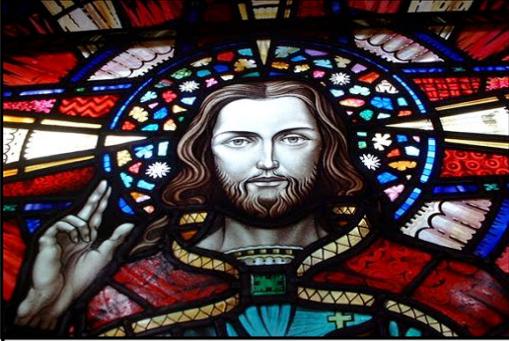


newsletter



5 August 2018

Eighteenth 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

Contact: 01525 715 109, 07711 953 926, www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Parish Priest, **Father John Danford**

sacredheartlb@btinternet.com, 01525 372 321

Parish Deacon, **Deacon Philip Pugh**

deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk, 07711 953 926

Pastoral Administrator, **Suzanne Yates**

secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 29 July, the offertory was £365.23 and standing orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord – 6 August

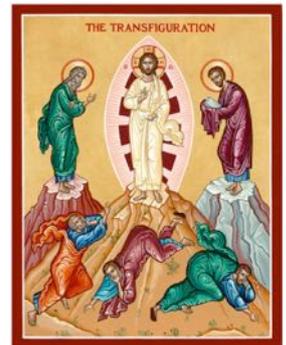
The Transfiguration of the Lord can sound embarrassingly magical. Jesus goes up onto a mountain and his clothes become dazzlingly white. Prophets appear and talk to him. And then it is all over and Jesus tells his disciples to say nothing.

We should hold on to the absurdity of the incident. There is simply no reason for all this to have happened. In particular, there is no reason to put it into a Gospel – the evangelist makes no capital out of it, it is simply there.

And this is the strength of the Transfiguration as an historical incident. *There is no reason for anyone to have invented it.* It is not central to the Christian case. It is not used to win arguments. There is only one reason to put it into the Gospel, and that is because it happened. It is one of those cases of the evangelists writing things down without knowing why they were important, and their very puzzlement is what makes the story so convincing.

Why, then, did it happen? Surely, so that we could see and understand that Jesus is at once one of the prophets and the one that was prophesied by them; and that he is God, and lives for all eternity in a blaze of dazzling and unapproachable light.

The true miracle of the Transfiguration is not the shining face or the white garments, but that for the rest of the time Jesus hid his glory so well.



Adapted from Catholic Calendar app. by Universalis Publishing

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Mass	This Sunday, 5 August	Next Sunday, 12 August
1 st Reading	Brendan Spillane	Catherine Davies
2 nd Reading	Noelette Hanley	Maggie Dullaghan
Eucharistic	Myriam Rincon	Noreen Weighell
Eucharistic	Carlos Rincon	Chris Till
Driver	Louis Chadwick	Ros Penn

PRAYER ON THE GO

It is important to take time to relax and recharge our batteries while on holidays. Part of the R & R should be spiritual. We spend every day rushing from A to B, with often little time for our inner selves.

We prepared a very simple guide for you to find just the right kind of resource for you to take away on your vacation or staycation, or simply to focus on in the long summer days. These resources are in last Sunday's newsletter, available on our website.

Mass Times at Sacred Heart

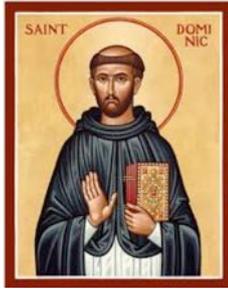
Sunday	5 August	9.00 am	Private Intentions
Tuesday	7 August	9.30 am	Mr and Mrs Petersen, Anniversary, RIP
Wednesday	8 August	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion with Adoration
Friday	10 August	10.00 am	Intentions of Pat and Ashley King on their 50 th Wedding Anniversary

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR AUGUST – PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Lord we thank you for marriage and the family. For the talents and good things you have given us. Please keep us united and our bonds strong as the days pass. Guide us, protect us and equip us to do your will each day. Thank you for all that you are and all that you have given us. Our hearts are forever grateful. Amen.

**Feast of St Dominic (1170-1221)
8 August**

He was born in Castile (part of modern Spain) and became a canon of the Cathedral of Burgo de Osma. He accompanied his bishop, Diego de Azevedo, in a mission of preaching against the Albigensian heresy, which was then strong in southern France. While the official missions lived in formality and splendour, Dominic and Diego lived in extreme poverty and prepared with great diligence for the debates that they held with their opponents. When the suppression of Albigensianism was undertaken by invasion and war of a particularly savage kind, Dominic continued to try to preach and persuade.



In 1216 he founded the Order of Preachers, dedicated to saving souls by preaching and persuasion. Like the Franciscans, founded a few years before, the Dominicans put great importance on poverty, both of the individual and of the community, and of the need to be involved directly in the world while still living some form of monastic life. At a time when the settled Benedictine monasteries had grown into great and rich institutions, this was a revolutionary, and to some, a subversive concept. The friars made a lasting impact on the life of medieval Europe. The Dominicans, in particular, altered the course of intellectual history by making a well-thought-out and rational response to the new learning that was appearing, as long-forgotten thinkers such as Aristotle became known once more in the Christian West.

Dominic died at Bologna on 6 August 1221.

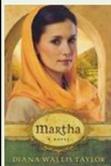
Adapted from Catholic Calendar app. by Universalis Publishing

There is an opportunity for **prayer ministry** straight after Mass **this weekend**. Please come forward to bring to the Lord your needs, and the team will pray with you, always confidential.

'Before they finish praying to me I will answer their prayers' (Isaiah 65:24).

BOOK CLUB – NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18 October 2018
at 7.30 pm
in the home of Ros Penn
The next book we have for you to read is *Martha, a Novel!* by Diana Wallis



The Bread of Life

Today's Gospel is taken from John 6:24-35.

Following the sign of the feeding of the five thousand, John begins his discourse. He develops his thought in two stages. The first stage is to establish the nature of the food by which God really satisfies peoples' hunger. Jesus accuses the crowd of not really wanting to see Jesus for his own sake, but because he had given them all the bread they wanted to satisfy their physical hunger. He urges them to seek spiritual food that will satisfy them eternally. They show their lack of understanding in asking for a sign from Jesus which will give them the reason to believe he has come from God. They quoted the sign that had come through Moses when he provided the children of Israel with manna. They failed to see that the sign had already been given.

The reply of Jesus contradicted them. It was not Moses who had fed the children of Israel with bread from heaven but God. Then, changing from the past tense to the present, Jesus claimed that God still feeds his people with 'bread from heaven', bread that gives life. The listeners again make the mistake of thinking only in terms of physical hunger and request that there be a constant supply of such food.



The climax of the reading comes in the claim that Jesus is to be the 'Bread of Life', the one who will satisfy spiritual hunger and thirst eternally. 'Bread from heaven' is not the manna of the wilderness but the incarnation of Jesus as the Son of God.

Adapted from *The Word of God, Mark's Gospel* by Robin Cooper

SUMMER PARISH BRUNCH

We are holding a late-summer brunch on **Sunday 30 September** after 9.00 am Mass. Funds raised will go to our Just One House fundraising. Tickets available soon.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Macmillan Coffee Morning at Sacred Heart church Friday **28 September** immediately after 10.00 am Mass.



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 Alan Bevan on 01525 403 589 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 take a break for the summer. Once more we thank Our Blessed Lord for so many blessings and answered prayers this year. For information ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186.



The sewing group will meet on **13 August** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will meet again on **5 September**. There is no meeting in August. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

