

newsletter



9th and 10th January 2010

The Baptism of Our Lord

Year C



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.

Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP
Tel: 01525 715 109 www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Times of Mass



Saturday	9 th January	6.00 pm	St Andrew's Ampthill	Private Intentions
Sunday	10 th January	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Bernard Merry, RIP
Monday	11 th January	5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
		9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	McEvoy Family Intentions
Tuesday	12 th January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Wednesday	13 th January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Josie McEvoy, RIP
Thursday	14 th January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Friday	15 th January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Saturday	16 th January	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

Baptism was not over and done with the day we were taken to the font. We are baptised by all that happens to us in life. We are baptised by hardship; in its turbulent waters we are purified of all that is false and useless. We are baptised by suffering; in its murky waters we grow in humility and compassion. We are baptised by joy; in its gurgling waters we experience the goodness of life. We are baptised by love; in its singing waters we blossom like flowers in the sun. Baptism is like the planting of a seed. It will take a lifetime for this seed to grow and ripen.



Thoughts from the homily...

The new beginnings that we make in our lives may not mark the fulfilment of anyone's prophecy, but they probably mark the fulfilment of someone's hope. Sometimes we are so hesitant about making a new start that we end up in no man's land waiting for more weather reports. Every new beginning is a risk, and we undertake that risk sooner when we have people to underwrite our change. Sometimes we change only because we have someone who has lived out an ancient hope that our secret self can indeed grow strong and thrive. It's not a coincidence that Jesus only begins His big change when He is funded with the Father's love and support through His encounter with John the Baptist.

People are reluctant to change when they see that people are indifferent about whether they change. John the Baptist gave Jesus support; we know *that* because we know it was after His time with John that Jesus changed from living as an artisan in a small town to taking to the road in pursuit of His mission. John is a very important figure for Jesus: he is the only religious leader that leaves a deep impression on Jesus. And the good news is that Jesus Himself is the one who underwrites our changes, who cares deeply that we do change for the better. The cross stands as the eternal proof of that.



SUNDAY LATIN MASS

Fr. Armand de Malleray, of the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter, celebrates the Latin Mass here each Sunday at 5.00 pm. The Mass, from the Missal of 1962, fulfils the Sunday Obligation.

Information

CONFESSIONS

Saturday mornings from 11.00 am – please see newsletter for changes.

PRAYER LINE

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

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

meets every Monday at 7.45 pm. If you would like to join us or would like more details, contact John Flannigan on 01525 406 810.

LITTLE 'UNS

Meet every Friday 10.15 am–11.45 am in term time, in the Church Hall. For further information please contact Debbie Lewis on 01525 406 815 or Kerry Skidmore on 01525 635 095.

CARDS, GIFTS, etc.

Are available for sale in Sacred Heart Church Hall after 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses. All are priced. Please put money in the repository box in the porch or see Margaret.

CHURCH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

The church newsletter is available from the website
<http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk>

Newsletter copy deadline – Tuesday 12 midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates, email suz_yates@btinternet.com; telephone 01525 840 661



This weekend, 9th and 10th January, we have our usual annual White Flower Collection for the Protection of Unborn Children, bearing in mind Pope Benedict has argued for the right to life from conception.



I hope you will support this cause with generosity.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

will meet as usual at 80 George St., Maulden at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 12th January.



Come and join us to pray for family and friends and see Our Lord answer our prayers as we put all into His hands. Ring Sue on 01525 634 186



CONFIRMATION 2010

Thank you to the parishioners who have come forward to assist with Confirmation preparation, and to the young people who have put their names forward for preparation.

If you have not already done so, there is still time.

If you are school year 8+ and would like to be confirmed in 2010 then give Canon Denis a note with your name, age, and contact details as soon as possible.

Preparation sessions are expected to start in January so watch this space for more information.



If you give a man a fish, he will eat once.

If you teach a man to fish, he will eat for the rest of his life.

If you are thinking a year ahead, sow a seed.

If you are thinking ten years ahead, plant a tree.

If you are thinking a hundred years ahead, educate people.

By sowing the seed you will harvest once.

By planting a tree, you will harvest tenfold.

By educating the people you will harvest one hundredfold.

Tea and Talk

Our next meeting will be on 18th January,

from 2.00 pm at Sacred Heart Church Hall

Flitwick. Newcomers welcome.



Pre-Communion Group.

The group is for 5- to 7 ish-year-olds and meets in the Church on Sunday mornings from 9.45 am to 10.30 am.

The next meeting is 10th January. New members are welcome.



Reminder

Readers and drivers for next week, 9th and 10th January.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Michael Ita	Gerard Kerrigan	C/H Davies
2 nd Reader	Joel Ita	Dennis Horner	John Gallagher
Eucharistic		Astrid Browne	Nicky Paterson
Driver			John Gallagher

Readers and drivers for next week, 16th and 17th January.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Christine Jackson	John Flanagan	Una McAlinden
2 nd Reader	Mary Brown	Dee Brady	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic		Jane Crow	Grace M ^c Kenna
Driver		William Doyle	

Fr. Denis writes...

Two years ago, I attended an interesting talk and tour of Westminster Abbey. Founded as a Benedictine Monastery, it was consecrated on Christmas Day in 1066. St Edward, King, organised the building, and gave most of the money. His was the first funeral mass in the Abbey.

The talk was entitled 'Tombs and graves in the Abbey'. One of the famous buried there was Sir Rowland Hill. He died in 1879. On 10th January 1840, he introduced a system of paying to the Post Office one penny for the postage and delivery of a letter.



The penny would cover costs of delivering a letter throughout the United Kingdom. Before that time it would be only the person receiving the letter who would pay.

In the 1840s it was found that time was wasted in waiting for people to answer the door. Another invention of Rowland Hill then, was to have a slit in the door through which letters could be put – hence our letter boxes in doors.

All British stamps bear the head of the Queen or King reigning at the time. Stamps of other countries bear the name of the country. When stamps first appeared, there was no need to distinguish them from stamps of other countries, since only Britain was then producing stamps. Here is the prayer we were given at the end of that interesting tour.



Commemorative stamps, Lord,
call to mind famous people,
sport and inventions,
and nature, art and history.
As I value what these images represent,
lead me particularly, Lord,
to value every individual person
– made as we all are
in Your image and likeness.
Inspire me to show appreciation
to all who are a part of my life.
May I use well
all opportunities that come my way
to make my part of the world
a better place. Amen.



Sunday Parking



Please park with consideration for our neighbours. We also need to keep the entrance to the car park free in the event of an emergency (ambulance etc.). We realise that the car park is small, and we appreciate your cooperation.