

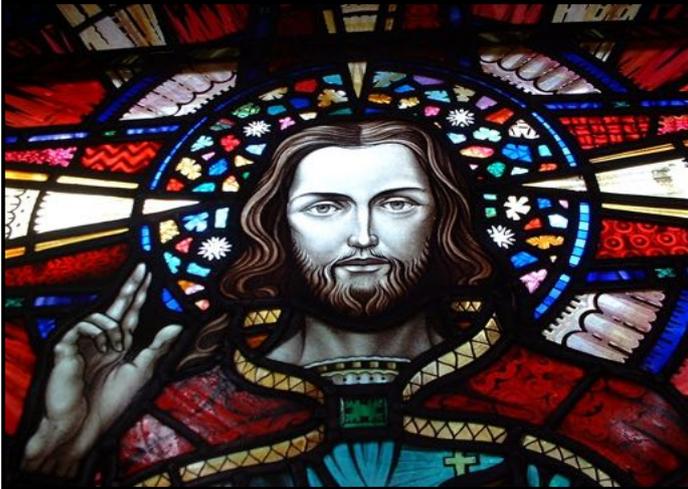


newsletter



29 and 30 October 2016

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C



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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Fifth Corporal Work of Mercy – Visit the Sick

The parable of the Good Samaritan is so powerful that the very term has passed into our language. Jesus tells us that when the Samaritan found the man who had been assaulted and then brought him to a place where he could recover (Luke 10:34).

Heroic women and men have dedicated their entire lives to caring for the sick and elderly, and it may be that God is calling you to such a vocation. That is not the path for most of us, but we all should be concerned about healthcare in our nation.

St John Paul II reminds us that institutional solutions are not enough. As he recovered from the attempt on his life, the Pope wrote a moving exhortation on the meaning of human suffering, *Salvifici doloris*. In that remarkable document he wrote, 'The institutions are very important and indispensable; nevertheless, no institution can by itself replace the human heart, human compassion, human love or human initiative, when it is a question of dealing with the sufferings of another' (SD 29). During his recovery, the Holy Father noticed that often doctors talked about his 'case' in front of him, without including him in the conversation. They were no doubt very professional, but John Paul recognised how important it is for the patient to feel that he or she is more than just a 'case'.

Visiting the sick is a work of mercy that calls for special discernment. Illness isolates people, and visits and cards remind them that they are not alone. But we must also be sensitive to individual needs: some people prefer privacy when they are unwell. We need to be humble enough to ask those who are sick what help they want, rather than assuming that we know. We should pray for our loved ones who are sick, and also pray for the light of the Holy Spirit to know how best to serve their needs, not our own.

We should also be mindful of the situation of people, often our neighbours, who have no friends or family at hand. Our parishes can offer many opportunities here: visits to rest homes; meals for those who have returned home after being in hospital; arrangements to take those who do not drive to the doctor's. If we notice that someone we usually see at church has not been around, perhaps a discreet contact is in order. Bringing Holy Communion to those who are not able to come to church is a wonderful ministry.

We are told in the Book of Sirach: 'Do not shrink from visiting a sick person, because for such deeds you will be loved' (Sir 7:35). The Good Samaritan gave the unfortunate man soothing medicine, and discerning care for others is Christ's prescription, too.

Adapted from <http://jubileeofmercy-eb.org>

Remembering ...

In November we take special care to remember those we have loved and cared for, but who have died. We recall them and celebrate their lives and the way they loved us, cared for us and taught us. This is why the Church begins November with the feast day of All Saints and the Commemoration of All Souls.

By recalling their memory we build a personal shrine – not as a table in a corner, but a place in our hearts for those we love.

Use the slip, which is part of the leaflet available at all Masses, to record the names of your family, friends and acquaintances you wish to be remembered in prayer throughout the month of November.

Place the slip in the basket provided in the sanctuary, where it will remain throughout the month. All of the names will be dedicated to our prayers at the Mass of Commemoration All Souls to be celebrated on Wednesday **2 November** at 9.30 am and 10.15 am.

Memorial Masses for the Dead

It is traditional in the Church for families to request a Mass for the deceased members of their families and for their deceased friends.

Envelopes are provided in church for you to include a list of their names and to place a Mass offering – the diocese suggests a gift of between £5.00 and £10.00, or what you can afford. These should be handed to Deacon Philip who will then arrange Mass for the Intentions listed, and for those requesting the memorial Mass.

Deacon Philip will be happy to tell you more about how to request a Mass.



BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE FOR NEW PARENTS

The next baptism preparation classes will be held on **Saturdays 5 and 12 November**, starting at 10.00 am for one hour in the St Francis Suite.



The parish encourages all new parents asking for baptism of their child, to attend. We also welcome parents who may wish to renew their preparation for baptism as their families grow larger. Asking for baptism for your child is the start of your child's sacramental journey in the Church. The sessions look at your role in the development of your child's faith, what you ask of the Church and the promises you make on behalf of your child. We look forward to seeing you and your family. Godparents and grandparents are welcome to join us.

LAMPEDUSA CROSS AND LITURGY FOR REFUGEES

Forced out by war, poverty or persecution, millions of people live uncertain lives as migrants and refugees. But each of us, moved by faith and common humanity, can act in welcome, respect and love. You are invited to attend our liturgy for refugees as part of our Year of Mercy **Wednesday 2 November** at 7.30 pm.



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School in Northampton is seeking staff for January 2017. Please see their website for the current vacancies or contact them on 01604 403 511.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Tuesday 1 November is All Saints Day and there will be Mass at Sacred Heart at 7.30 pm and at St Francis in Shefford at 9.30 am.

All Souls' Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 2 November with Masses at 9.30 am and at 10.15 am here at Sacred Heart.



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!



Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of St John the Apostle Sundon Park Road LU3 3AL

On Tuesday 1 November at 7.00 pm. Dedication Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter, followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall. All are very welcome.

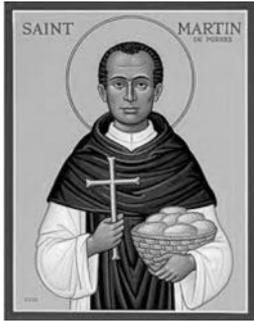
ASSISI PARISH PILGRIMAGE REPORT

A detailed report with photographs of our parish pilgrimage to Assisi is on the parish website. The date for our reunion will be announced in the coming weeks.

Classes for pre-communion, for Year 1 children and post communion, for Years 4 to 7 children, begin on Sunday **6 November** at 10.00 am prior to the 11.00 am mass. An email has been sent to all contacts we have, otherwise please register at sacraments@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk.

3 November – Feast of St Martin de Porres (1579-1639)

St Martin was born in Lima, the child of a free-love union. His father, Don Juan de Porres, a knight of Alcantara, Spain, abandoned his mother (a freed Negro woman from Panama) after the birth of his son. Growing up in utter poverty, he cultivated an immense love for his fellow poor and the afflicted. At 12 he was apprenticed to a surgeon and soon came to be loved by the inmates of the city hospitals and prisons among whom he distributed a part of his meagre wages.



At 15, Martin became an Oblate of the Dominicans, and such was his charity, obedience and humility, that after nine years the friars insisted upon his becoming a lay brother. He spent many night hours in spiritual reading, prayer and penitential exercises. Though he tried to conceal the miraculous favours which God bestowed upon him, he soon came to be regarded as a saint, an angel of peace and of compassion; he was able to heal the sick by his mere touch, by his prayers, by the Sign of the Cross; he had the gift of prophecy and invisibility. Although he never left Lima, there are several authenticated cases of his having personally assisted those in sickness and distress in Mexico, Algeria, France, the Philippines, China and Japan.

Martin devoted himself also to preparing people for the spiritual ministrations of the friars. Spaniards, Negroes and Indians alike were loud in their praise of him, for he seemed to neglect no one. Somehow he was always supplied with food to dispense among the numerous poor and the abandoned waifs who were dependent on the charity of his monastery. The Holy Cross School was also started through his influence.

Martin died on 3 November 1639, he was beatified by Pope Gregory XVI in 1837 and canonised on 6 May 1962 by Pope John XXIII. St Martin de Porres is called the patron of social justice.

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

Parish Dinner will take place at the Dog and Badger, Maulden on Thursday **24 November**, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm. Price £11.95 for two courses, £14.95 for three courses, including tea/coffee. The menu choices are on the church door. Names of people attending, choices and payment will be collected from this weekend after both Masses.

Circle of Prayer for October – The Harvest and the Fruits of Human Work

O Lord, good Father, who in your providence has entrusted the earth to the human race, grant, we pray, that with the fruits harvested from it we may be able to sustain life and, with your help, always use them wisely.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **16 November** 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 **14 November** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For more information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet

on **14 November**. 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.



SUNDAY TEAS - Another donation of £100.00 has been made towards the refurbishment project. A big **Thank You** to all our customers and many thanks to all the tea- and coffee-makers.

We thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 22 and 23 October the total was £526.00 this is £24.00 less than what is needed to meet the parish running costs. The second collection for Mission Sunday was £274.00 and the CAFOD total was £623.00.

With thanks, Finance Committee.

NIGHT OF LIGHT MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 6.00 PM TILL 8.00 PM

A fun-filled alternative to Halloween, celebrating the eve of All Saints with fun and laughter, games and yummy food – all treats and NO tricks! Wear bright tee shirts.



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 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	29 October	6.00 pm	Jack and Molly Dorney, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday	30 October	11.00 am	Liam Spillane, RIP
Monday	31 October	9.30 am	Alex Moore-Martin, Recently Deceased, RIP
Tuesday	1 November	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Parish
Wednesday	2 November	9.30 am	Deceased members of the Harrison Family
		10.15 am	Private Intentions
Thursday	3 November		No Service
Friday	4 November	9.30 am	Deceased members of Mahony and Yates Families

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 October		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reading	Alison Braniff	Angela Turner
2 nd Reading	Angela Bartlett	Denis Horner
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Helen Wilson	C./H. Davies
Driver		Ros Penn
Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week, 5 and 6 November		
Mass	6.00 pm	11.00 am
1 st Reader	Maggie Dullaghan	Brendan Spillane
2 nd Reader	Suzanne Yates	Martin Brennan
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Deacon Philip Pugh
Eucharistic Minister	Pat King	Anne Gadsden
Driver		C./J. Gallagher