

newsletter



10 and 11 June 2017

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity



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

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The Most Holy Trinity

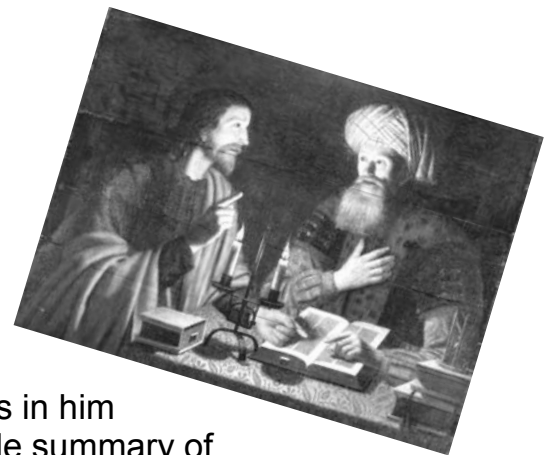
The Gospel today is taken from John 3:16-18

This passage comes from the first discourse in John's Gospel. It is part of the conversation Jesus had with Nicodemus about the new birth into faith. At first sight, it is strange that this passage is chosen for Trinity Sunday as it mentions only the relationship between God the Father and the Son.

The opening sentence, 'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life', is an admirable summary of the Gospel message of salvation.

The only constituent missing is the gift of the Holy Spirit, but this promise is found throughout John's Gospel.

Thus as the great periods of Lent and the Easter season come to an end, a time in which the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the gift of the 'Holy Spirit have been examined. It is fitting that the Church should conclude with an appreciation of the Trinity: one God in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



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

Questions about the Future of the Parish

With the lack of priests in this diocese and the UK generally, why doesn't Bishop Peter recruit priests from abroad?

The bringing of priests from other countries sounds a very attractive solution to the lack of priests. In fact there are quite a few priests from various overseas territories resident in our parishes. We have had Fr. Jay and Fr. Michael and others serving us here at Flitwick.

But even after the changes that are being made in Flitwick we will still have one priest for every 750 Catholics locally. This ratio is only bettered by one country in the world – Malta! By recruiting abroad we are taking priests from people in countries with a much greater need for the services of priests. In some other countries, a parish priest can have the care of as many Catholics in one parish as Bishop Peter leads across the whole diocese.

The current uncertainty about future UK immigration policy may well militate against encouraging priests from abroad to work in this country.

NOVENA PRAYER FOR THE SACRED HEART

To help commemorate the patronal feast day of the parish, we will be observing a Novena up to the day of the commemoration, Friday 23 June.



A Novena is a prayer recited over nine days, in this case starting after evening Mass on 14 June and then every morning until the solemnity.

The prayer booklet can be downloaded from the parish website if you would like to join in the prayer, but cannot make the daily reciting of the prayer.

Please join us as you can to help to celebrate our parish feast day.

MASS FOR THE SICK

This year's Mass for the sick will be celebrated on **Friday 23 June** at 2.00 pm. Once again the SVP are organising this very special afternoon.

Canon Bennie, assisted by Deacon Philip, will be celebrating the Mass during which the anointing of the sick will take place. Everyone is very welcome to attend.



Refreshments will be offered after Mass by the SVP in the parish room. If you need help with transport or any further information, please contact John Flanagan on 01525 406 810.

NOTICE

Bishop Peter will be visiting the parish on 25 and 26 June.

LITTLE UN'S PILGRIMAGE

Recently the Little Un's made a pilgrimage to the Garden of Peace in Luton. The children had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the peaceful and tranquil garden.

It is never too young to start on the pilgrim's trail!

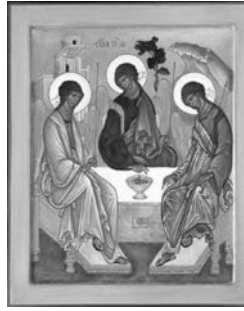


Save the Date!

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

THE HISTORY OF TRINITY SUNDAY

As Fr. John Hardon points out in his *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, the origins of the celebration of Trinity Sunday go all the way back to the Arian heresy of the fourth century. Arius, a Catholic priest, believed that Jesus Christ was a created being rather than God.



In denying the divinity of Christ, Arius denied that there are three Persons in God. Arius' chief opponent, Athanasius, upheld the orthodox doctrine that there are three Persons in one God, and the orthodox view prevailed at the Council of Nicaea, from which we get the Nicene Creed, recited in most Christian churches every Sunday.

(The Council of Nicaea also gives us a wonderful example of how a real bishop deals with a heretic: confronted with Arius' blasphemous views, St Nicholas of Myra, the man best known today as Santa Claus, marched across the council floor and slapped Arius across the face. See the biography of Saint Nicholas of Myra for the whole story.)

To stress the doctrine of the Trinity, other Fathers of the Church, such as St Ephrem the Syrian, composed prayers and hymns that were recited in the Church's liturgies and on Sundays as part of the Divine Office, the official prayer of the Church. Eventually, a special version of this office began to be celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost, and the Church in England, at the request of St Thomas à Becket (1118-70), was granted permission to celebrate Trinity Sunday. The celebration of Trinity Sunday was extended to the entire Church by Pope John XXII (1316-34).

For many centuries, the Athanasian Creed, traditionally ascribed to St Athanasius, was recited at Mass on Trinity Sunday. While seldom read today, this beautiful and theologically rich exposition of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, can be read privately or recited with your family on Trinity Sunday to revive this ancient tradition.

Adapted from <https://www.thoughtco.com>

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **21 June**. 30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **26 June** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on **19 June**. We meet from 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Meetings are at 80 George St, Maulden. Contact Sue Barley on 01525 634 186.



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



RETIRING COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection next weekend of **17 and 18 June**. This collection is a contribution to Day for Life the day in the Church's year dedicated to celebrating and upholding the dignity of human life. The Church teaches that life should be protected and nurtured from conception to natural death. This is an annual collection taken up in the diocese.



Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 27 and 28 May the total was £496.60 and the second collection was £176.60, and for 3 and 4 June the total was £490.43. With thanks, Finance Committee.

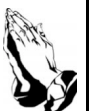
Are you interested in a youth group? Have you got questions about your faith? Come along to our youth group, YouCat, which is for all young people who have been Confirmed. We will be meeting in the St Frances Suite next on **24 June** after 6.00 pm Mass.

Food, Fun and Questions



CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR JUNE – FOR THE PARISH

Almighty God, in these times of challenge and change, grant us wisdom to grasp new opportunities. Help us to work together using our talents so that your Church might grow and flourish in our parish of Sacred Heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. 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	10 June	6.00 pm	Intentions of Nigel Spencer and family
Sunday	11 June	11.00 am	Florrie Frizzell, RIP
Monday	12 June	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	13 June		No Service
Wednesday	14 June	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Parish
Thursday	15 June		No Service
Friday	16 June	9.30 am	Intentions of the Penn Family

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 10 and 11 June		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Judith Latham	Pauline Chambers
2 nd Reading	Alison Braniff	Ann Leatherland
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Peter Hyde	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	Jane Crow	Catherine Davies
Driver		William Doyle
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 17 and 18 June		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Noreen Weighell	Martin Brennan
2 nd Reading	Maggie Dullaghan	Noelette Hanley
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	C./M. Rincon	Anne Gadsden
Driver		Ros Penn