

newsletter

12 and 13 August 2017

19th Sunday of 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



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Feast of the Assumption – 15 August

15 August is the day that we have long celebrated what is called the Dormition (falling asleep) or Assumption of the Virgin Mary. The Feast of the Assumption celebrates both the happy departure of Mary from this life by her natural death, and her assumption bodily into heaven. Along with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8 December) the Assumption is a principal feast of the Blessed Virgin and a Holy Day of Obligation.

The idea of the assumption of Mary into heaven after her death is first expressed in narratives of the fifth and sixth centuries. Even though these were never official, they bear witness to the very early belief in a teaching of the Catholic Church which was not formally defined as a dogma until 65 years ago by Pope Pius XII.

Saint Gregory of Tour provided a rationale for the tradition, which is related to her having been preserved from original sin. He said that it is inconceivable to think

Mary's sinless body, likened to the Ark of the Covenant, which was made of incorruptible wood, should decay in the grave. The text, 'Rise thou and the ark of thy strength' (Ps 132/1:8) was understood to mean that it was God's will that, as Christ had ascended, so too Mary would be received into heaven.

There is an important difference, of course, between the ascension of Jesus into Heaven after His resurrection, and the assumption of Mary. To ascend is to rise up under one's own power, while to be assumed means something that is done to one. Jesus, being the Second Person of the Trinity, had no need of assistance, whereas Mary did not have this power.

According to one tradition, Mary was warned of her approaching end by Saint Michael the Archangel, who conducts souls to Heaven, and was surrounded on her deathbed by the apostles, who were miraculously transported to her bedside from their various mission-fields. It was said that Jesus appeared, bore away her soul, and returned three days after her burial, when angels carried her body to Paradise where it was reunited with her soul under the Tree of Life.



Taken from <http://ucatholic.com/saints/assumption/>

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Sunday Mass time will change to 9.00 am from 3 September.

The Latest, Important Information about the Parish

There has been a lot of information about the changes happening in the parish, may we have an update?

SUNDAY MASS TIME; the parish Mass time will change on **SUNDAY 3 September**. The new time will be 9:00am – the 11:00 Mass will no longer be celebrated. This allows for Fr. Nathaniel and Fr. Bennie to cover all the Masses.

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS for Sunday: the 6.00 pm Mass will continue to be celebrated while Fr. Nathaniel is with us up to and including 23 December. Our arrangements for Christmas Eve and Christmas day will be similar to previous years

Deacon Philip will continue to be our bulwark! He will be on hand to assist Fr. Nathaniel and Fr. Bennie and to be the parish's first point of contact for all aspects of the life and work of the parish.

Fr. John Danford will become our parish priest with effect 1 October, as part of the plan agreed by Bishop Peter. He intends to rotate Masses with Fr. Nathaniel in order to get to know us all from October.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Macmillan Coffee Morning
at Sacred Heart Church

Friday **29 September**

immediately after 9.30 am Mass.



BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE FOR NEW PARENTS

The next baptism preparation classes will be held on

Saturdays **26 August and 2**

September, starting at 10.00

am for one hour in the St

Francis Suite. The parish encourages all new parents asking for baptism of their child, to attend. We also welcome parents who may wish to renew their preparation for baptism as their families grow larger. Asking for baptism for your child is the start of your child's sacramental journey in the Church. The sessions look at your role in the development of your child's faith, what you ask of the Church and the promises you make on behalf of your child. We look forward to seeing you and your family. Godparents and grandparents are welcome to join us.



THE ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

Celtic Journeys

Exploring with St Brendan and the Celtic saints

Saturday 16 September 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

at Buckden Towers

Reserve the date in your diary and look out for the registration leaflets.

Space on the retreat is

limited to 20 people.

Donation for the day

£10.00 – pay on the day –

bring a shared lunch.



SUMMER PARISH BRUNCH

We are holding a late-summer barbeque and family day on Sunday **10 September** after 9.00 am Mass. Tickets are £5.00

per person and £12.00 per family. These will be available after all Masses.



THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Tuesday 15 August, the feast of the Assumption, is a holy day of obligation.

Masses will be here at Sacred Heart at 9.30 am and 7.30 pm.

BOOK CLUB – NEXT MEETING

Thursday **21 September** at 7.30 pm

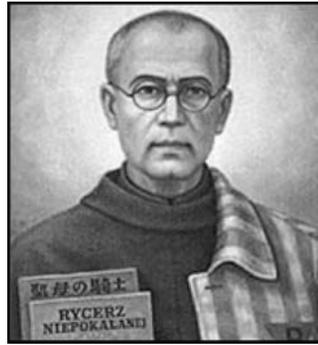
(in Ros Penn's home)

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



Feast of St Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941) – 10 August

He was born on 8 January 1894 in occupied Poland. He joined the Franciscans in Lwów in 1910 and was ordained eight years later, as his country became free and independent for the first time in over 120 years.



He believed that the world was passing through a time of intense spiritual crisis, and that Christians must fight for the world's salvation with all the means of modern

communication. He founded a newspaper, and a sodality called the Knights of Mary Immaculate, which spread widely both in Poland and abroad.

In 1927 he founded a community, a 'city of Mary', at Teresin centred round the Franciscan friary. It attracted many lay people, and became self-supporting, publishing many periodicals and running its own radio station.

In 1930 he went to Japan, studied Buddhism and Shintoism, and through the Japanese edition of his newspaper spread the Christian message in a way that was in harmony with Japanese culture. In Nagasaki, he set up a 'Garden of the Immaculate' which survived the atomic bomb.

He also travelled to Malabar and to Moscow, but was recalled to Poland in 1936 for reasons of health.

When the Germans invaded in 1939, the community at Teresin sheltered thousands of refugees, most of them Jews.

In 1941 he was arrested and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz, where he helped and succoured the inmates. In August of that year a prisoner escaped, and in reprisal the authorities were choosing ten people to die by starvation. One of the men had a family, and Maximilian Kolbe offered to take his place. The offer was accepted, and he spent his last days comforting his fellow prisoners. The man he saved was present at his canonisation.

Maximilian Kolbe's martyrdom is the least important thing about him. We are none of us likely to find ourselves in a position to copy his sacrifice, and speculation as to the heroic way in which we would have behaved in his place is a pernicious waste of time. What is important is that he acted the way he did because of who he was – or, rather, because of who he had become. It is because of who he had become that we revere him as a saint; he would have been a saint (though perhaps not canonised) even if he had not been martyred. And that process of becoming is something we can all emulate. We can all become people for whom doing the right thing is obvious, natural, and easy. It requires no heroism, no special gifts: just perseverance, and prayer.

Adapted from Catholic Calendar app. by Universalis Publishing

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will be meet again on **6 September**.

Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **11 September** from 2.00

pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet again in September. 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



Congratulation to Ros and Julia Sanders who will be married here at Sacred Heart on Friday 18 September.



We wish them every blessing for their future.

A Latin Mass in the Traditional Rite will be celebrated at St Francis's Shefford on **Friday 18 August**

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 5 and 6 August the total was £571.45. The second collection for Churches in Need raised £723.37. With thanks, Finance Committee.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR AUGUST – PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

We pray for all those who suffer persecution. Almighty God, who has taught us through your Son, Jesus Christ, that those who follow him may be persecuted: strengthen, comfort and encourage all those who suffer harassment, violence, imprisonment and even death for being followers of Jesus. 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	12 August	6.00 pm	William and Josephine O'Reilly, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday	13 August	11.00 am	John Lynch, Anniversary, RIP
Monday	14 August	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	15 August	9.30 am	Patrick Crehan, Recently Deceased, RIP
Tuesday	15 August	7.30 pm	Private Intentions
Wednesday	16 August	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Parish
Thursday	17 August	9.30 am	Private Intentions
Friday	18 August	9.30 am	Claire and Russell McChristie and Family, in Thanksgiving

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 12 and 13 August

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Adrian Hamilton	Catherine Davies
2 nd Reading	Noreen Weighell	Una McAlinden
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Myriam Rincon	Hilary Brennan
Driver		C./J. Gallagher

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 19 and 20 August

Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Judith Latham	Kate Mansford
2 nd Reading	Alison Braniff	Ann Leatherland
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Jane Crow	Anne Gadsden
Driver		Louis Chadwick