

newsletter



23 February 2020

Seventh Sunday of Year A



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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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 16 February it was £328.20 and standing orders were £750.00. With thanks, Finance Committee

LIVESIMPLY AWARD

The *Livesimply* award is an opportunity for us to respond to Pope Francis' invitation in *Laudato Si'* to 'work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us'. An important part of our faith is to care for creation and to develop respect for other people in the world. Becoming a *Livesimply* award parish helps you go deeper and take action.

So, what is the *Livesimply* award?
 It is awarded to communities who can show how they have been:

- Living simply
- Living in solidarity with people in poverty
- Living sustainably with creation.



It should be possible for any active community who has taken on board these three key principles to achieve the award within a year. These *Livesimply* principles came out of a piece of Catholic Social Teaching *Populorum Progressio* – 'On the Development of Peoples'.

So, how can we apply for a *Livesimply* award? Backed by Fr. John and organised by Jim Aylward, we need to get as many people in the parish involved as possible.

Today we are going to ask everyone to take a pledge card and sign up to do at least one of the suggested activities on the card. Please return the tear-off next Sunday.

We will continue to do the things we are already trying to do to help our planet, and find new ways to *Livesimply*.

ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

The ashes for Ash Wednesday are made from burning the palms given out on Palm Sunday the year before. Deacon Philip wants to make the ashes this year, and asks everyone to return their palms to the church by today, **23 February** so they can be rendered into ash. Please place your palms in the basket in the foyer.



Readers and Eucharistic Ministers		
Mass	This Sunday, 23 February	Next Sunday, 1 March
1 st Reading	Ann Leatherland	Emma Burgess
2 nd Reading	Noreen Weighell	Michael Burgess
Eucharistic	Don Perrett	Helen Wilson
Eucharistic	Nicky Paterson	Helen Burgess
Driver	David Toland	Kate Mansford

Wednesday 26 February is Ash Wednesday
 There will be Service of Ashes with Word and Communion at 9.30 am and Mass at 7.30 pm.

 Continues Tuesday 25 February at 10.00 am and 7.45 pm
YOU, THE BIBLE AND GOD'S BIG PLAN
 AN INSPIRATIONAL BIBLE COURSE

Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	23 February	9.00 am	Natasha Watson, Anniversary, RIP Deceased of the McLoughlin and McCann families
Tuesday	25 February	9.30 am	Eleanor Murphy Linda Chambers, Recently Deceased, RIP
Wednesday	26 February	9.30 am	Service of the Word and Communion with Ashes
Wednesday	26 February	7.30 pm	Mass for Ash Wednesday
Friday	28 February	10.00 am	Private Intentions, Betty Mahony, Anniversary, RIP

Circle of Prayer for February All who are sick and their carers

Accept the prayers we offer for our brothers and sisters who are ill, that they may be restored to fullness of health. We pray for doctors, nurses and all who care for the sick and the dying that they may bring Christ's love and compassion to all whom they care for. Amen.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – FEBRUARY

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning life. 1 John 1:1



BOOK CLUB

Date of next meeting is
5 March at 7.30 pm in the
home of Ros Penn.



The next book we have for you to read in preparation for Lent is: *The Long Road to Heaven* by Tim Heaton.

CORONAVIRUS

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Due to the concern regarding the spread of the Coronavirus, the bishops have issued a number of statements including the following about receiving communion.



Anyone with cold or flu symptoms should refrain from taking communion from the Chalice and receive the host on the hand only. (We should be doing this anyway, every flu season.)

For more information visit the website
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

SOUP FOR SUDAN

By popular demand the SVP are again serving 'Soup for Sudan' during Lent, on 17 March between 12 midday and 1.30 pm. It will be, as always, an opportunity to share a simple meal, enjoy good company and to support the efforts of the SVP in Sudan and South Sudan. Wars, famine and political instability have left the ordinary people in dire straits. The SVP in both countries are desperately short of resources and everything you donate will go to them. Please come along!



RED MISSIO BOX HOLDERS

Pat King will be giving out Missio envelopes on 28 February and 1 March and collecting the contents of the boxes before Masses on 6 and 8 March and 13 and 15 March. If you have any questions please call 01525 402 598.



Pray and Play at Sacred Heart



Our next session for 2020 will be
8 March – Lent and Easter.

The session starts at 2.00 pm for one hour. All children up to Year 6 are welcome.

**CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED
BY AN ADULT**

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



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN
AMPTHILL AND FLITWICK
(CTA&F)

Joint Services and Prayers During Lent

Date	Church	Time
1 March	St Peter and St Paul, Flitwick. Celtic Prayer Evening for St David	6.30 pm
8 March	Flitwick Methodist Women in Lent	6.00 pm
15 March	St Andrews, Ampt Hill Taize Service	6.30 pm
22 March	Sacred Heart, Flitwick. Prayer for the Persecuted Church	6.30 pm
29 March	Ampt Hill Baptist Contemporary Worship Service	6.30 pm

You are invited to join together to worship and pray with Christians from other churches

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. It always falls 46 days before Easter and while it is not a holy day of obligation, all Catholics are encouraged to attend Mass to mark the beginning of Lent. During Mass the ashes are distributed. Burning the blessed palms that were distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday makes the ashes. After the priest blesses and sprinkles the ashes with holy water, the faithful come forward to receive them. The priest or deacon dips his right thumb in the ashes and, making the Sign of the Cross on each person's forehead, says, 'Remember, that thou art dust, and to dust thou shalt return.'



The ashes that we receive are a reminder of our own sinfulness, and many Catholics leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility. The Church emphasises the penitential nature of Ash Wednesday by calling us to fast and abstain from meat. Catholics who are over the age of 18 and under the age of 60 are required to fast, which means that they can eat only one complete meal and two smaller ones during the day, with no food in between. Catholics who are over the age of 14 are required to refrain from eating any meat or any food made with meat on Ash Wednesday.

This fasting and abstinence is not simply a form of penance, however, it is a call for us to take stock of our spiritual lives. As Lent begins, we should set specific spiritual goals we would like to reach before Easter and decide how we will pursue them.

Adapted from <http://catholicism.about.com>

INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confession will be at 8.30 am on Sundays and at 9.30 am on Fridays.

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 preschoolers. 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 next meet on **Monday 2 March** 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 **24 February** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. Contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will meet again on **18 March**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

