

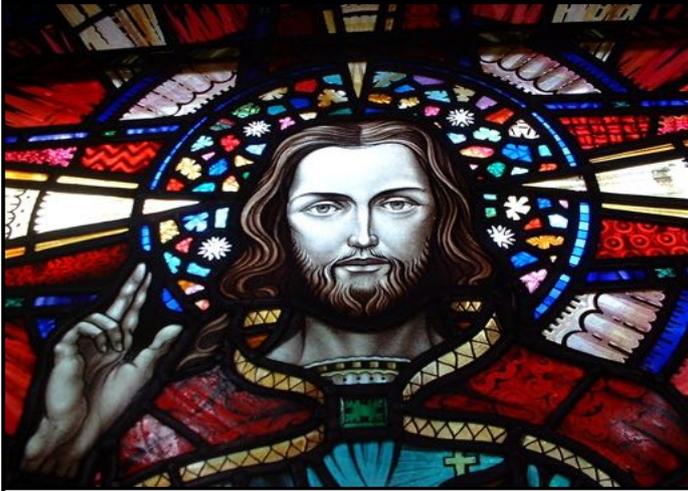


# newsletter



10 and 11 September 2016

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C



## 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](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

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**Suzanne Yates**, Parish Secretary      [secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)



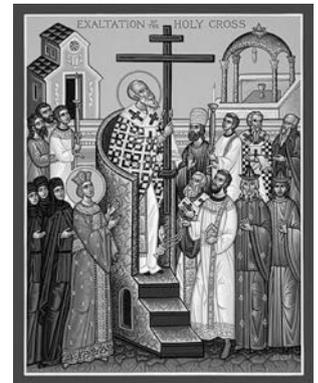
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## 14 September – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Early in the fourth century, St Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre over the tomb. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem towards the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head. Then 'all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on'. (Eye-witness account of Egeria, Pilgrim to Jerusalem – quoted by Gabe Huck in *The Three Days*, publ. Chicago Liturgy Training Publications 1992)

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in AD 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.



Adapted from <http://www.americancatholic.org>

## 16 SEPTEMBER – FEAST OF ST NINIAN

The Celtic tradition is still strong in the United Kingdom and other parts of the Church. One of the key Celtic saints is St Ninian who is venerated, particularly in Scotland.

The precise details of Ninian's life are disputed. The Catholic Church described him as the man from south-west Scotland 'who first brought the Christian faith' to the country around AD 397, when he is said to have established a religious community at Whithorn in Galloway. The Church said Ninian studied in Rome before being ordained a bishop. His monastery in the south of Scotland was known as Candida Casa, the Latin meaning White House. The name possibly refers to the stone used to construct it or the whitewash used to paint it, and has survived as the modern name, Whithorn. It was from this base that he is said to have set about proclaiming the Gospel to the southern Picts.

The first historical reference to Ninian of Whithorn came from the Northumbrian scholar and monk Bede, in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People, written around AD 731. He described him as a Briton who was instructed in Rome and noted that his church was made of stone, which was unusual at the time. Bede said Ninian named his episcopal see after Saint Martin of Tours, although other accounts claim he actually met the French patron saint on his return to Scotland. The historian conceded he was only passing on 'traditional' information in his brief reference to Ninian, and does not claim it is factual.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Aelred, the abbot of Rievaulx in Yorkshire, wrote *A Life of Saint Ninian* - thought to be at the behest of one of the new bishops of Galloway, who was eager to promote their bishopric to the wider world. Aelred attributed ten miracles to Ninian, six during the saint's lifetime and four after his death.

Whatever the truth of Ninian's life, over the centuries his tomb at Whithorn became one of the centres of Christian pilgrimage.



Adapted from <http://www.bbc.co.uk>

### PARISH RETREAT AT BUCKDEN TOWERS

24 SEPTEMBER 2016 – 9:30, closing with Mass

#### EXPLORING FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

This year's retreat is inspired by the forthcoming pilgrimage to Assisi.

**FREE** personal copy of *Glimpses of the Franciscan Way* by Mark Davis and Francis Cotter to help guide our day.

**BOOK NOW** to avoid disappointment, numbers are limited. Tickets £12.00



We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 3 and 4 September the total was £483.49; this is £66.51 less than what is needed to meet the parish running costs. With thanks, Finance Committee.

### BOOK CLUB – NEXT MEETING

Thursday 27 October 2016 at 7:30  
at the home of Ros Penn

Contact: [rospenn@gmail.com](mailto:rospenn@gmail.com) or  
Deacon Philip. New members are made very welcome and we will chat about this book.

The next book we have for you to read is *Shadows* by Fr. Jimmy Collins.

### ADVANCE NOTICE AFFECTING OUR PARKING

We recently played host to a National Grid (Gas) community-briefing event. The purpose was to inform the residents of Hornes End Road, which is close to the church, that their obsolete gas main will be replaced.



The works are currently scheduled to take place from **Monday 26 September** for two weeks.

The works will affect the area for parking that our parishioners use for Saturday and Sunday. We remind you to take **EXTRA** care when parking at all times, but especially for these two weeks. We will advise you of any change in the scheduling.

We welcome Aiden, son of Caroline and Paul Smyth, who will be baptised into the Catholic community this Sunday.



We ask the parish to pray for him and his family on this special day, and wish him and his family all God's blessings on their journey of faith.

## SVP ANNUAL APPEAL 2016

Most of you are aware of the work of the SVP in the parish, visiting those who may be lonely and being ready to help those in need. You are always amazingly generous to us and we want to thank you for all your support. This year's appeal will be on the weekend of **17 and 18 September**. A member of the parish SVP group will speak at both Masses and there will be retiring collections.



On the weekend of the appeal, we will also present our annual report and the week before that we will offer each family a set of postcards reflecting the work of the SVP.

If you are able and want to gift aid your donations, we will have the pens and envelopes available.

Thank you in advance for all your support in both prayer and giving.

## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **21 September** 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **12 September** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For more information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



## SUMMER BARBEQUE AND FAMILY DAY

We are holding a late-summer barbeque and family day on **THIS Sunday 11 September** after 11.00 am Mass. Tickets are £5.00 per person and £12.00 per family.



## CANON BENNIE'S HOLIDAY

Canon Bennie is on his annual holidays at the moment. We are very fortunate to have Fr. Jay saying our Masses. See back of newsletter for weekday Mass times.

Don't forget the £1 in the bottle!



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



## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Macmillan Coffee Morning at Sacred Heart Church Friday **30 September** immediately after 9.30 am Mass.

## PLEASE COME ALONG

If would you like to donate a raffle prize or volunteer to bake a cake, please contact Anne Gadsden on 07432 595 057.

Raffle tickets will be on sale after all Masses on **24 and 25 September**, for those unable to attend on the day to contribute to this good cause.



## BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE FOR NEW PARENTS

The second part of this baptism preparation class will be held on Saturday **17 September**, starting at 10.00 am for one hour in the St Francis Suite. We look forward to seeing you and your family. Godparents and grandparents are welcome to join us.



## Circle of Prayer for September – Students, Teachers and Educators

Lord, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. You sent us your Son to teach us that true wisdom comes from you alone. Send your Spirit upon students, teachers and educators and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and share what they have learnt.



## 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](mailto: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 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 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 Tom Cahill 07931 700 646.

### 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 September	6.00 pm	Intentions of Betty Mahony
Sunday	11 September	11.00 am	James McCormack, Anniversary, RIP
Monday	12 September	9.30 am	Private Intentions
Tuesday	13 September	9.30 am	Private Intentions
Wednesday	14 September	7.30 pm	Private Intentions
Thursday	15 September	9.30 am	Private Intentions
Friday	16 September	9.30 am	Pat Petersen, Recently Deceased, RIP

**Newsletter copy deadline** – Tuesday midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661; [suz\\_yates@btinternet.com](mailto:suz_yates@btinternet.com)

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 10 and 11 September		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 pm
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Dee Brady	Grace McAlinden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Judith Latham	Kate Mansford
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Peter Hyde
Eucharistic Minister	John Flanagan	Clare Bevan
Driver		C./J. Gallagher
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 17 and 18 September		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 pm
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Angela Bartlett	Dennis Horner
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Alison Braniff	Angela Turner
Eucharistic Minister	Don Perrett	Hilary Brennan
Eucharistic Minister	Helen Wilson	Anne Gadsden
Driver		William Doyle