

newsletter



31st October / 1st November 2009

The Feast of All Saints 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 715109 www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Times of Mass



Saturday 31 st October	6.00 pm	St Andrew's Ampthill	Private Intentions
Sunday 1 st November	9.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Dorothy Browne, RIP
	11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church	Deceased Tarigello Family
	5.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Monday 2 nd November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Holy Souls
	7.00 pm	Sacred Heart Church	Catherine Murphy, RIP
Tuesday 3 rd November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Mary Fenson, RIP
Wednesday 4 th November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Rose Baptiste, RIP
Thursday 5 th November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Friday 6 th November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Private Intentions
Saturday 7 th November	9.30 am	Sacred Heart Church	Intentions of Sister Gaudelupe Friel

Fr. Denis writes

Today, we rejoice in the saints we have known and know. Their name is legion. We thank God for those who attended to the hungry, the orphans, the aged, the lepers, the outcasts, the overlooked. We give thanks for those who have out smiled the threat of oppressors, for those who pray for us and our world. As we think of the past, their faces and voices will come to us, in words of advice and kindness, forgiving words. Count among them all who have helped you to reach this point of your journey ...



A Reflection by Fr. Denis

This afternoon, I shall be riding my bike to Watford Gap Services, Junction 18 on the M1. As part of the 59 Club, I have been invited to the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the M1. There will be a special plaque unveiled and refreshments afterwards. Other clubs, for classic cars, have also been invited.

It was in 1958 that an eight-mile stretch by-pass for Preston was opened. This was the first stretch of motorway in Britain. But the new M1 north of Watford was the first extensive proper motorway.



The opening marked ten years of hard work, and an astonishing growth in motoring. The number of private vans and cars had doubled since 1950. The figure was further increased in 1959, by the launch of the new Mini. It went on sale in August for £500.00 which included purchase tax. It was designed by Alec Issigonis, who also designed many mosaics for Churches.

Since 1959, other motorways have opened, but of course the number of cars has increased. Flitwick was included in the sign, Toddington/Flitwick,



Junction 12 on the M1. We might offer a prayer today for those who built the motorways, those who lost their

lives, and those injured in the process. We pray to that we may travel in safety on the roads. Happy Birthday M1!



To raise funds for our Building Project, *The Barton Angels* will sing 'The Gift' by Graham Kendrick on Friday November 27th. More details later.

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

Meets every Friday 10.15 – 11.45 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

The church newsletter is available online from the website

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

Tea and Talk

Will be held on Monday 2nd

November from 2.00 pm at

Sacred Heart Church Hall

Flitwick. Newcomers are welcome.



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.

SVP Collection



The SVP will be holding their annual retiring collection on the weekend of 7th/8th November.

The money will be used to support those in need in the parish and to help them meet their commitment to their overseas projects such as their sponsorship of 4 students in India, their support of an SVP conference in southern India and the baby-feeding programme in Sudan.

Thank you in advance for your support.

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 15th November.

New members are always welcome.



Parish Charismatic Prayer Group

meets regularly to praise God for His blessings and to pray for our intentions. If you would like more information please contact Helen Burgess: 01525

405 823.

Our next meeting will be on 3rd November 2009 from 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm.

All Saints Day is a surprisingly old feast. It arose out of the Christian tradition of celebrating the martyrdom of saints on the anniversary of their martyrdom. When martyrdoms increased during the persecutions of the late Roman Empire, local dioceses instituted a common feast day in order to ensure that all martyrs, known and unknown were properly honoured.

By the late fourth century, this common feast was celebrated in Antioch. In the early centuries, it was celebrated in the Easter season, and the Eastern Churches, both Catholic and Orthodox, still celebrate it in this season.

The current date of 1st November was instituted by Pope Gregory III (731-741), when he consecrated a chapel to all the martyrs in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and ordered an annual celebration. This celebration was originally confined to the diocese of Rome, but Pope Gregory IV (827-844) extended it to the entire Church and ordered it to be celebrated on 1st November.

IMPROVING OUR FACILITIES SUPPORT BLOSSOMS!

There has been an excellent response to our further request to show support for the plans to improve our facilities – with close on 50% of the adult congregation expressing active support this now allows us to press on with the whole plan. The next steps will be to put in place a detailed plan of action to get schemes drawn up in detail, consents granted, quotes obtained and Diocesan approval. With all that in place we can then look to when the works will start in 2010!

Many, many thanks to all of you.

Those who made specific offers of support will be contacted directly in due course.

In the meantime watch this space for news of a special event to kick-start the fund raising!

Reminder

Readers and drivers for this week, 31st October and 1st November.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Mary Brown	Marion McClurg	Martin Brennan
2 nd Reader	Judith Latham	Pat Crowe	C or H Davies
Eucharistic		Noreen Glover	Grace McKenna
Driver		David Linda	

Readers and drivers for next week, 7th November and 8th November.

Mass	6.00 pm - Ampthill	9.00 am - Flitwick	11.00 am - Flitwick
1 st Reader	Charles Waterford	Mary Bray	Felicity Detemple
2 nd Reader	Christopher McMellon	Dermott Whelan	Anne Gadsden
Eucharistic		Carlos Rincon	Tony Davis
Driver			John Gallagher

Thoughts from the homily

Fr. Denis

In 1906, Keir Hardie, who started his working life as a coal miner, became the first parliamentary leader of the British Labour



Party. On Hardie's first day in the House of Commons, the policeman at the gate took one look at the former miner, dressed in his working clothes and wearing a cloth cap, and asked suspiciously, 'Are you working here?'

'Yes,' replied Hardie.

'On the roof?' asked the policeman.

'No,' said the new MP. 'On the floor.'

People have their own peculiar image of what an MP should look like in the House of Commons, just as people have their peculiar image of what a saint should look like in the House of God. Ordinary folk people both places; perhaps the comparison stops there! In St John's vision of the heavenly court, which we heard in the first reading, the arithmetic and universality of God's elect make up a hopeful scene: 'I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.'

The heavenly court is an international assembly of ordinary people who have been faithful to God, real people whose struggle through crisis and frustration comes to a merciful end in the peace of God's house.

God's house is not an exclusive club for pious cronies who would fail an interview for the human race; God's house is truly every nation and race and language who live in the light of God. Even members of parliament ...

Jesus' folk

In today's Gospel, Matthew gives us a summary of Jesus' teaching, in the Beatitudes. To the inner circle of His chosen followers and the great crowds that have come from many parts Jesus recognises as blessed a wide range of people, from the poor in spirit to those persecuted for their faith. This is not a belated recognition of the dead, but a joyful recognition of the living people of God.



Those who are absolutely destitute, those who have no access to influence and power, those not represented in any parliament are the ones dear to God. Whoever depends wholly on the favour of God is already a saint in His Kingdom. The gentle folk are not overlooked; on the contrary, they shall inherit the earth. Those who mourn, who grieve for their sins, who are moved by the affliction of others will surely know comfort. The people in our community who hunger and thirst for what is right, who refuse to live by bread alone will find satisfaction to their hearts' content in the kingdom.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 10th November** at 7.30 pm at 80 George St., Maulden. Please ring Sue on 01525 634 186 for more information.



Offertory Collections

17th/18th October, the collection was £590.91 and £116.77 for the healing weekend.

25th/26th October, the collection was £ 600.24.

Newsletter deadline THIS WEEK ONLY:

Sunday 3.00 pm Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates, email suz_yates@btinternet.com or telephone 01525 840 661