

newsletter



13th and 14th February 2010

The 6th Sunday of Year C



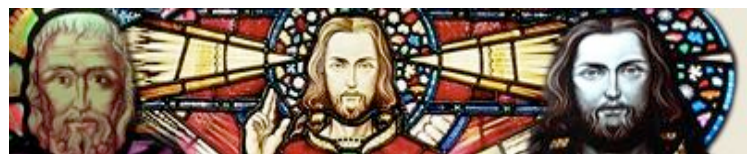
Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart *Our Mission*

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	13 th February	6.00 pm	St Andrew's Amphill	Private Intentions
Sunday	14 th February	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
		11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Gary Willington, RIP
		5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday	15 th February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Eileen Ferrier, RIP
Tuesday	16 th February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Carmella A. Grimi, RIP
Wednesday	17th February	9.00 am	St Andrew's Amphill	Private Intentions
Ash Wednesday	Wednesday	7.30 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Thursday	18 th February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Friday	19 th February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Saturday	20 th February	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Eileen Dunne, RIP

A Reflection by Fr. Denis

We are all familiar with manifestos. We have them trotted out during all general election campaigns. They are held up and proclaimed as the solution for all our problems. We are also familiar with manifestos that seem to disappear once the election is over. The party in power is called to 'deliver on its election promises'. The fact is, however, that, no matter how much goodwill and good intentions were involved, you can be sure that corners will have to be cut, that promises will be reneged on, and that several of the programmes will have to be put on hold.

The big difference in the Manifesto in today's Gospel is that Jesus' guarantee and promise goes with it, and as well as offering us the Manifesto, He offers us all that it takes to be able to live up to it. This is something that no earthly power could ever hope to achieve, let alone offer. It is central that we understand the new language Jesus uses; in other words, He gives a whole new meaning to words that we use in ordinary everyday worldly language.

Fr. Denis writes ...

Along with Freud and Adler, Carl Jung is regarded as one of the fathers of modern psychology. One of the concepts that he developed was that of 'the shadow'. This refers to the darkest recesses of the human soul and, until identified by the self, we tend to project this darkness onto others. What is the root of this tendency in human beings? This is a question that has preoccupied philosophers and theologians from time immemorial. In an attempt to answer this, some Jewish rabbis took a bold and dangerous step. They said that God had created everything; God must also have created our tendency to evil. Effectively, this could lead to God being made responsible for our sins. It is this belief that St James confronts in his letter, (James 1:17). There is no darkness in God, he asserts, only the pure light of eternal goodness.



While we would not be as specific as these Jewish rabbis, we should be aware of other ways in which we try to 'blame' God. We ask: 'Why does God allow this?' God's answer is not found in words. It is at the end of a journey we shall shortly begin. The Lenten journey to Good Friday and on to Easter Sunday.

Offertory Collection for 6th and 7th February was £519.79 and £295.00 for the building fund. Thank you, Fr. Denis.

The Building Fund

We are delighted with the response to the appeal. Since October we have raised over £3500 through a combination of events and donations. Your donations have been great – some people have given donations of more than a hundred pounds which is very generous. Others have been giving lesser amounts but have been giving steadily on a week-by-week or monthly basis. Both types of

donation are very welcome and a great help.

For those who would like to give but have not yet done so there are brown envelopes for the purpose at the back of church. Please use these if you wish to put money in the collection basket. Cheques can either be put in the basket or given to Canon Denis. Please make them out to Sacred Heart Church Flitwick. A further update on progress will follow shortly.

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 midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates, email suz_yates@btinternet.com; telephone 01525 840 661

LUMOS: ON FIRE

Over the weekend of 6th – 8th February a number of our young people and adults were at the Diocesan youth event in Northampton – LUMOS: ON FIRE.



We thank you for your prayers, as this was a most powerful occasion with more than 120 young people and 30 adults being blessed with the presence of the Lord.

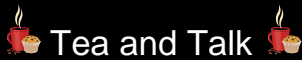
If you want to find out more about LUMOS: ON FIRE and the work of our fantastic youth ministry team at NYMO you can go to www.nymo.org

Hymn Books

We are happy inform you that the publishers have acknowledged that our hymn books have a fault and will be replacing them free our charge.

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.



Our next meeting will be on 15th February, from 2.00 pm at Sacred Heart Church Hall Flitwick. Newcomers welcome.

'Thank you from Flitwick Singers'

Following the concerts held at Sacred Heart and Flitwick Methodist Churches before Christmas, Flitwick Singers have been able to send £450.00 each to Prebend Day Centre and Christian Family Care.

CONFIRMATION 2010

The 11.00 am Mass today sees us welcome eighteen young people who have come forward to prepare for confirmation.

We have been blessed with such a wonderful response from the young people and have also been blessed with five adults offering to prepare them to receive the sacrament.

You are invited to keep our young people in your prayers, calling on the Holy Spirit to fill them and awaken in them the fire of their Christian faith.

The candidates are: Natasha Davis, Jack Devereux, Joseph D'Souza, Ben Ford, James Gibb, Connor Griffith, Edward Healy, Thomas Hulatt, Michael Ita, Isabel Lawton, Finola McDonagh, Polly Smith, Fiona Waters, Hanna Waters, Colin Weighell, Lois Whitbread, Jonathan Williams and Niall Wilson.

You are invited to keep our catechists in your prayers, calling on the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide them.

The catechists are: Dee Brady, Karen Ford, Michael Lawton, Noreen Weighell and Veronica Wilkinson.

You are invited to keep the parents and guardians of the candidates in your prayers, calling on the Holy Spirit to equip them to guide and support the candidates.



Reminder

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and drivers for this week, 13th and 14th February.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Adrian Hamilton	Darren Campbell	M. / N. Lawton
2 nd Reader	Noreen Glover	Pat Crowe	C. / H. Davies
Eucharistic	Don Perrett	John Flanagan	Helen Wilson
Eucharistic	Nicki Paterson	Grace McKenna	M. / N. Lawton
Driver		Louis Chadwick	

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and drivers for next week, 20th and 21st February.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Mary Brown	Marion McClurg	Noreen Weighell
2 nd Reader	Christine Jackson	Gerard Kerrigan	Una McAlinden
Eucharistic	Martin Stynes	Jane Crow	Clare Bevan
Eucharistic	Margaret Gummery	Hilary Brennan	Roslyn Penn
Driver		Marion McClurg	

Thoughts from the homily...

Fr. Denis

In the upside down kingdom of Jesus, which has more affinity with the world of the fairy-tale than the world of conventional wisdom, it is the eldest son – the one who has everything going for him, the one who inherits the earth's bounty – who is rich and highly regarded, who ends up with empty hands. It is the youngest son, the one who is the summary of weakness, the one with the least going for him, who is forced to rely on any help that comes his way, who eventually inherits the kingdom.

In the Gospel and the fairy-tale, it is the reject, the forgotten one, the despised one, who eventually finds rest – like poor Lazarus who, after a lifetime of being ignored, ends up in the bosom of Abraham, to live happily ever after.



As Archbishop Helder Camara commented:



'Saints may be found in slums, but we cannot retain slums in order to make them the breeding ground of it saints.' Destitute poverty is not a condition to be sought after, it is a condition to be

avoided; it deprives human beings of

their basic dignity. That said, it still remains true that Jesus' preference for the poor has a social basis.

The best commentary on Jesus' sermon is Jesus' own life. Jesus did not live His life as *if* He was blessed by God; He lived out His life in the constant awareness that God did indeed bless Him. In the course of that life He experienced poverty, not only the poverty of deprivation, but the poverty of standing alone against the crowds, the poverty of total reliance on His Father. He experienced hunger, not just the hunger that can be answered by bread, but the hunger that can only be satisfied by doing what is right. He had reason to weep and mourn not only at the loss of a dear friend but also at the lost opportunities of His own people. He was no stranger to being held up as a clown for the amusement of all; He knew the experience of rejection, betrayal, and abandonment.



All this was experienced by Jesus in the course of His mission; it wasn't adopted as some precious theological posture. It was the *outcome* of a life dedicated to God.

Sunday 14th February Prayer Ministry after 11.00 am Mass

After the success of the recent 'Healing weekend' a small team will offer prayer ministry after the 11.00 am Mass next weekend and on a regular basis on the 2nd Sunday each month after the 11.00 am Mass. Come for prayer and receive God's love.



Parish Charismatic Prayer

Group are currently following a study on the Eucharist. All welcome to join them for this informative time of sharing. For information contact

Helen Burgess: 01525 405 823. Our next meeting will be on 16th February 8.00 – 9.30

Women's World Day of Prayer

A Service 'Let Everything that has Breath Praise God' prepared by the Christian Women of Cameroon is on Friday 5th March at 7.30 pm at St. Peter and Paul Church in Flitwick. Also there is a service at The Ampthill Baptist Church at 10.30 am. Everyone is welcome.

