and their long absences often involve sacrifices in their family life. Help us to show our gratitude not only in our words, but also in our actions. Amen.



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	8 July	6.00 pm	Tony Fitzgerald, Recently Deceased, RIP
Sunday	9 July	11.00 am	Deceased Members of the McSweeney Family, RIP
Monday	10 July	9.30 am	Deceased of the Parish
Tuesday	11 July		No Service
Wednesday	12 July	7.30 pm	People of the Parish
Thursday	13 July		No Service
Friday	14 July	9.30 am	Marinne Ferkinghoss, 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, 8 and 9 July

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Pat Crowe	Una McAlinden
2 nd Reading	Noreen Weighell	Catherine Davies
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Peter Hyde	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Till	Nicky Paterson
Driver		Louis Chadwick

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 15 and 16 July

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Alison Braniff	Ann Leatherland
2 nd Reading	Judith Latham	Kate Mansford
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Pat King	Clare Bevan
Driver		Kate Mansford