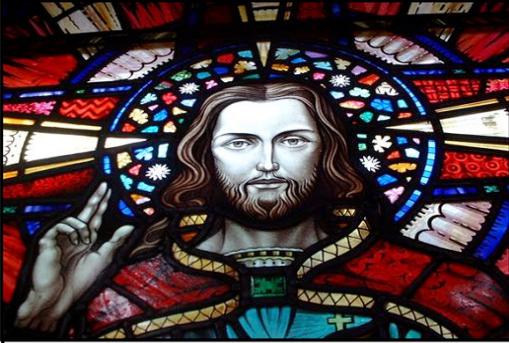


newsletter



19 August 2018

Twentieth 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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 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 12 August, the offertory was £376.10 and standing orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

The World Meeting of Families – The Gospel for the Family – Joy for the World

The Pope chooses the theme for each World Meeting of Families. In choosing The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World, as the theme for the ninth World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on a theme that was central to the synodal process that led to his post-synodal apostolic exhortation **Amoris Laetitia**: On Love in the Family.

'The Church and The Gospel of the Family' was a key theme in the preparatory document for the Third Extraordinary Assembly of Bishops in October 2014, a document that was the subject of unprecedented consultation among the faithful of the Church across the world. While the preparatory document does not give a specific definition of the term, 'The Gospel of the Family', it does convey at least three senses in which this relatively new phrase in the Church's tradition can be understood:

- The family, founded on the marriage of a man and woman, is part of God's plan from the beginning. The Good News of the family is therefore an indispensable part of the joyful message of the Gospel that the Church proclaims.
- The family is the principal agent of evangelisation of its own members. As the first school of faith and love, the Christian family is often where we ourselves first come to know Jesus and his love.
- The family proclaims the Gospel to the world. The Christian family, by its witness to the life and love of Jesus, is a principal agent of evangelisation to the world.
- As Pope Francis explains in the opening words of **Amoris Laetitia**, 'The Christian proclamation on the family is good news indeed' (AL,1). The Christian proclamation of the family is an indispensable part of the Good News of the Gospel. God's plan for the family, revealed in sacred scripture from the beginning, is joy for the world!



Adapted from <https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie>

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Mass	This Sunday, 19 August	Next Sunday, 26 August
1 st Reading	Una McAlinden	Pat Crowe
2 nd Reading	Fredrick Werrett	Suzanne Yates
Eucharistic	Hilary Brennan	Nicky Paterson
Eucharistic	Pat King	Don Perrett
Driver	Kate Mansford	David Toland

HOLY HOUR

Over the weekend of the Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool, we will offer Adoration and Holy Hour each day to coincide with significant events at the congress.

Please get involved by giving some of your time to this celebration of the Eucharist.

Please put your name on the form in the foyer, even if you can only do fifteen minutes or fewer.



Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	19 August	9.00 am	Gentle and Derek Rathbone, Anniversary, RIP
Tuesday	21 August	9.30 am	Maureen Dullaghan, Anniversary, RIP
Wednesday	22 August	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion with Adoration
Friday	24 August	10.00 am	Sean Goode, Recently Deceased, RIP and Theresa Prendergast, Recently Deceased, RIP

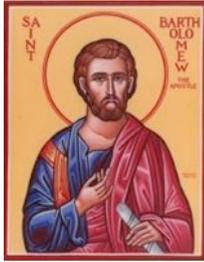
CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR AUGUST – PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

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 Bartholomew, Apostle 24 August

Saint Bartholomew flourished in the first century AD traditionally in Albanopolis, Armenia and is one of the Twelve Apostles.

Apart from mention of him in four of the Apostle lists (Mark 3:18, Matt. 10:3, Luke 6:14, and Acts 1:13), nothing is known about him from the New Testament. Bartholomew is a family name meaning 'son of Tolmai, or Talmal,' so he may have had



another personal name. For that reason and because he was always associated with the Apostle St Philip in the Gospel lists, a ninth-century tradition identified him with Nathanael, who, according to John 1:43-51, was called with Philip by Jesus. Upon seeing Nathanael, Jesus said, 'Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!' This identification sought to explain how the otherwise unknown Bartholomew could be mentioned in the Apostle lists, while Nathanael, whose call is explicitly described by John, does not figure in them. His full name would then be Nathanael bar Tolmai.

The fourth-century Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea in his *Ecclesiastical History* relates that, when the second-century teacher St Pantaeus of Alexandria made a visit to India, he found the Hebrew Gospel according to Matthew, which had been left behind there by Bartholomew. Traditionally, Bartholomew also served as a missionary to Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia (in modern Iran), Laconia (in modern Turkey), and Armenia. The Apostle is said to have been martyred by flaying and beheading at the command of the Armenian King Astyages. His relics were supposedly taken to the Church of St Bartholomew-in-the-Tiber, Rome.

Adapted from <https://www.britannica.com>

Sacred Heart Flitwick 100 CLUB

The latest draw took place on 12 August and the lucky winners were
1st – Jane Crow
2nd – Deacon Philip Pugh
3rd – Ros Penn

SUMMER PARISH BRUNCH

We are holding a late-summer brunch on Sunday **30 September** after 9.00 am Mass. Monies raised will go to our Just One House fundraising. Tickets, family £15, single £8.



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

The Eucharist

Today's Gospel is taken from John 6:51-58.

Jesus gives his flesh, his body for the life of the world. Again the Jews begin to debate what is, after all, a most understandable question; one which has occupied much thought in every age. How can Jesus give us himself to eat? If people were to wait until they had the full answer to this question before committing themselves to Jesus, they would never do so. The full answer will always remain a mystery, accepted in faith.



Again Jesus enlarges on his previous statement and the emphasis is significantly Eucharistic.

1. The way to eternal life is the eating of 'The flesh of the Son of Man'.
2. A new thought is included. Equally important is the drinking of his blood. In these lie the secret of resurrection and eternal life.
3. The body and blood of Jesus are real food and drink. Here we are at the heart of the Eucharist. In the twin elements of bread and wine we find the real presence of Jesus. Such a gift sustains a person not only in this life, enabling spiritual growth, but also prepares the way for eternal life. In other words, the deepening of the relationship with Jesus the Lord, which comes through the Eucharist, enables us to live the life that is real both here in our earthly existence and also in what lies beyond in the world to come. In this way we share in the divine unity itself and become more Christ-like.

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

THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION ON 26 AUGUST, FOR PETER'S PENCE.

Through the Peter's Pence Collection, we unite with the Holy Father as he reaches out to our brothers and sisters suffering the effects of war and violence, natural disasters, and religious persecution. We stand in solidarity with Catholics all over the world to support the charitable works and outreach of the Holy See.



The Peter's Pence Collection derives its name from an ancient custom. In ninth-century England, King Alfred the Great collected money, a 'penny', from landowners as financial support for the Pope. Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the Pope's philanthropy by giving the Holy Father the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease.

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

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 at 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 **10 September** 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.

