

# newsletter



13 and 14 December 2014

Third Sunday of Advent, 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	13 December	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Rose O'Brien, RIP
Sunday	14 December	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Donna Spillane, RIP
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	15 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	16 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Wednesday	17 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	18 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
		7.30 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Friday	19 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion

## ADVENT ACTIVITIES AT SACRED HEART

This Advent there will be a number of activities helping us to prepare for Christmas. These are some of the key activities:

- 14 December – The SVP Giving Tree
- 15 December – Advent Reconciliation Service
- 19 December – Flitwick Singers Carol Concert
- 21 December – Parish Carol Service and Review of our Parish Year
- 22 December – Church Cleaning for Christmas



Information about all of these is included in the newsletter each week.

Christmas Masses this year are as follows:

### **Christmas Eve – 24 December**

6.00 pm – Mass of Christmas (for Families and Children)

9.00 pm – Mass of Christmas (Midnight Mass)

### **Christmas Day – 25 December,**

10.30 am – Mass of Christmas Day

## ADVENT JOY – GAUDETE!

The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday, the 'pink' Sunday. On this Sunday we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. Gaudete, from the Latin word to rejoice, is a command ordering us to rejoice! In these days of preparation leading up to the feast of our Saviour's birth, it reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, as a kind of break when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Jesus.



In Advent, we not only celebrate the first coming of our Lord, but eagerly prepare for His Second Coming as well, when the restoration of all things takes place. We Christians live in hope and strive to overcome the trials and troubles of this world by sharing the love and joy of Jesus and the Gospel. The earliest Christians cried 'Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!', expecting Jesus to come at any moment. So should we; we should long for His return making our hearts and our souls ready. It is indeed something to celebrate and prepare for. Advent turns our hearts and minds to this reality.

Should commercialism or the evils of the world get us down, we need to look at the Advent wreath with its candles burning down patiently, a new one each week in the spiral they create, going down as we light the pink one this week which fills us with joy that we are getting closer and closer to the coming of the Lord. We can let our burdens drop away at the foot of the manger when He smiles at us. We can receive Him into our arms and hearts as Mary holds Him out to us as the gentle Joseph looks on. This Child is our victory.

REJOICE!

Taken from <http://www.catholic.org>

**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.*

## 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>

We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. Last week the total was £696.73; this is £146.73 more than the amount we need each week to meet the parish running costs and will help us to build up a contingency.

With thanks, Fr. Denis.

**THE POST-COMMUNION GROUP**

The post-Communion group runs generally every Sunday, excluding school holidays. Our next meeting is, today, **25 January**. We meet in church after the 9.00 am Mass.



**MOTHERS' PRAYERS** will meet at 80 George St., Malden at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, **16 December**. Please ring Sue on 01525 634186 for more information.

**THE PRE-COMMUNION GROUP**

The pre-Communion group runs generally every Sunday, excluding school holidays. We meet in church after the 9.00 am Mass from 9.45 am till 10.30 am. For more details visit the website [http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk/child and youth.html](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk/child%20and%20youth.html)



**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

We will not be meeting until the New Year, as many of us are looking forward to attending 'The Joy of the Gospel' reflections. However we are arranging a social evening for the group on **17 December**. Contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750654 for information.



**MADE FOR GLORY**

The Southwark Vocations Mission Team has been working with a group of friends to develop a discipleship project for young people, called Made for Glory. Every day during Advent they will release a short vidcast in which a young man or woman will give a reflection on that day's Gospel. They are harnessing the power of the new media to advertise this online Advent calendar. The idea behind the Made for Glory project is to provide resources of an outstanding quality that are readily accessible to young people. It also reflects the reality that vocations are best discerned in the context of Christian discipleship. The Made for Glory Advent calendar is available on Youtube : [www.youtube.com/user/madeforgloryuk](http://www.youtube.com/user/madeforgloryuk)



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **12 January** 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 13 and 14 December**

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Suzanne Yates	Dee Brady	Victoria Basterfield
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Judith Latham	Maggie Dullaghan	Bernadette Basterfield
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Chris Till	Christopher McMellon	Tony Davis
Driver		Louis Chadwick	

**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 20 and 21 December**

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Adrian Hamilton	Darren Campbell	Martin Paterson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Michael Burgess	Siobhan Campbell	Pauline Chambers
Eucharistic	Helen Burgess	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Pat King	Jane Crow	Nicky Paterson
Driver		Kate Mansford	



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### CONFIRMATION

The next Confirmation ceremony will take place in this parish in June/July 2016. The Confirmation preparation programme will begin in November 2015. Deacon Philip would be grateful if you would let him know if you have any children likely to take part in the programme, so we can get an idea of numbers.



### Annual Carol Service and Christingle Sunday 21 December at 3.00 pm



Come along with your whole family to enjoy the carols, readings and poems exploring the coming of Our Lord. We will review of the parish for the year of 2014 and there will traditional Christingles to be distributed.

### Advent Service of Reconciliation Monday 15 December at 7.30 pm

Prepare for the season of Christmas by joining us for the Service of Reconciliation. After a short liturgy of prayer, readings and preparation there is the opportunity for a personal act of act of Confession with three of our local priests.



### Preparing the Church for Christmas

Dear parishioners, please come along to help with cleaning and decorating the church as we prepare for Christmas. Come on **Saturday 22 December** at 11.30 am after confession. We look forward to seeing you.

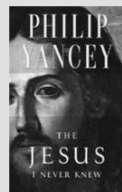


**Many hands make light work!**

### BOOK CLUB

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday **22 January 2015** at 7.30 pm, at Ros Penn's home. New members made very welcome and we will chat about this book. *The Jesus I Never Knew* by Philip Yancey (Refreshments will be served)



### Flitwick Singers present

#### Neighbours of the Christ Night

A Festive Concert featuring Carols and Christmas favourites for the benefit of Chums, a local charity which supports children who experience bereavement.

On Friday 19 December  
at Sacred Heart Church  
Tickets £6.00  
Concert 7.30 pm

Refreshments available  
Tickets available on the door or  
contact 01525 714 847



### Christmas Raffle

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses on 13 and 14, 20 and 21 December The raffle will be drawn at our carol service on 21 December. Proceeds will go to church funds.

### Circle of Prayer for December – Refugees and Migrants

Heavenly Father, no one is stranger to You, and no one is ever far from Your loving care. By Your grace, help us to welcome Your children who come to our land to escape oppression, poverty persecution, violence and war; to banish fear from our hearts that we may embrace each one of them as our own brothers and sisters, with love and generosity, while responding to their many needs. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who too was a refugee and migrant, who travelled to another land searching for a home.

