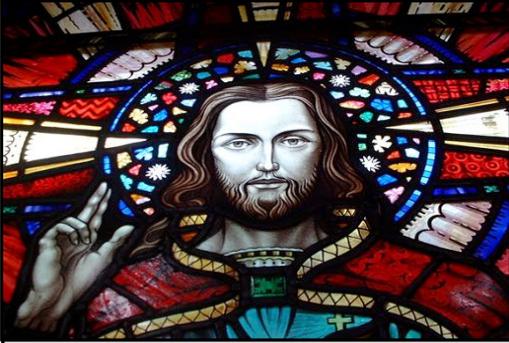


newsletter



1 July 2018

Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, 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



 Follow us on Facebook

Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton
 Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP

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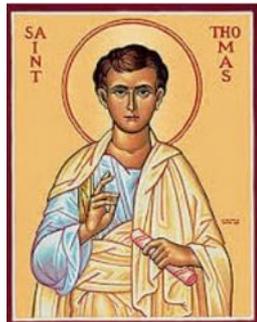
secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 24 June the offertory was £333.43 and Standing Orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

Feast of St Thomas the Apostle – 3 July

The Apostle Thomas is famous for doubting the resurrection of Jesus when his fellow Apostles told him about it. But if he is the sceptical Apostle, he is also the believing Apostle, for having seen and touched a risen man, he made the immediate leap of faith and so became the first Apostle to call Jesus, God.

Nothing is known about Thomas's later career. A well-known apocryphal document called the *Acts of Thomas* relates his missionary journeys to Persia and India. Although the document as it stands is not historical evidence (it was written to provide evidence for certain heretical Gnostic teachings), it still bears witness to the likelihood of a tradition that Thomas did go to India. If you are writing something that you intend to use to convince people of a controversial doctrine, you do not invent completely new facts, instead, you



weave the existing facts and traditions into something that suits your purpose. Thus the very fact that the heretics used a journey of

St Thomas to support their case, shows us that, in the third century at least, there would have seemed nothing implausible about such a journey. The journey would have been easy enough – important trade routes lay that way – and if some of the Apostles went west to Rome, the centre of the world, there is no reason why some others

should not have chosen to go east, to the edge of the known world.

We will probably never know for certain; but the Christians of Kerala have called themselves for centuries, St Thomas Christians, and they may very well be right.

Adapted from Catholic Calendar app by Universalis Publishing

CONFIRMATION

This Thursday 5 July, Bishop Peter will be here to confirm twelve of our young people from the parish.

We congratulate Alice, Amber, Anna, Gene, Joseph, Joshua, Liam, Niamh, Oscar, Rachel, Thomas, and Tyler.

Please remember them in your prayers.

Confirmation is the sacrament that completes the grace we receive in baptism. It seals, or confirms, this grace through the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit that we receive as part of confirmation. Like baptism, confirmation is received only once in a person's life.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Mass	This Sunday, 1 July	Next Sunday, 8 July
1 st Reading	Eamonn Diver	Suzanne Yates
2 nd Reading	Una McAlinden	Pat Crowe
Eucharistic	Catherine Davies	Don Perrett
Eucharistic	Hilary Brennan	Adrian Hamilton
Driver	Kate Mansford	William Doyle

MEN'S BREAKFAST

NEXT Saturday 7 July
9.30 am to 11.00 am

Join us for our regular men's breakfast event. Bacon sandwiches, conversation, friendship. (Suggested donation only £1.)

Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	1 July	9.00 am	Private Intentions
Tuesday	3 July	9.30 am	Eric Johnson, Recently Deceased, RIP
Wednesday	4 July	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion with Adoration
Friday	6 July	10.00 am	Intentions of Mr and Mrs Whitehead, on their Wedding Anniversary

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR JULY – PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Father, hear our prayers for the sick and housebound of our community. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs. May these special people find lasting health and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection next Sunday, **8 July** for Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea. Many people have never stopped to consider how important seafarers are to our standard of living. Without them we would not have most of the items we use in our everyday lives.



Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers who visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AoS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work; it takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need. Sea Sunday is the principal fundraising and awareness-raising event of the year for AoS.

This second collection will be taken at Masses throughout the country; this annual event is absolutely vital for AoS to continue their work. Please give generously, and remember seafarers in your prayers.

THE THEME FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER AND VOCATION IN JULY IS LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina is Latin for 'divine reading', 'spiritual reading', or 'holy reading' is a method of prayer and scriptural reading intended to promote communion with God, and to provide special spiritual insights.



The principles of *Lectio Divina* were expressed around the year 220AD and practised by Catholic monks, especially the monastic rules of Augustine and Benedict.

The practice of *Lectio Divina* is currently very popular among Catholics. Pope Benedict XVI said in 2005, 'I would like in particular to recall and recommend the ancient tradition of *Lectio Divina*: the diligent reading of sacred scripture accompanied by prayer brings about that intimate dialogue in which the person reading hears God who is speaking, and in praying, responds to him with trusting openness of heart.'

The actual practice of *Lectio Divina* begins with a time of relaxation, making oneself comfortable and clearing the mind of mundane thoughts and cares. Some *Lectio Divina* practitioners find it helpful to concentrate by beginning with deep, cleansing breaths and reciting a chosen phrase or word over and over, to help free the mind. Then they begin with the four steps:

Lectio – Reading the Bible passage gently and slowly several times.

Meditatio – Reflecting on the text and thinking about how it applies to one's life.

Oratio – Responding to the passage by opening the heart to God.

Contemplatio – Listening to God.

Sessions will be on 10, 17 and 24 July from 7.45 pm till 9.00 pm

Feast of St Elizabeth of Portugal (1271-1336) – 4 July

She was the daughter of King Peter III of Aragon and was named after her great-aunt, St Elizabeth of Hungary. She was married to King Denis of Portugal, by whom she had two children. She set up hospitals,



orphanages, and other institutions, patiently endured her husband's infidelities and provided for the education of his bastards, and acted as peacemaker in the quarrelsome and complicated politics of the time.

On her husband's death in 1325, she retired from public affairs and devoted herself to prayer and the service of the poor. Throughout her life she was faithful and regular in prayer, and daily recited the Liturgy of the Hours.

In 1336 her son, by now King Alfonso IV of Portugal, went to war against King Alfonso XI of Castile. Elizabeth followed the Portuguese army on the field in an effort to bring about peace. She succeeded, but the effort killed her.

The canonisation of royal personages may seem offensive to our modern egalitarian principles; but though it may be hard to attain sanctity in a medieval kingdom or its equivalent, a modern corporation, with God nothing is impossible.

Adapted from Catholic Calendar app by Universalis Publishing

Congratulations to five of our YouCat older youths who have been involved in a research project being done by the diocese that is looking at what it means to be young and Catholic. They have been through interviews, a focus group and submitted a photograph for the exhibition at the cathedral for the Synod. These young people have given up two of their Saturday afternoons.

CONGRATULATIONS



Share the Journey
#sharejourney

Sign up to be part of a global plan of action for refugees.

We are having a walk of solidarity on Saturday 21 July – from Flitwick to Eversholt accompanying Fr. John. The walkers from Leighton Buzzard are walking to Eversholt, to walk back with Fr. John. If you cannot do the walk perhaps you can sponsor a walker and help raise funds for Just One House.

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

Information

CONFESSION

Confession will be at 8.40 am on Sunday and at 9.45 am on Friday.

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

<http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk>

IN HOSPITAL, SICK OR HOUSEBOUND?

Please let us know of anyone who needs a visit or requires Holy Communion at home.

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL GROUP

meet in the church every Monday at 7.30 pm. Members provide help, support and friendship to anyone in need. They offer this support through befriending visits. Call Brendan Spillane on 01525 861 949 to find out more about their work.

LITTLE 'UNS

Meet every Friday 10.30 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 at deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

MASS INTENTIONS

For Mass Intentions, contact Suzanne Yates who will arrange for Fr. John or another local priest to say a Mass.

Everyone is welcome to come for tea and coffee after Sunday Mass.



Mothers' Prayers will meet on Monday **16 July** at 7.30 pm at 80 George Street, Maulden. You are very welcome to join us to pray for your family Intentions, in full confidentiality. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186. We meet fortnightly.



The sewing group will meet on **9 July** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will be meet on **4 July**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

