

newsletter



28 and 29 March 2015

Palm Sunday



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	28 March	6.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Sunday	29 March	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	30 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Service of the Word and Communion
Tuesday	31 March	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Wednesday	1 April	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	No Service
Thursday	2 April	8.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Mass of the Last Supper
Friday	3 April	3.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Divine Liturgy of Good Friday

Fr. Denis writes ...

THE STORY OF PALM SUNDAY

Jesus Christ was not the first person to die for a cause, nor the last. He was not the first or the last innocent person to be put to death. He was not the only one ever crucified. There were on that very same day two others. Even as regards physical pain it is at least possible that others have suffered as much. What then makes the Passion so different? And it is undeniably different.

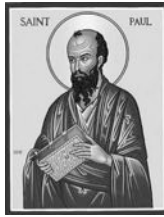
The gospel account is roughly about two newspaper columns long, and even though I have read it, or heard it read. What has this story to do with us? It is the story of our salvation. But it is more, much more. It is the story of our lives. There is not a part in the whole sordid script that we, you and I, would



not play to perfection. Peter in his pride and Peter in his fall and, hopefully, Peter in his repentance too. We would fit in perfectly with the disciples who fled at the first sign of danger, or with Caiaphas and the high priests, with their self-righteousness and eagerness to reform others while ignoring themselves, or with Pilate in his abuse of authority, or with the mob with its thirst for excitement and blood. And Judas? Let's face it – there's a Judas in all of us. There are times and situations in all our lives when Jesus could easily say to us as He said to Judas, 'Friend, why are you here?' The truth is, it was only His friends who could really have crucified Him so.

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

That story of the Passion is not just description, it is an invitation too. The Passion of Christ is not over at all. It is meant to be reproduced every day in our lives. St Paul understood that very well when he said to the Philippians: 'That I may come to know Him and the power of His resurrection, and partake of His sufferings by being moulded to the pattern of His death' (3:10-12). St Paul was not inventing that for himself. What he was doing was echoing Christ: 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow Me. Anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for My sake will find it' (Mt 16:25).



So the important question for you and for me today is this: How do we enter more fully into the Passion of Jesus Christ? How do we reproduce in our lives the pattern of his death? Some years ago I attended a youngish woman who was dying of cancer. I don't think I have ever seen anybody suffer so much. She died inch by inch over three years. Every day was a prolonged encounter with pain. It was frightening. But every day, too, when the pain was at its worst, she asked for her prayer book. Only after she was dead did her family discover, and did I discover, the prayer she was actually saying. It was a prayer of St Francis, a sacrificial prayer, a mystical prayer. It said that God had looked at her cross, that He saw it was not an inch too long or an ounce too heavy, that He had weighed it very carefully before giving it to her. I was staggered. The level of spirituality at which the woman was dying and living! She certainly had the upward movement. She was offering her life with Christ to the Father. 'Not My will, but Thine be done.'



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. For 21 and 22 March the total was £638.78; this is more than the amount needed each week to meet the parish running costs, and will help us to build up a contingency fund.

With thanks, Fr. Denis.

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.

**AN INVITATION TO THE CHRISM MASS
THURSDAY 2 APRIL**

This year we are organising a trip to attend the annual service when Bishop Peter blesses the sacred oils used in baptism, confirmation and healing throughout the coming year. The Mass begins at 11.00 am – we need to leave Flitwick at 9.15 am to ensure a good seat! The diocese provides a buffet lunch following the Mass. We will get back to Flitwick around 3.00 pm. Please complete a reply slip, or speak directly to Deacon Philip to arrange pooled transport deaconphilippugh@gmail.com or phone 07780 687 452.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS meet fortnightly and our next meeting is on Tuesday **7 April** 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.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We will not be meeting till after Easter so that members of the group can go to the Exploring the Bible sessions. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654 for information.



The collection on Good Friday is for the upkeep of the Holy Places in Palestine. The object is to keep intact 'the monuments of Our Lord's earthly life'. The collection on Easter Sunday is for our clergy.
PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **13 April** 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.



SOUP FOR SUDAN

Thanks to all the people from the parish and the wider community who came to the SVP Lenten Lunch. The food was tasty and the fellowship enjoyable. Your generous donations mean that we are able to send more than £160.00 to Sudan to support the SVP Baby Feeding Project, which we hope will result in a few more babies smiling instead of crying.

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 next week, 28 and 29 March

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Suzanne Yates	Marion McClurg	Pat Rees
2 nd Reader	Mary Brown	Siobhan Campbell	Martin Brennan
Narrator	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Jesus	Fr. Dan	Fr. Dan	Fr. Dan
Other	Suzanne Yates	Marion McClurg	Pat Rees
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Pat King	Myriam Rincon	Tony Davis
Driver			John Gallagher

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week 4 and 5 April

Mass	9.00 pm	9.00 am	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Suzanne Yates	Siobhan Campbell	Debbie Lewis
2 nd Reader	Sue Barley	Alison Braniff	Noelette Hanley
3 rd Reader	Alison Braniff		
7 th Reader	Maggie Dullaghan		
Epistle	John Flanagan		
Eucharistic	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic	Clare Bevan	Catherine Davies	To be confirmed
Driver			



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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK IN OUR LENTEN PROGRAMME?

- **Monday 30 March** – Cleaning of the church for Easter at 7.30 pm.
- **Tuesday 31 March** – Exposition and Adoration from 2.00 pm till 9.00 pm
- **Thursday 2 April** – Morning prayer of the Church at 9.00 am.
Chrism Mass at the cathedral at 11.00 am.
Mass of the Last Supper at 8.00 pm.
Watching till 10.00 pm.
- **Friday 3 April** – Morning prayer of the Church at 9.00 am.
Walk of Witness at 10.00 am.
Divine Liturgy of Good Friday at 3.00 pm.
Stations of the Cross at 7.30 pm – all welcome
- **Saturday 4 April** – Morning prayer of the Church at 9.00 am.
The Solemn Easter Vigil at 9.00 am
- **Sunday 5 April** – Morning Mass at 9.00 am and 11.00 am. Latin Mass at 5.00 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

The parish is holding a day of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This will be **this Tuesday 31 March**, the Tuesday of Holy Week, and will run from 2.00 pm to 9.00 pm. It will provide an opportunity for quiet, reflective time with Our Blessed Lord. We need, as last year, three people to commit to being present in the church for a half hour period during the day. If you can help, sign up on the rota in the porch. If you can't commit to a specific time, please come when you can. This is a time for you to be in prayer in the presence of God. The day will end with Benediction at 8.45 pm.



Churches Together in Flitwick and Amphill

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Friday 3 April at 10.00 am

Join us to follow the cross through Amphill.



Starting at St Andrew's Church at 10.00 am. Walking to Amphill Market Square, Amphill Methodist Church, and finishing at Amphill Baptist Church at about 11.00 am.
Walk followed by hot cross buns and tea or coffee.

EASTER PILGRIMAGE

Parishioners, family and friends are invited to join the One Climate One World Easter pilgrimage, a series of five 10-mile countryside walks linking the parishes of our pastoral area on Saturdays in April and May.

1. **11 April** Toddington – Dunstable;
2. **25 April** Dunstable – Leighton Buzzard;
3. **2 May** L. Buzzard – Flitwick (Sacred Heart);
4. **16 May** Flitwick – Shefford;
5. **23 May** Shefford – Biggleswade.

Each stage will include a stop for refreshment and the option of a shorter walk. For information on how to register to walk, or to sponsor a pilgrim in aid of CAFOD's Hungry for Change initiative, contact the parish coordinator, Martin Brennan on m.brennan1956@btinternet.com

Circle of Prayer for April – The Consecrated Life

Jesus Our Saviour, Incarnate Word, as You have entrusted Your own way of life to those whom You have called, continue to draw to Yourself men and women who will be, for the people of our time, dispensers of mercy, heralds of Your return, living signs of the Resurrection and of its treasures of virginity, poverty and obedience.



A selection of Easter cards is now available in the repository. All have the price marked on them, please put the money in the box at the back of the church.