

Notices for the week beginning 12 October 2014

Sunday 12 October 2014 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Book, pages 7 and 140

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Brendan Donnelly (Anniversary); 8.30 am Fr Bobby Gates RIP;

10.30 am Nicky Gray RIP

Monday *St Edward the Confessor*

No Mass

Tuesday *St Callistus*

No Mass

Wednesday *St Teresa of Avila*

10.00 am Communion Service

Thursday *St Margaret Mary*

Mass 10.00 am Pope Francis and the bishops at the Synod

Friday *St Ignatius of Antioch*

10.00 am Intentions of Natalie Browne

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *St Luke*

Confessions: 10 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

Sunday 19 October 2014 Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Intentions of Adam Hinds; 8.30 am Fr Bobby Gates (Lately Dead);

10.30 am Noel and Margaret Rickard (Lately Dead)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Terry Andrew, Gaby Boccino, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Bertram De Souza, Eric Hazel, Gwen Herbert, Bill Holliday, Michael Hornsby, Sheila McGrath, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Lana Ridley, Sylvina Rodrigues, Eileen Scotland, Merridee and Naomi Wadling; **Lately Dead:** Father Robert Gates, Father Alan Ashton, Benny Gaffney and Jane Glassbrook; **Anniversaries:** Sandro Baccanello, Joseph Becker, Barbara Bogucki, Maureen Coyle, Ethel Fenner, Albert Fonddek, Leonora Halliday, Edith Hayles, Constance Kenny, Karl Kroupa, Elizabeth McQuillan, Clare O'Neill, Arthur Potter, Eric Ruck, Frances Vincent, Muriel Whitmarsh and Ivy Wood. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2014		6.00 pm Vigil	8.30 am	10.30 am
18/19 Oct	E	G Booth F Sherratt	A Halliday	D Long H Houston
	R	D Leadbetter M Miles	S Wright M Hart	W Hinds G Maloney
	W		S Kerr	

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Envelopes: £456.50

Loose: £131.61

Building Fund: £56.00

PARISH NEWS

12 October 2014



Corpus Christi Church, Tring

Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry

Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA
telephone 01442 823161 email tring@rcdow.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Wendy Hinds 01442 824369

Hall Bookings: Nicola Hickey 01442 826906

Youth Worker: Dan Marsh 07776 124434 email: danyouthwork@gmail.com

Local Catholic Schools: St Thomas More (Primary), Berkhamsted, phone 01442 385060
website: www.stmore.herts.sch.uk; Head teacher: Miss Isabel Cerasale
John F Kennedy (Secondary), Hemel Hempstead, phone 01442 266150
website: www.jfk.herts.sch.uk; Head teacher: Mr Paul Neves.

Times of Services

Sunday Mass: 6.00 pm (Vigil), 8.30 am and 10.30 am
Holydays Mass: 10.00 am and 7.30 pm
Weekday Mass: Wednesday to Friday 10.00 am
Saturday Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.00 – 10.30 am
5.15 - 5.45 pm

Letter from Langdon Street

My dear people

Our Lord often talked about the Kingdom of Heaven as a meal, wedding breakfast or banquet. Today the Prophet Isaiah tells of the banquet on Mount Zion to celebrate the kingdom. The mountain is Zion, a symbol of the heavenly Jerusalem, a heavenly banquet, a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. This gives us a dazzling and reassuring image of a God of mercy, compassion and love who will wipe away the tears of those who are in mourning. Because of this God's people who had been covered by a veil of sadness are now reassured of salvation and joy in the eternal kingdom.

During the past few weeks our Sunday Epistle has come from St Paul's Letter to the Philippians and today he concludes by thanking them for their generosity. He reassures them that God will reward their generosity and support in spreading the Good News. Saint John Chrysostom who was one of the great Fathers of the Church who lived in the fourth century, wrote the following in a homily of the Epistle: "They were artisans and paupers. They had wives, reared children and owned houses. They had given these gifts freely from their small means. There was nothing absurd in praying that such people so situated should have sufficiency and plenty. He does not ask God to make them rich or affluent. He asks only that God may 'supply their every need' – so they will not be in want but will have what they need."

Today's Gospel describes another banquet, the wedding feast that a king has provided for his son. Many guests were invited but refused to attend, claiming they were busy doing other things. To be invited at all was a distinct honour. Failure to accept the invitation constituted a grave breach of courtesy. The absentees were punished and the invitation was opened to all, even sinners.

The Synod of Bishops has just ended its first week. Many of the speeches reflected some of the ideas that Pope Francis continues to speak about, especially the mercy of God reaching out to saints and sinners. The Church in history is a mixture of saints and sinners. We must always remember that the Church isn't just a house for saints, but also a hospital for sinners. One of the guests at the wedding feast just could not bother to be properly dressed. This is a reminder to us that entry into the wedding feast is not automatic. We have to earn it. These words don't conflict with God's desire that all should be saved. In His love for mankind Christ patiently searches even the byroads seeking the conversion of every single soul, going so far as to die on the cross so that the entrance to the heavenly banquet is opened. However, God in His infinite wisdom and love respects man's freedom: man is free to reject God's grace.

The ground rules for the Synod on the Family, as laid down by Pope Francis, allow not just debate but collegial decision-making. Francis is in listening mode – an attitude, he insists, that requires humility. At this stage, the road ahead is unclear. There seems to be a general consensus that the Church's teaching on marriage will not be changed but it may be presented in a new light. A number of bishops speak about changing the harsh language that has been used in Church documents which, far from affirming Christian marriage, has driven people away from the Church. Archbishop Tartaglia, who is Archbishop of Glasgow, gave a homily during the opening prayer service one day last week. He said: "When Catholics see couples who are patient, kind, never jealous or rude, they "behold the beauty and simplicity and strength of married love," but the Church also must learn to help and to heal those whose dreams for lifelong love have been shattered. We must have compassion for the pain and laceration of the human hearts caught up in separation, betrayal and divorce.

One feature of the Synod is a daily contribution by one of the married couples who are present at the Synod. Their testimonies have had a profound effect on the bishops. They have spoken about passing on the faith to children, the effects of family breakdown on the children, the need to support abandoned children. They have described the hurt and long term anger they have encountered in couples who are in their second marriage and thus excluded from the sacraments. If God is the ultimate forgiver and full of compassion, these couples should be forgiven for previous mistakes. They should not be constantly reminded of past relationships.

We must continue to pray to the Holy Spirit to guide Pope Francis and the Fathers of the Synod to help them in their deliberations.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

PARISH WEB SITE

We are planning to upgrade our parish website. If you have expertise in this area we would like to invite you to a meeting in the next few weeks. Please inform Canon Berry at the parish email address: tring@rcdow.org.uk.

PARISH REGISTER

We are updating our Parish Register. It would be helpful to include email addresses. Please fill in the form which will be distributed at mass today.

HARVEST FAST DAY

Thank you for your contribution to CAFOD's annual harvest appeal last Sunday which has so far raised £608.80. The fund will remain open until next Sunday.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

The Traidcraft Stall will be open at the Apple Fayre, part of the Tring Farmers Market on Saturday 25 October. This is a good time to visit the market and stock up on local produce and Fairtrade goods. The Christmas Community Concert will be on 6 December in the Victoria Hall at 7.00 pm. Proceeds will go to DENS, our local food bank. The next J & P meeting will be in St Peter & St Paul's Church Hall on 29 October at 8 pm. For more information about the work of this group, please visit www.justiceandpeacecetring.org. Everyone is welcome.

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille offers a lifeline to troubled marriages. Backed by prayer, this programme has healed and turned around thousands of marriages on the brink of collapse and even brought divorced couples back together again. Don't miss this lifeline if your marriage is painful – visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk or email info@retrouvaille.org.uk or call or text 0797 338 0443 in complete confidence.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1 November Prayer Breakfast at St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church
6 December Prayer Breakfast at New Mill Baptist Church

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME

The preparation programme began with a parents meeting last Wednesday and a parents and children's meeting yesterday. The first class is next Saturday from 10.30 to 11.30 am.

OUR MINISTRY TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We have a number of activities for children and young people and these are starting up again:

The Youth club meets on Monday evenings, from 7-9 pm; SPOG, (Small People of God) meets on Friday evenings, from 4.30-6 pm. There will be a monthly Film Club for children (School years 3+) and the first film is tomorrow, Monday 6 October, from 4.30-6.30 pm. The next Messy Church is on Sunday the 19th of October, from 3-5 pm and there will be a light party disco (school year 3+) on Friday 24th October, from 4.30-6 pm

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

St Thomas More Primary School in Berkhamsted is holding an Open Morning for prospective parents on Friday 17 October and Tuesday 25 October, both at 9.30 am. There are at present vacancies in Nursery, Y1, Y4, Y5 and Y6.

John F Kennedy Secondary School in Hemel Hempstead has an Open Evening on Tuesday 7 October, from 6.30 to 9.00 pm and an Open Morning on Wednesday 15 October from 9.30 am to 12 noon

OCTOBER NEWS FROM THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP, TRING.

The Justice & Peace Group believes in justice and peace for the world, and for every individual within it. It champions respect for the environment, human rights for the afflicted and assistance for the needy. The Fairtrade Foundation is running 'The Great British Fairness Debate' between 29th September – 12th October. Look on the website: www.fairtrade.org.uk/befair to find out how fair you are and to take the fun quiz. Look out for the Traidcraft stall on Saturday 25th October at the Apple Fayre, Tring Farmers Market. It is a great time to visit the market to stock up on local produce and Fairtrade goods.

A date for your diary – the very popular Christmas Community Concert is on Saturday 6th December at 7pm at the Victoria Hall (more information will be available in November). This year we are raising money for DENS (which is the local food bank) which helps the needy in Tring and surrounding areas. For more information visit www.justiceandopeacetring.org. The next meeting is on 29th October at 8pm in St Peter and St Paul's Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

CATHOLIC SINGLES

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please telephone 0161 941 3498, send an email to info@catholicsingles.org.uk. You are also invited to visit the Catholic Singles website at www.catholicsingles.org.uk. The organisation includes separated and divorced people and has A.S.D.C (Association of Separated and Divorced Catholics.)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1 November Prayer Breakfast at St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church

Breakfast is served at 8.30 am followed by prayer for local and world needs

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM

Parents who wish to arrange for the baptism of their children should arrange to meet Canon Berry to complete an application form. Parents are asked to attend a pre-baptism talk which takes place once a month. Baptisms take place normally on a Saturday or Sunday. At least one godparent must be a Catholic.