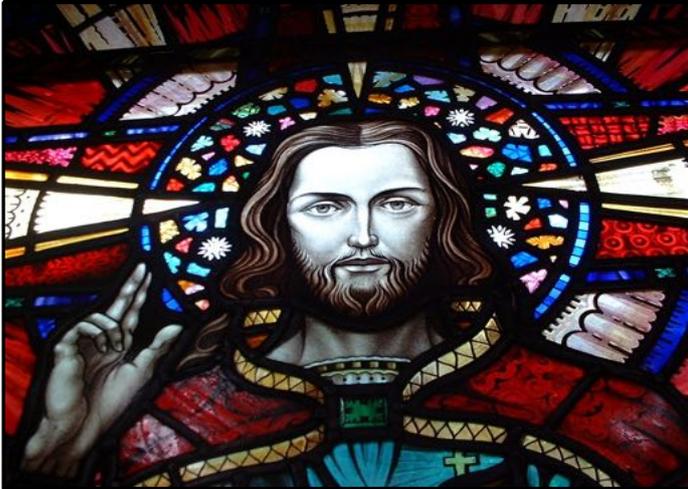


newsletter



18 and 19 February 2017

7th 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



Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP

www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Telephone: 01525 715 109 (checked every day), 07711 953 926

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Suzanne Yates, Parish Secretary secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk



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22 February – Feast of the Chair of St Peter

This feast celebrates St Peter, the rock upon whom Jesus built the Church. 'You are Peter,' Jesus said, 'and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it' (Mt 16:18).

The early Church in Rome was in the custom of marking the date that Peter arrived to publicly lead their community. Each year on this date, they dedicated the empty chair Peter sat on when he presided over the community in prayer. He used to sit in the chair to receive newly converted Christians who had been baptised. Still dripping wet, they would come to him in this chair to be anointed and confirmed.

Twenty-second February was chosen to coincide with what was understood as the anniversary of the day on which Jesus entrusted the Church to Peter with the words from Matthew's Gospel, above. The actual chair of this feast was lost long ago in one of the several invasions and plundering of Rome.

On this feast of the Chair of St Peter, let us pray for the Pope and for the Church!



Our Bishop's Chair

Cathedra is the Latin word for a chair with armrests, and it appears in early Christian literature in the phrase *cathedrae apostolorum*, indicating authority derived directly from the apostles. A church into which a bishop's official *cathedra* is installed is called a cathedral. Bishop Peter's chair has the diocesan coat of arms at the top, and the apostles with the symbol of the Holy Spirit above their heads.



Adapted from <http://www.newmanconnection.com>

OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS
Lenten Conversations for 2017
Tuesdays, 7 March to 4 April: 7.45 pm to 9.30 pm

Week by week we attend Mass; sometimes we feel fully engaged, at other times we can be distracted and preoccupied. Mass is called 'the source and summit' of our faith and life. This year our Lenten conversations explore how we can enhance our understanding and participation in the Mass and the community.



In our sessions we will begin by looking into the history and the setting of Mass. In the weeks that follow, we will then journey through the elements of the Mass from our gathering, to hearing the Word, our thanksgiving in the Eucharist, to sharing the communion to finish with understanding our mission from Jesus to go out into the everyday world.

Each week we will extend the conversation to everyone in the parish by including a short summary of the session along with questions to ponder in the weekly newsletter. Thus everyone can grow in their appreciation of the jewel of the Church – the Mass.

Come along and join us for fellowship, conversation, reflection and a deeper introduction to the centre of our life of faith – the Mass. For more information, see the leaflet in the foyer or speak to Deacon Philip

INTERNET SAFETY FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN
INFORMATION FROM SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Recently safe guarding coordinators were shown a search engine called Swiggle (<http://www.swiggle.org.uk>) which is aimed at 6- to 10-year-olds. Children can search the Internet using a safer forum than Google.

This information is in a publication from Vodafone. A few copies are the back of church (please do not remove them) for you to read. Alternatively you can access your own copy on <http://www.vodafone.com/content/digital-parenting.html>

For your broadband, you should be able to select restrictions when certain device access the Internet. On Virgin it is at <http://www.virginmedia.com/shop/broadband/parental-control.html>.

However you will know that the best advice is to talk to your children and explain why you are taking such measures.

Paula Bates – Safeguarding Coordinator

SVP LENTEN LUNCH

On Tuesday 14 March, the SVP will once again be serving a simple Lenten Lunch of soup and bread. Civil war has resulted in 2.8 million people being desperately short of food. Please come along between 12 midday and 1.30 pm to enjoy homemade soup and help the helpless. All donations will go to the SVP in Sudan and South Sudan, where they are not only feeding the hungry but also teaching and training the next generation.



We welcome Alanna and Maeve, daughters of Claire and Russell McChristie, who were baptised into the Catholic community on Saturday. We ask the whole parish to pray for them and their whole family on this special day, and wish them and their family all God's blessings on their journey of faith.



Sacred Heart 100 CLUB

The latest draw took place on 12 February and the lucky winners were first, **Jacqueline Raftery**, second **Margaret Bradbury** and third **Thomas Cahill**.

**COLLECTION FOR THE WHITE FLOWER APPEAL THIS WEEKEND,
18 AND 19 FEBRUARY 2017**

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)



will be holding its appeal next weekend. SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The society's work covers a wide spectrum of pro-life, pro-family issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and offers pro-life support for teachers, parents and medical professionals.



Please give generously to this worthy cause

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting will be on **1 March at 8.00 pm.**

Contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **27 February** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on **20 February**. 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



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY 3 MARCH

This year's service has been prepared by Christian Women from the Philippines and has the theme 'Am I being unfair to you?' The service focuses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 v 1-16.



Amphill Service – 10.30 am at St Andrew's
Flitwick Service – 7.30 pm at Flitwick Methodist Church

Please join us – everyone is welcome. Men as well!



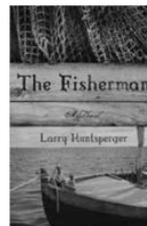
Women's World Day of Prayer

BOOK CLUB

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY 9 MARCH AT 7.30 PM**

In the Home of Ros Penn

New members made very welcome and we will chat about this book, *The Fisherman: A Novel* by Larry Huntsperger.



We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 11 and 12 February the total was £464.49. This is £85.51 less than what has been budgeted to meet the parish running costs. With thanks, Finance Committee.

ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

The ashes for Ash Wednesday are made from burning the palms given out on Palm Sunday the year before. Deacon Philip wants to make the ashes this year and is asking everyone to return their palms to the church by **26 February** so they can be rendered into ash.



Circle of Prayer for February – All who are sick and those who care for them

Accept the prayers we offer for our brothers and sisters who are ill, that they may be restored to fullness of health. We pray for doctors, nurses and all who care for the sick and the dying that they may bring Christ's love and compassion to all whom they care for. Amen



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

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	18 February	6.00 pm	Margaret and Patrick Gibbons, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday	19 February	11.00 am	Jimmy Hession, Recently Deceased, RIP
Monday	20 February	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	21 February		No Service
Wednesday	22 February	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Parish
Thursday	23 February		No Service
Friday	24 February	9.30 am	Guiseppe Campenella, Recently Deceased, RIP

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 18 and 19 February		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Alison Braniff	Brendan Spillane
2 nd Reading	Pat Crowe	Pat Rees
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Adrian Hamilton	Grace McKenna
Driver		Ros Penn
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 25 and 26 February		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Angela Bartlett	Victoria Basterfield
2 nd Reading	Suzanne Yates	Bernadette Basterfield
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Chris Till	Ros Penn
Driver		C./J. Gallagher