

newsletter



27 and 28 December 2014

Feast of the Holy Family, 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



Times of Mass

Saturday	27 December	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Sophie Harrison, RIP
Sunday	28 December	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Ingrid Sordon, RIP
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	29 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	30 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Wednesday	31 December	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Thursday	1 January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Friday	2 January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion

THOUGHTS FROM DEACON PHILIP

At last! Time to find Christ in Christmas ...

It's all over! That feeling of relief is probably only because we have managed to survive all the eating, drinking and spending.

We can relax now and spend the time coming to terms with the realisation that we have found Jesus, the Christ. We did not find Jesus in the shops, on eBay, or in a catalogue. No, we find Him when we look inside and discover that He has been travelling with us in our hearts and our deepest desires for peace.

Christmastide reminds us that we have the opportunity to renew our relationship with the Son of God. Reflecting on the outstretched arms of the Infant King also prompts us to keep coming back to the loving relationship between us and God. After the shepherds and Magi had visited, we hear no more of them – they seem to have forgotten the potential of the relationship.



Let us keep coming back to the Lord ... finding Him in all we do, and in all our hearts.

From Fr. Denis

May I wish you a happy and a blessed New Year? It's that time again when we make New Year resolutions, and hope they last till next week anyway!



The usual resolutions are again staking their claims at the Court of Our Conscience. There's that midriff bulge that calls for a diet. There's that shortness of breath calling for regular exercise. There's that short fuse that gave everybody in the family their Christmas-on-the-edge. There's that near-accident on St Stephen's Day that just might be attributable to drink even though you remember having only one or two. And there's still the same old crowd at the office waiting to suffer through another year from your shadow side.

What to do? What to do? The gospel tells us that, about this time of year, Mary was also pondering things in her heart. She was pondering the things she heard the shepherds say about her child. Another translation reads that she was 'treasuring' these things in her heart. What things was she treasuring? Just



one sentence, really. The angels told the shepherds, 'For you is born this day ... a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord' (v. 11). This line is the original Christian gospel, the 'good news' from God (v. 10). Jesus is Our Saviour and Jesus is the Lord. It is these staggering definitions of her child – Saviour and Lord – that Mary ponders and that Mary treasures about this time of year.

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.

THE POST-COMMUNION GROUP

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



MOTHERS' PRAYERS meet fortnightly and our next meeting is on Tuesday **13 January** 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.



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/childand youth.html)



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting is on **7 January** 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm as we will not be meeting in August. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



EXPLORING THE BIBLE

Wednesdays from 4 February to 18 March (8 weeks)

Featuring the acclaimed Bible TimeLine programme in use in parishes across the country.



Book the dates in your diary to join us in the fascinating and informative study of God's plan for salvation.

Details of the programme and enrolment available soon (excludes Ash Wednesday: Tuesday 17 February instead)



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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week 27 and 28 December

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Christine Jackson	Noelette Hanley	Dennis Horner
2 nd Reader	Angela Bartlett	Dermott Whelan	Una McAlinden
Eucharistic	Noreen Weighell	Carlos Rincon	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic	Helen Wilson	Myriam Rincon	Grace McKenna
Driver		David Toland	

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 3 and 4 January

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Suzanne Yates	Stephen Russell	Catherine Davies
2 nd Reader	John Flanagan	Marion McClurg	Angela Turner
Eucharistic	Don Perrett	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Chris Till	Martin Stynes	Clare Bevan
Driver		William Doyle	



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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. Contact him at deaconphilippugh@gmail.com



29 December – Feast of St Thomas Becket (1118-1170)

He was born in London and became a close friend of Henry II. He was only a deacon when he was appointed chancellor of England. When he was ordained as archbishop of Canterbury, he underwent an abrupt conversion of life and began to defend the Church's rights against the king. He had to take refuge in a French monastery for six years. When he returned to his diocese four knights, inspired by careless words from the king, assassinated him in his cathedral on 29 December 1170. He was immediately acknowledged as a martyr and the king later did penance and endowed his shrine. He is remembered for his courage in defence of the rights of the Church.



Men's Breakfast

24 January 2015 (9.30 am to 11.00 am)

Gentlemen! Why not join us for the next Men's Breakfast to start the New Year with conversation, fellowship and a bacon sandwich!
Donation of £1.00

Watch out for invitations in the New Year.

ALL INVITED TO OUR CATHEDRAL

Bishop Peter invites the diocese to our cathedral on 21 January for a service to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II's Decree on Ecumenism; also invited are any ecumenical friends you may have. Archbishop Longley will be preaching, and there will be guests from other Christian churches present in our diocese.

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)

QUIET DAY

Saturday 31 January 2015
10.30 am till 3.00 pm

Finding Peace and Praying for Peace

After our successful new venture last year we will be offering another opportunity to spend some time in quiet contemplation. All you need to do is to set aside an hour or so to explore a series of prayer spaces and bases in the church. Tea and coffee available all day, with a listening ear on hand.



Circle of Prayer for January – For Peace

Dear Lord, as we begin a New Year, we pray for an increase of Your peace in the world. For ourselves, that we would have Your peace in our hearts and live lives of peace. We pray especially for those who do not know peace, and for those who live in areas of conflict, that Your peace and presence would break through into their hearts. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

