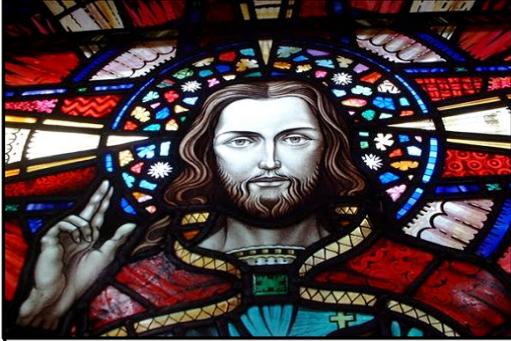


newsletter



9 September 2018

Twenty-Third 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 2 September the offertory was £370.35 and standing orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 14 September

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then 'All the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on.'

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication.

The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, fifteen years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.



Adapted from <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Mass	This Sunday, 9 September	Next Sunday, 16 September
1 st Reading	Dee Brady	Noelette Hanley
2 nd Reading	Judith Latham	Brendan Spillane
Eucharistic	Clare Bevan	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic	Jane Crow	John Flanagan
Driver	Louis Chadwick	William Doyle

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 available after Mass today. Family ticket £15 and a single ticket £8. Helpers are needed for summer brunch. If you are able to help please contact Suzanne Yates on secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk.



Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	9 September	9.00 am	Betty Mahony, Birthday Anniversary, RIP
Tuesday	11 September	9.30 am	Service of the Word and Communion
Wednesday	12 September	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion with Adoration
Friday	14 September	10.00 am	Liam Spillane, Anniversary, RIP

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER – THE WORK OF THE SVP

Lord, please bless the Society and its members and all for whom they care. Protect and guide them in their work, grant them energy and wisdom in their dealings with those in need and inspire others to join the Society so that its membership will grow in the years ahead. Amen

During the Eucharistic Congress we have been holding a Holy Hour each day to coincide with an activity at the congress. The final Holy Hour is today from 2.00 pm till 3.00 pm.



The inspiration for the Holy Hour is found in Matthew 26:40. In the Gospel of Matthew, during the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before his crucifixion, Jesus spoke to his disciples, saying 'My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me.' Returning to the disciples after prayer, he found them asleep and he asked Peter: 'Could you not keep watch for an hour?' The Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is a time for silent adoration and prayer in the presence of Christ. You can come for all or part of the hour.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS 15 SEPTEMBER

For a while there were two feasts in honour of the Sorrowful Mother: one going back to the 15th century, the other to the 17th century. For a while the universal Church celebrated both, one on the Friday before Palm Sunday, the other in September.



The principal biblical references to Mary's sorrows are in Luke 2:35 and John 19:26-27. The passage in Luke is Simeon's prediction about a sword piercing Mary's soul; the passage in John relates Jesus' words from the cross to Mary and to the beloved disciple.

Many early Church writers interpret the sword as Mary's sorrows, especially as she saw Jesus die on the cross. Thus, the two passages are brought together as prediction and fulfilment.

Saint Ambrose in particular sees Mary as a sorrowful yet powerful figure at the cross. Mary stood fearlessly at the cross while others fled.

Mary looked on her Son's wounds with pity, but saw in them the salvation of the world. As Jesus hung on the cross, Mary did not fear to be killed, but offered herself to her persecutors.

Adapted from <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

**The Pastoral Area Council is holding
A Day with Mary
At St Mary's Dunstable
On Saturday, 6 October
All Welcome**

BOOK CLUB – NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18 October 2018 at 7.30 pm
in the home of Ros Penn

Our book is *Martha: A Novel* by Diana Wallis Taylor

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

SVP Appeal

This year our SVP members will be appealing for your support on Sunday 16 September. As usual, they will present their annual report, sharing what has been done during the past twelve months and outlining future plans. There will be a retiring collection to support their work. On Monday 17 and Monday 24 there will be opportunities to meet members and talk about the work of the SVP. These meetings will be held at church at 8.00 pm – all are welcome and no pressure will be used! Please see the noticeboard *Beyond Boundaries* for the national SVP appeal.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING Sacred Heart Church, Flitwick

TEA
COFFEE



CAKE
RAFFLE

**28 September
After 10.00 am Mass
PLEASE COME ALONG
BRING A FRIEND**

If you would like to donate a raffle prize or volunteer to bake a cake please, contact Anne Gadsden on 07432 595 057.

PARKING AT SACRED HEART CHURCH

As you are aware since we only have one Mass on Sundays we have had to put in place some restrictions for parking at the church. With the cooperation of Flitwick Lower School we are able to provide additional car parking, five minutes walk from the church. We would encourage the use of this additional space.

To ensure that parking is best used we make the onsite parking for **visitors and permit holders only**. These permits give priority to the disabled, frail, elderly, and people with very young children. Apart from visitors, ALL of the remainder of the parish community will be encouraged to use the school car park or elsewhere, walk to church and find other ways to limit their need to park near the church.

Parking permits will be renewed at the end of November. If you think you need a permit please contact Deacon Philip or Suzanne Yates in October.

Children liturgy commences from this weekend. It is aimed at children in Year 2 and below. Children are welcome alone or with their parent/carer.



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 HOUSE-BOUND?

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, 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 begin our 18th year of meetings on **Tuesday 11 September** (just for this week). We meet to pray for our children and have had many answers to our prayers. Now would be a good time to join us as we come together after our summer break. Call Sue Barley, 01525 634186 for details.



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 **19 September**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.