

# newsletter



21<sup>st</sup> /22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009

The Feast of the Sacred Heart 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.

Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP  
Tel: 01525 715 109 [www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

## Times of Mass



Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	6.00 pm	St Andrew's Ampthill	Private Intentions
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Larry Taylor, RIP
	11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
	5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions – Latin Mass
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Ennis and O'Leary Families
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
	7.30 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Dermot and Rosalind Diver, RIP
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Holy Souls
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Holy Souls
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Holy Souls

## *Fr. Denis writes*

Not far from Bourne End in South Bucks, stood the hotel which was used in the filming of *Fawlty Towers*. The building has gone; it was demolished some fifteen years ago. But memories of Basil Fawlty are still with us, and you can see the series again, as it is shown on television. Basil is often seen trying to snatch a few moments of peace. He puts on some classical music and tries to relax, only to be interrupted by his domineering wife Sybil, the confusion of the hapless waiter Manuel, or the innocent questions of one of his unfortunate guests. As a consequence everything becomes a huge trial.



The need to be alone with Jesus was something that the Lord impressed on His Apostles. If they are to be effective witnesses they need to spend time with Him. Taught and fed by Jesus in the silence of their hearts, they will be able to continue their role as shepherds.

We too need to have time for prayer, for reflecting on the gift God wants to give to us. A few moments in the day will give us the beginning of this special time. Today marks the last Sunday in the Church's year. On Sunday next, we will begin Year C, on the first Sunday of Advent. As we hail Christ as King today, we ask Him to reign in our hearts, through His love.

## A Reflection by Fr. Denis

This feast day was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. At that time, it would have seemed strange to introduce this title, as many nations were rejecting the idea of royalty. Also, the Jesus of the Gospels rejects all kinds of kingship, either from Satan or from human beings. The only kingship He accepts is from the Father. We see and hear from this feast day, that Christ has to be king in our hearts, and we promise Him homage, must give it in our worship and in our service to God and to others.



Someone remarked that there are three sides to every story: your side, my side and the truth. In today's Gospel reading (John 18:33–37) Jesus links the reign of His kingdom very closely with testifying to truth. Celebrating Jesus as universal king, means celebrating truth's triumph over falsehood, the victory of good over evil.

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### SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2009, from 1.30pm–4.00pm. Money raised will go towards our facilities upgrade.

Please see back of *Sunday Plus* for information on Confirmation 2010 and Healing Weekend

Welcome to Fr. Keith Sawyer who will celebrate the Masses this weekend.

Fr. Denis will be in Dublin preaching at a Pet Service in Dunlaoire and doing an after dinner speech at Trinity College, Dublin.

### Offertory Collections

For 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November, the collection was £487.76 and for the St Vincent de Paul it was £503.72.

For 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November, the collection was £625.28. Thank you, Fr Denis.

## 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 online from the website

<http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk>

### 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.

*Important Notice* - there will be no Mother's Prayers this week due to Healing Weekend.

**Newsletter copy deadline – Tuesday 12.00 midday.** Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates, email [suz\\_yates@btinternet.com](mailto:suz_yates@btinternet.com) telephone 01525 840 661

## Thank You



A very big and sincere thank you from all members of the SVP for your generous response to the retiring collection recently.

Over £503 was given and this will enable us to meet our commitments to our sponsored students and reach out to those in need.

May God bless you all.

## First Holy Communion:

Your prayers are asked for the 10 children who have recently begun preparation classes for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, and for their families.



**Altar Servers:** Thank you to all the new altar servers who have done so well over recent weeks. Please feel free to fill in any gaps on the rota in the porch. Old hands are welcome to sign up too! Thank you.



## Early Warning.



Carols by Candlelight 7.00 pm on 20<sup>th</sup> December. A traditional carol service where you get to sing all your favourite carols.

## 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 29<sup>th</sup> November.

New members are always welcome.



## Choir

Practice will be held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December.

New members always welcome. We will be rehearsing for the Christmas Carol Service.



## Planned Giving Officer

After many years of dedicated service Bill Kosh's work commitments mean that he has to 'hand over the baton'. Very many thanks Bill for all your work. We now need a replacement for Bill. The job entails arranging the distribution of envelopes and some paperwork. Anyone interested would they please contact Hugh Davies on 01525 403102 or Fr. Denis.

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## Church Cleaning

22<sup>nd</sup> December

7.30 pm—all

welcome. Training and equipment provided!



## Parish Management Group

10th December at 7.30 pm. Several of our members have had to leave due to other commitments so we have some free places and would welcome anyone joining. Only 4 meetings a year.

*You are invited to the Celebration Concert to raise funds for our extension work. It is on this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00 pm in the Sacred Heart Church. The Barton Angels will perform 'The Gift' by Graham Kendrick. There will be refreshments and a raffle. If you can help with making the tea or donating a raffle prize, please ring Astrid 860 872.*

## Reminder

Readers and drivers for this week, 21<sup>st</sup> November and 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Angela Bartlett	Eamonn Diver	Roslyn Penn
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	John Devine	Siobhan Campbell	Pauline Chambers
Eucharistic		Astrid Browne	Nicki Paterson
Driver		David Toland	

Readers and drivers for next week, 28<sup>th</sup> November and 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Christine Jackson	Darren Campbell	Una McAlinden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Suzanne Yates	Gerard Kerrigan	M or N Lawton
Eucharistic		John Flanagan	Noreen Weighell
Driver		David Linda	

# Thoughts from the homily

**Fr. Denis**

The story is told of a man who travelled to London to attend an interview for an important post in the security services. When he arrived at the appointed place he found five other applicants in the waiting room, all discussing their prospects. There was no secretary on duty. A sign on the wall stated that applicants were to knock and enter the interview room at fifteen-minute intervals, beginning at eleven o'clock. They were to leave the interview room by another door, so that the nature of the questioning could be kept secret.

The applicants discussed the strange arrangements: they reflected on what questions might be asked; they wondered what qualities would be needed for the post. At eleven o'clock, one of them, who said he had been the first to arrive, went to the door of the interview room, knocked and entered. The remaining five men continued to discuss various matters among themselves. So, time passed.

At a quarter past twelve the last man to arrive rose from his chair, walked over to the door of the interview room, knocked and entered. When he stepped into the room he was confused by what he saw. Behind a large oak table that dominated the room sat his interviewers: they were the same five men who had been in the waiting room. The interview was already over.

## **Interrogation**

In today's Gospel, Jesus is interrogated by the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, the man directly responsible to the emperor for keeping the Roman rule in Judaea. For the occupying power, Jewish festivals were regarded as

potential emergencies. At the time of Passover, therefore, Pilate came with his garrison to Jerusalem, where he kept his security forces on alert in case of a riot or national uprising. Jesus has been handed over to Pilate by the Jewish authorities. Pilate offers to hand Jesus back, arguing that Jewish law can dispose of the case. The authorities refuse, so Pilate questions Jesus about the charge made against Him: 'Are you the king of the Jews?'

Jesus replies to Pilate with His own question: 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about it?' You wonder who is interviewing whom. If the governor is interrogating his prisoner, the prisoner has his own agenda for interviewing the governor. Jesus calls Pilate to face the truth of the question he has asked, but Pilate is beyond troubling about the consequences of his questions. Instead he defends himself by saying that he is not a Jew and that Jesus' own people have handed Him over. However, Pilate is curious about what Jesus has done to engender such fierce hostility.

What we know is that Jesus' unfailing witness to the truth marks His true kingship. As His subjects, we will be judged on how we have witnessed to His truth, His love, His way. For a place in His kingdom we will be questioned on our own attitudes and behaviour. We don't have to wait for the last judgement to find out the questions we will be asked. When it comes to places in His kingdom, the interviews are already taking place. Here and now. When our time comes for judgement, we shouldn't be surprised by familiar faces.

## **Coming Events**

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Contact
Picture House Charity Cinema	20 <sup>th</sup> November	7.00 pm	Tads Theatre, Conger Lane Toddington.	Don Perrett and Noreen Glover
Healing Weekend	26 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Various	Sacred Heart Church	Nicky 07843055764
Barton Angels	27 <sup>th</sup> November	8.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Astrid 860 872.
Tea and Talk	30 <sup>th</sup> November	2.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church hall	