

# newsletter



11 and 12 April 2015

Second Sunday of Easter, 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](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)



## Times of Mass

Saturday	11 April	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Sunday	12 April	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Tom and Hilda Cassidy, RIP
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	13 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	14 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Wednesday	15 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	16 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Friday	17 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion

## *Walk of Witness 2015 by Chris Yates*

This cold, rain-threatening Good Friday saw the people of the churches of Ampthill relive the Passion. Over a hundred people and the marvellous town band gathered outside the lychgate of St Andrew's, with Deacon Philip standing on a raised step, grandly overseeing the throng.

'Make way for the cross as we walk off,' he shouted, after the introductory part of the service that included a young man beating his drum three times to simulate the nails of the cross being hammered in. We also had to introduce ourselves to a stranger.

Then to the Market Square where the sound system efficiently masked the groaning of the shopping traffic. When I emigrated in 1969, Good Friday had been as solemn as Christmas Day, and the same in Australia. How did such a quiet day come to be appropriated by this consumer din?

Next we were at the Methodists, where the crowd looked up the church steps at the cross-bearer, the drummer and the centurion who shivered under his cloak. Not forgetting Mary who uttered credible lamentations for her 'strange' son.

Last stop was with the Baptists. When the band struck up 'There is a green hill far away', I found that I didn't need the crib sheet, even though I hadn't sung it for decades. I think it was at this point, that I thought of my wife and the others who work so hard each year for the Walk of Witness, to be rewarded by the Lord withholding His rain from this delightful parade.

## Mercy Sunday

This Sunday was once known as Low Sunday, low because it follows the highs of Easter Sunday. These highs were especially experienced by adults who had a long and searching preparation for the joyous experience of being admitted to, and of receiving Baptism at Easter. This Sunday is now known as Mercy Sunday. It was designated so by Pope John Paul II – on the day of the canonisation of Saint Faustina Kowalska. It was to Saint Faustina that Jesus had revealed Himself, declaring His mercy and humanity's need for that mercy. Jesus had asked for this celebration, to reveal once again His great mercy and to rediscover that in the events of Holy Week and Easter.



The struggle to find and renew faith in the mercy of God is especially remembered on this Sunday. In today's gospel Jesus appears to His disillusioned disciples. Today's gospel tells us: 'He showed them his hands and his side'. Their disillusionment ends 'The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord...'

When the Heart of Jesus is pierced, the mercy of God is poured out on our world. Jesus gives us His all. He asks us to come to Him in the highs and lows of our lives. Today's gospel reminds us how He takes the initiative in a new relationship in which he desires to give of Himself to all who come to Him. He helps us in weakness, in doubt, in our search for meaning. We may approach Him without any fear. He receives us with his peace.

Thomas the apostle was a reluctant believer. He wilfully stood aside from and dismissed the testimony of the early witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus. When Jesus appears to the doubting Thomas he invited him: 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' His wounds brought healing to Thomas's unbelief and reassurance of His love for the world. By Thomas's doubt we are invited to the same source of divine mercy. 'By his wounds we have been healed!'

Taken from <http://www.msccireland.com>

## 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>

**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.*

## CAFOD

Everyone is welcome to the Day of Reflection

on **Saturday 18 April,**

10.30 am–2.30 pm

at Sacred Heart Parish Centre,

5 Beaudesert, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1HZ.

Brian Purfield (Mount Street Jesuit Centre) will be leading this.

Coffee/tea from 10.00 am. Please bring packed lunch.

If transport is a problem, and to book a place do get in touch: [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk) or 01844 274 723.



## MOTHERS' PRAYERS

meet fortnightly and our next meeting is on

Tuesday **21 April** 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

Our next meeting is on

**15 April** 7.30 pm till

9.30 pm. Please

contact Nicky Paterson on

01525 750 654 for information.



## FOODBANK

Remember, we are part of the NEED Project which

operates a Foodbank specifically

for people in Flitwick and

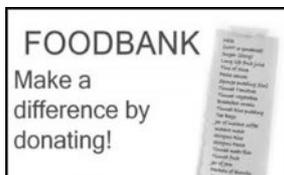
Amphill. Help those in need by

adding a few canned items to

your regular shop – once a week

or once a month – and drop it

into the collection basket in the church foyer.



The Easter collection for our clergy was £2,067.35.

The Good Friday collection for the Holy Places was £169.80.

With thanks, Fr. Denis.

I implore you in God's name, not to think of Him as hard to please, but rather as generous beyond all that you can ask or think – Abbe de Tourville



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **13 April** 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](mailto:suz_yates@btinternet.com)

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 11 and 12 April

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Christine Jackson	Stephen Russell	Victoria Basterfield
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Mary Brown	Pat Crowe	Bernadette Basterfield
Eucharistic	Chris Till	Martin Stynes	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic	Noreen Weighell	Jane Crow	Hilary Brennan
Driver		Marion McClurg	

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week 18 and 19 April

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Michael Burgess	Marion McClurg	Martin Brennan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Suzanne Yates	Dee Brady	C./H. Davies
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Helen Burgess	Carlos Rincon	Clare Bevan
Driver		David Toland	



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### EASTER PILGRIMAGE



Parishioners, family and friends are invited to join the One Climate One World Easter pilgrimage, a series of five 10-mile countryside walks linking the parishes of our pastoral area on Saturdays in April and May.

**2<sup>nd</sup> leg – 25 April** Dunstable – Leighton Buzzard;

**3<sup>rd</sup> leg – 2 May** Leighton Buzzard – Flitwick (Sacred Heart);

**4<sup>th</sup> leg – 16 May** Flitwick – Shefford;

**5<sup>th</sup> leg – 23 May** Shefford – Biggleswade.

Each stage will include a stop for refreshment and the option of a shorter walk. For information on how to register to walk, or to sponsor a pilgrim in aid of CAFOD's Hungry for Change initiative, contact the parish coordinator, Martin Brennan on [m.brennan1956@btinternet.com](mailto:m.brennan1956@btinternet.com)

### 13 April – Feast of Pope St Martin I (-655)

He was born in Todi in Umbria and elected Pope in 649. He called a synod to combat the Monothelite heresy concerning the nature of Christ. One of the people whose teachings were condemned was supported by the Byzantine Emperor, who in 653 had Martin kidnapped from Rome, taken to Constantinople, imprisoned and eventually exiled to Crimea, where he died on 1 September 655.



## Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2015



**Be the answer to Loko's prayer this Christian Aid**

**Week.**

This Christian Aid Week, you can help transform the lives of women like Loko.

From 10-16 May, churches the length and breadth of Britain and Ireland will come together to pray, campaign and raise money to improve the lives of people like Loko.



Every year, 100,000 volunteers demonstrate God's love for the poor by taking part in house-to-house collections for Christian Aid.

This fantastic witness is a chance to take the mission of the church into your community.

**Loko's choice in life is simple: 'If I can't collect firewood, my children will die.'**

Just £5.00 could give Loko a loan to start her own business buying and selling tea and coffee, freeing her from her desperate task and allowing her to spend more time caring for her family.

**WE NEED COLLECTORS FOR OUR AREA!  
IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT  
EAMONN DIVER ON 01525 712 257  
YOU ONLY NEED TO DO YOUR OWN  
STREET!**

### Circle of Prayer for April – The Consecrated Life

Jesus Our Saviour, Incarnate Word, as You have entrusted Your own way of life to those whom You have called, continue to draw to Yourself men and women who will be, for the people of our time, dispensers of mercy, heralds of Your return, living signs of the Resurrection and of its treasures of virginity, poverty and obedience.

