

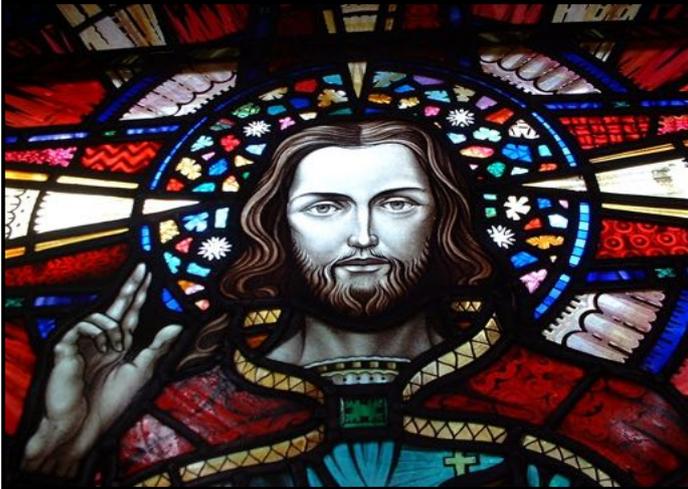


newsletter



26 and 27 November 2016

1st Sunday of Advent – 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

Canon Bennie Noonan, Parish Priest

frbennie@btinternet.com, 01462 813 436

Deacon Philip, Pastoral Administrator

deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk, 07711 953 926

Suzanne Yates, Parish Secretary

secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk



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Prayer for Deacons

We are blessed to have a deacon at Sacred Heart. It takes time for a deacon to discern their vocation and then training takes four years. It is therefore important that as a community we pray that the Spirit will inspire men of to reflect on their vocation to the Church and to explore the possibility of this ministry in their life

Let us pray

Lord, your Church has called forth
deacons to your service
in ministries and settings that are ever
changing,
each with the common commitment to
serving your people
in whatever place they are needed.

Send your Spirit to inspire men to the
grace and openness
to bring the gospel to people in their
homes, schools, places of work
and in their parish communities.

We give thanks for those men in the
process of discernment,
asking you to support them with your
love, strength and Spirit;

for those in training, that they will meet
the challenge of
growth in knowledge and Spirit.

For our ordained deacons, we give
thanks;
asking you to bless them with strength,
patience and energy.

Inspire all of your people to heed the call
to discipleship,
offering their time, talents and treasure to
serve others, their communities
for the coming of your kingdom on earth.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ,
Our Lord.

30 November – Feast of St Andrew

Saint Andrew died between AD 60 and 70 in Patras in Greece. His feast day is 30 November. Andrew was one of the twelve apostles and brother of St Peter. He is the patron saint of Scotland and of Russia.

In the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), Peter and Andrew, whose Greek name means *manly*, were called from their fishing by Jesus to follow him, promising that he would make them fishers of men. With Saints Peter, James, and John, Andrew asked Jesus on the Mount of Olives for signs of the earth's end, which inspired the eschatological discourse in Mark 13. In John's Gospel he is the first apostle named, and he was a disciple of St John the Baptist before Jesus' call.



Early Byzantine tradition (dependent on John 1:40) calls Andrew Protokletos, 'first called'. Early church legends recount his missionary activity in the area about the Black Sea. Apocryphal writings centred on him include the Acts of Andrew, Acts of Andrew and Matthias, and Acts of Peter and Andrew. A 4th century account reports his death by crucifixion, and late medieval accretions describe the cross as X-shaped. He is iconographically represented with an X-shaped cross (like that depicted on the Scottish flag).

St Jerome records that Andrew's relics were taken from Patras (modern Patrai) to Constantinople (modern Istanbul) by command of the Roman Emperor Constantius II in 357. From there the body was taken to Amalfi, Italy (Church of Sant Andrea), in 1208, and in the 15th century the head was taken to Rome (St Peter's, Vatican City). In September 1964, Pope Paul VI returned Andrew's head to Patrai as a gesture of goodwill toward the separated Christians of Greece.

Adapted from <https://www.britannica.com>

ADVENT EXPOSITION

Our Advent period of Exposition will be on **Wednesday 7 December**. It will commence at 7.00 pm and end with benediction at 8.45 pm.

This period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will offer an opportunity to be with Our Lord in silent vigil and could form an important part of our Advent preparations.

Please feel free to come for as long as you like. Even if you can manage only a few minutes of prayer in a busy day, it will be worth it to experience peace and tranquillity in Our Lord's presence.



ASSISI PILGRIMAGE REUNION

Saturday 3 December 2016

12.00 midday

**Sacred Heart Church, Flitwick
St Francis Suite**

We will have light refreshments and a presentation of our pilgrimage journey together for you to enjoy.

What next? Please let us know your interest for our next pilgrimage in 2018. This will help us to plan in more detail the level of interest in the places of pilgrimage that YOU would like to visit.



If you would like information on this or our previous pilgrimages or our next pilgrimage in 2018 then please talk to Ros Penn on 01525 715936 or speak to Deacon Philip on 07711 953 926.

*Looking forward to meeting you all again!
Past pilgrims of previous parish pilgrimages are most welcome to join the Assisi pilgrims' reunion*

Thank You



We are very happy to say that we had 28 shoeboxes to donate to Christmas Child. Well done everyone!

FOODBANK

The last collection for our Foodbank will be **16**

December and the first in the New Year will be 13 January. Tin tomatoes, tin potatoes, instant mash potatoes and bottles of squash are needed. Next collection will be on **2 December**.



There will be a second collection for Home Mission Sunday on 10 and 11 December

Supporting the work of evangelisation in England and Wales

More information next week.

BOOK CLUB – NEW DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday **1 December** 2016 at 7.30 pm at the home of Ros Penn

Contact: rospenn@gmail.com or Deacon Philip
This will be our Christmas meeting
Tea, coffee, mince pies etc

THE GIVING TREE

As usual, today sees the appearance of the SVP Giving Tree in our church. The stickers that cover it bear the name of an item needed at the Prebend Day Centre in Bedford to support the homeless and rootless. If you can help, please take some of the stickers, purchase the items named and return them to the church by **Monday 12 December**.



The items we are seeking are toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving foam and gel, disposable razors, shampoo and shower gel. We would also like men's pants and ladies' knickers, along with socks, scarves, hats and gloves. In the food line we would like some tins of corned beef, packets of biscuits and small bars of chocolate.

When buying items, please avoid expensive ones: value- and store-own brands are much better and are less likely to be stolen from the recipients; not a nice thought but a real one, when we want to help those in need hang on to the few possessions they might have.

Thanks in advance for your generosity. Everything that you give will reach those in need in time for Christmas.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **7 December** 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 **28 November** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For more information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS

will meet on **5 December**. New members will be made very welcome; ring Sue Barley for more information on 01525 634186. The meeting is held at 80 George Street, Maulden.



Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Candle One

Celebrant: Stand erect, hold your heads up high, because your liberation is near at hand.

Deacon: Lord, we wait the coming of our Saviour born to set us free, free from fear and sin.



The First Candle on the Wreath is lit.

ALL: COME LORD JESUS, LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

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



Don't forget the £1 in the bottle for St Francis Suite!



We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 19 and 20 November the total was £457.53; this is £92.47 less than what is needed to meet the parish running costs. With thanks, Finance Committee.

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2016 AT SACRED HEART

Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve	7.00 pm	Children's and Family Mass
	9.00 pm	Midnight Mass
Sunday 25 December Christmas Day	11.00 am	Mass during the Day

Circle of Prayer for November – The Victims of Conflict and War

God of compassion, look in mercy on all who suffer the terrors of war: the anguished; the frightened; the pained; all who are wounded; all who mourn; and all who have lost home or livelihood. May they know respite, relief and hope.



INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and before Mass on Wednesday.

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 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 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	26 November	6.00 pm	Deceased of the Traynor, Bucknall and King families
Sunday	27 November	11.00 am	Deceased of the Chambers family
Monday	28 November	9.30 am	Deceased of the Murray and Goodwin families
Tuesday	29 November	9.30 am	Paddy Kelly, Recently Deceased, RIP
Wednesday	30 November	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Bradbury, Crellin and Rayner families
Thursday	1 December	9.30 am	Deceased of the Evans, Smith and Morris families
Friday	2 December	9.30 am	Private Intentions

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 26 and 27 November		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Michael Burgess	Una McAlinden
2 nd Reading	Judith Latham	Kate Mansford
Eucharistic Minister	John Flanagan	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Helen Burgess	Ros Penn
Driver		William Doyle
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 3 and 4 December		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Dee Brady	Pat Rees
2 nd Reader	Alison Braniff	Ros Penn
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	C./M. Rincon	C./H. Davies
Driver		Ros Penn