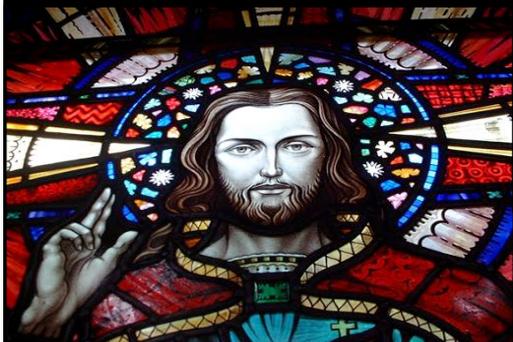


# Bulletin



26 April 2020

Third Sunday of Easter



**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

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Parish Deacon, **Deacon Philip Pugh** [deaconphilippugh@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:deaconphilippugh@northamptondiocese.org), 07711 953

Pastoral Administrator, **Suzanne Yates** [secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 19 April standing orders were £790.00.

With thanks, Finance Committee.

## TODAYS' GOSPEL IS FROM LUKE 24:13-35

This well-loved story is highly symbolic in nature. As a strictly historical account it presents the major difficulty or non-recognition, a difficulty that only becomes clear when given a faith meaning.

The story has four different parts.

First of all, towards the end of the account there is a report of a resurrection appearance to Peter. This is a second-hand appearance. Nowhere in the New Testament is the story recorded of an appearance to Peter on the first Easter day. Paul also mentions this tradition but no such story survives.

Secondly the story teaches that the life and fate of Jesus is seen in Scripture, The coming of Jesus was foretold in Scripture, as were the details of his mission. The death of Jesus was also forecast.

Thirdly, there was an inevitability of suffering. Luke sees such suffering as a means of entering glory. The passion has become the means of deification, by giving himself up to suffering; Jesus has been raised from the dead by God and glorified,

Finally, there is an emphasis on the Eucharist. At first, two disciples fail to recognise Jesus. They finally do so when he took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. This is Eucharistic language, more significant than is historically possible on the first Easter day, so soon after the Last Supper.

Christ is and always will be recognised in the breaking of bread.



Adapted from *The Word of God – Year A* by Robin Cooper

### Pray and Play at Sacred Heart



Our next session for 2020 will be  
**17 May – Pentecost**

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

**WE WILL BE MEETING BY ZOOM.**

**YOU WILL BE SENT NECESSARY MATERIALS AND HOW TO ACCESS ZOOM BEFORE THE DAY.**

### Let us Pray ... TOGETHER

Schedule of open sessions on Zoom each week. To access please open Zoom and click this link:  
<https://zoom.us/j/9974164533> (you may need to copy and paste it and put it into your browser).

Email Suzanne for the password.

- † Sunday – 9.00 am Morning Prayer of the Church
- † Tuesday – 9.00 am Morning Prayer of the Church
- † Friday – 9.00 am Morning Prayer of the Church

Fr. John has made a YouTube video of his homily. You can see it by clicking the YouTube button on the first page of our website. The button looks like this...



### Mass Intentions, please pray for ...

Sunday	26 April	Fionn Michael Brady, Recently Deceased, RIP Christina Traynor, Anniversary RIP
Tuesday	28 April	Ray Mahony, Anniversary, RIP
Friday	1 May	Tony Dunne, Recently Deceased, RIP

### CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL – DIGNITY OF HUMAN WORK

Dear God, thank you for providing us with the gift to share our talents. Provide our community, our nation, our world the fortitude to provide work for all which is decent and fair. Make us faithful stewards of your creation to enhance the human dignity of our global family. Amen.

## Fr. John's Homily for Third Sunday of Easter

A number of years ago I visited the National Gallery intending to visit every room. It took me over 6 hours, three visits to the café (plus cakes!), and my eyes were hanging from their sockets by the end of it, but I did it.

One of the most memorable paintings for me was Caravaggio's Supper at Emmaus, capturing the moment when Cleopas and another disciple recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. Caravaggio employed all the tricks at his disposal: dramatic lighting, dark background, remarkable foreshortening effects and so on. Particularly skilful was his painting of one of the disciple's hands stretching out towards the viewer (hands are always difficult to draw, even at the best of times) almost reaching out to touch you. The other disciple's elbow also "pokes" out of the painting's surface, whilst a bowl of fruit (beautifully realised) almost topples off the front of the table at our feet. Even Christ's hand reaches out towards us as he blesses the bread and wine. Caravaggio uses all of these tricks to convince the viewer that we are actually there, at that instant.

It is very satisfying for the artist when you achieve this 3-D effect. All too rarely in my case, but recently I was rather pleased with myself with the painting of a church apse (rounded end of a church) which seemed to protrude out from the paper, giving the effect of a reality (the church) emerging from another reality (the paper).

These experiences are counter-intuitive, they breach our sense of reality, and it is exciting (even a little confusing and bewildering) when it happens. Like jumping into a painting, for example Mary Poppins and her friends jumping into the chalk painting on the pavement, entering another world and singing Supercalifragilistic etc)

Another instance came in a recent edition of The Repair Shop, which I mentioned on Easter Sunday. A lady had brought in a leather covered music stool to be reupholstered and when it was uncovered, fully restored, she gasped, because for an instant she was transported back to when she was a 4 year old and seeing the stool as it then appeared.

Yet another example: the first Jurassic Park film I saw at the cinema. To see the Tyrannosaurus Rex plod out through the fence for the first time was electrifying. At last one could see what a T Rex actually (or might have!) looked and sounded like, in a way that was completely convincing.

These are different examples of how reality can play tricks on us, and usually we enjoy the thrill. When Jesus was transfigured on Mount Tabor, Peter asked if they could erect three tents, one for Jesus, and one each for Moses and Elijah. He wanted to tarry there a bit longer, for all his terror he wanted the moment to last. But these experiences are all too transient.

Going back to the Supper at Emmaus, of course, this "moment of transcendence" that I have been trying to describe in different ways happened to them, when suddenly they recognised Jesus. And the moment was very transitory, because, as we are told, Jesus immediately disappeared. That is the nature of the phenomenon. Caravaggio tries, literally, to "capture" that moment for us, keep it in safe keeping, and also reminds us, that no matter how transitory that moment might be, it is still captured and kept safe for us in the Eucharist. Our eyes need to be "opened", as were the two disciples, to that moment of Jesus' presence in the celebration of the Mass, that moment of transcendence, when we are truly united with Christ in the Eucharist.

This is especially challenging during this time of lock down: Do we recognise Jesus in the Eucharist, (even if we celebrate the Mass "on line") like the two disciples? Do we respond, like St Thomas, with the words: My Lord and my God?

*Fr. John*

## THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – APRIL

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).



Sacred Heart, Flitwick  
Call & Care



Our parish is often praised for being a welcoming and active community. With the help of an initiative created by the diocesan team, we invited you to volunteer for Call & Care.

The aim is to have sufficient people making regular fortnightly calls to all members of the parish community, in a show of the fellowship that we so frequently display at Mass, in our groups or organisations and in our social connections, coffees and chats.

By being in touch with everyone across the parish, we are able to help those with specific needs – shopping, prescriptions and simply a more regular chat with a friendly voice.

To date we have 45 volunteers contacting 251 households. It seems that all who have been contacted have been pleased to be thought of. Although many do not need more contact, we are beginning to be asked for help to shop. Fortunately, we have a few young and healthy people who are able to do this for us.

Please remember if you haven't been contacted, it could be that we don't have your number or we have an incorrect one. Contact Suzanne if you haven't been called yet  
[secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

### THINGS TO DO!

Our exercise continues this week. Don't agonise over it. It's designed to be helpful, but not add any stress in this difficult time.

#### This week's activity ...

Try to say this every day for at least one week.

#### Prayer for Health Staff

Wondrous God, author of life, you fashioned us in your likeness and breathed into us the life which is your own. Be with those whose special care is the health of mind and body. Fill their hearts with awe for the life which is your gift and sustain them daily in your service, that their hands may bring to others the comfort of your healing touch. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Newsletter copy deadline – Thursday midday.**  
Newsletter contact:  
Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661;  
[smyates47@gmail.com](mailto:smyates47@gmail.com)



The month of May is traditionally dedicated to the rosary for intercessions said through Mary, the Mother of God.

With all of us in our state of isolation and lockdown we would like to invite you ALL to take part in saying the rosary as a collective devotion across the whole month. Many of you will already be regularly saying the rosary at home, our hope is that each of you will join us in Zoom to share special times – or simply join in at the same time.



Each decade of the Rosary we offer will be for the following intention – *'the country and our people, that God will send us the skills, resources and commitment to find a way to overcome the virus and return to normal life – and the celebration of the Mass together once more in each of our churches'*.

We will schedule the rosary, though Zoom at the following times:-

- † Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 9.00 am, after we have said the Morning Prayer together
- † On Monday and Thursday at 7.30 pm, to give the opportunity for those working or caring to take part
- † On Saturday, the day of the week set aside for devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will offer the Angelus and the rosary at 12 noon.

We need a number of people to volunteer to lead the rosary on Monday (evening), Wednesday (morning), Thursday (evening) and Saturday at noon.

Let Suzanne know you are willing and we will provide you with details of the short scripture text and short reflection to accompany each day.

#### CHARLES WATERFORD, RIP

Please remember Charles in your prayers as he passed way recently. All our sympathy and prayers go to Charles's family.



## INFORMATION

### CONFESSION

Confessions have been suspended until further notice.

### PRAYER LINE

Please ring for intercessory prayer on 01525 634 186. We have some wonderful answers to prayers. Be assured of full confidentiality.

### SAFEGUARDING

For information contact Paula Bates [safeguarding@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto: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. See box on left for hospital contacts.

### THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL GROUP

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

This has been cancelled for the time being.

### MASS INTENTIONS

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

### Hospital Contacts

If you have anyone in hospital you can contact the following.  
Bedford Hospital – Deacon Tony Quinlan on 01234 950 453 or [tonyquinlan15@gmail.com](mailto:tonyquinlan15@gmail.com)  
Luton and Dunstable Hospital – Deacon Jim Hannigan on 07756 685 220 or [deaconjimhannigan@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:deaconjimhannigan@northamptondiocese.org)

Mothers' Prayers will next meet on **Tuesday 21 April** at 7.30 pm by Zoom. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186. We meet weekly at this time.



The sewing group is cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19. For details, phone Hilary Brennan on 01525 717 919.



### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will meet again on **20 May**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

