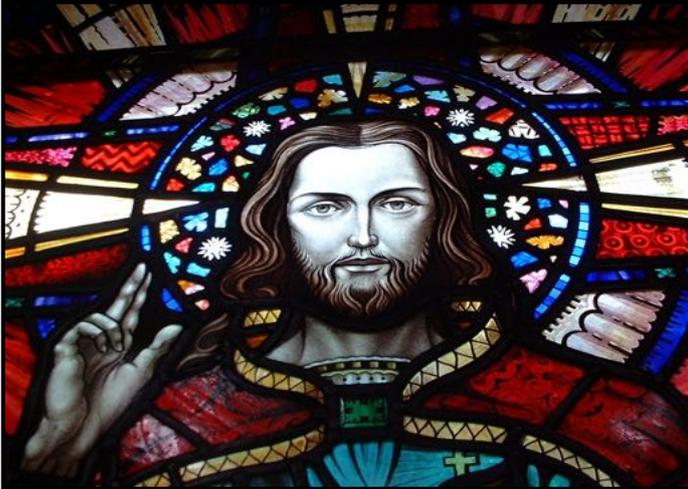


newsletter



29 and 30 April 2017

Third Sunday of Easter – 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



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Third Sunday of Easter – Luke 24: 13-35

This well-loved story is highly symbolic in nature. As a strictly historical account it presents the major difficulty of non-recognition, a difficulty that only becomes clear when given a faith meaning.

The story has four different parts.

First of all, towards the end of the account there is a report of a resurrection appearance to Peter. This is a second-hand appearance. Nowhere in the New Testament is the story recorded of an appearance to Peter on the first Easter day. Paul also mentions this tradition but no such story survives.

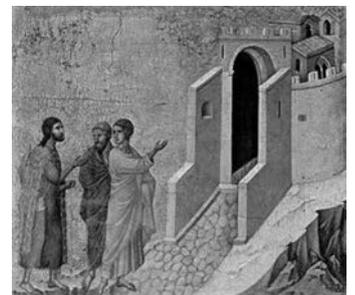
Secondly the story teaches that the life and fate of Jesus is seen in scripture. The coming of Jesus was foretold in scripture, as were the details of his mission. The death of Jesus was also forecast.

Thirdly, there was an inevitability of suffering. Luke sees such suffering as a means of entering glory. The passion has become the means of deification. By giving himself up to suffering, Jesus has been raised from the dead by God, and glorified.

Finally, there is an emphasis on the Eucharist. At first the two disciples fail to recognise Jesus. They finally do so when he took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. This is Eucharistic language of the Last Supper.

Christ is and always will be recognised in the breaking of bread.

Adapted from *The Word of God, Year A Luke's Gospel* by Robin Cooper



SAVE THE DATE!

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM
10 JUNE 2017**

This year we will book a coach to go on the diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham. We need to know how many would be interested in going. There is a sign-on sheet in the foyer. Please put your name and contact details on the sheet and if we have enough for a coach we will book one and let you know the cost.



LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA

4 MAY 2.00 PM

There will be afternoon tea on the above date so the ladies can hear Deacon Philip's Camino presentation. Tickets will be available this weekend and they cost £3.00.



There will be a second collection next weekend, 6 and 7 May. This collection is for the Priests' Training Fund. This money is to cover the costs of training new priests for our diocese. Gift Aid envelopes are available this week. Please be as generous as you can.



FEAST OF ST CATHERINE OF SIENNA (1347-1380) – 29 APRIL

St Catherine was the 25th of the 26 children of a northern Italy wool dyer. She was born on 25 March 1347. From an early age, it was apparent that Catherine was different. Before what is considered to be 'the age of reason', she began to practice austerities, to spend long periods of time in prayer, and to have mystical visions. She consecrated her virginity to Christ when she was seven.

At the age of twelve, her parents thought of arranging a marriage for her, but she begged them to allow her to remain single. After some years, convinced by her steadfastness and patience, her father agreed and Catherine joined the Third Order of Dominicans, and spend the next three years 'in the desert' in a small room in her parent's home. During this time, she underwent what is called a 'spiritual espousal': a vision of the Infant Jesus offering her a wedding band.

She rejoined the world, and began to serve Christ. She served the poor and the sick and prayed for the conversion of sinners. She still spent much time in prayer. When another vision commanded her to enter the 'public life of the world', St Catherine entered into correspondence with the princes and republics of Italy, was consulted by papal legates about the affairs of the Church, and began working to repair the damage of civil war and religious factions in her country.

It was chiefly her letters, advice, and persistence that finally convinced St Gregory XI to leave Avignon and return to Rome, to reform the clergy and administration of the Papal States. Catherine travelled to many cities (at a time when travel was not easy or comfortable, especially for women) working for peace in Italy and the Church. She wrote hundreds of letters to important people and ordinary people alike. She also wrote a book, called the *Dialogue* a conversation between the Eternal Father and the human soul, discussing the whole of mankind's spiritual life. For this important body of work and her service to the Church, she was named a Doctor of the Church.

St Catherine died on 29 April 1380, when she was just 33 years old.



Adapted from <http://www.ccel.org>

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 14 TO 20 MAY
STANDING WITH REFUGEES LIKE NEJEBAR

Nejebbar and her family have fled horrors in Afghanistan, where her husband was threatened with torture and death for being a government worker.

But now they have arrived in Greece, all they have is a tent. They have no other protection against wind and rain. There's no school for their five children. And they have no certainty or clear idea of what will happen to them now. They thought they would stay here for 10 days, but it's already been six months and there's no end in sight.



Nejebbar, with her sons Hinayat (left) and Sudai, outside their home in Agios Andreas, Greece

Nejebbar's husband Noor describes their initial reaction to arriving in the camp in Greece: 'It was like suicide for us. But we took the decision that it is better to die here than to die there from war.'

You have helped us be there for refugees since 1945

Thanks to you, Christian Aid has been there for refugees like Nejebbar since 1945, providing essential food, shelter and legal assistance for people far from home. And we still believe in life before death.

This Christian Aid Week, 14-20 May, our church is continuing to walk with refugees.

We are not going to turn our backs on refugees now. Speak to Eamonn to join us.

WE NEED COLLECTORS FOR OUR AREA!

**IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT EAMONN
 DIVER ON 01525 714 904**

YOU ONLY NEED TO DO YOUR OWN STREET!

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **3 May**. 30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **8 May** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on **Tuesday 2 May**. 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



First Holy Communion will take place at 11.00 am Mass this weekend.

Eleanor, Georgina, Lorcan, Liliana and Monicia will receive their First Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 22 and 23 April the total was £626.63; this is £76.63 more than what is needed to meet the parish running costs. With thanks, Finance Committee.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL – DIGNITY OF HUMAN WORK

Dear God, thank you for providing us with the gift to share our talents. Provide our community, our nation, our world the fortitude to provide work for all which is decent and fair. Make us faithful stewards of your creation to enhance the human dignity of our global family.



INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and NEXT 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	29 April	6.00 pm	Ray Mahony, RIP
Sunday	30 April	11.00 am	Private Intentions
Monday	1 May	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	2 May		No Service
Wednesday	3 May	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion
Thursday	4 May		No Service
Friday	5 May	9.30 am	Deceased of the Parish

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

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 29 and 30 April		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Siobhan Campbell	Ann Leatherland
2 nd Reading	Noreen Weighell	Martin Brennan
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Helen Wilson	Martin Stynes
Driver		William Doyle
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 6 and 7 May		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Pat Crowe	Noelette Hanley
2 nd Reading	Angela Bartlett	Brendan Spillane
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Adrian Hamilton	Grace McKenna
Driver		Ros Penn