

Notices for the week beginning 11 January 2015

Sunday 11 January 2015 Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Mass Book, pages 7 and 119

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil); 8.30 am; 10.30 am

Monday *St Aelred of Rievaulx*

No Mass

Tuesday *St Hilary*

No Mass

Wednesday *Feria*

Communion Service 10.00 am

Thursday *Feria*

No Mass

Friday *Feria*

Communion Service 10.00 am

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *St Anthony of Egypt*

Sunday 18 January 2015 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil); 8.30 am; 10.30 am

PRAYERS

Please pray for:

Sick: Terry Andrew, Gaby Boccino, David Bolton, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Bertram De Souza, Lorraine Davey, Breda Farrington, Judy Fernandes, Eric Hazel, Gwen Herbert, Bill Holliday, Michael Hornsby, Adeline Lewis, Sheila McGrath, Peter Miles, Margaret Murphy, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Peter Miles, Lana Ridley, Sylvia Rodrigues, Merridee and Naomi Wadling;

Anniversaries: Sister Elizabeth Barrett, Ewart Barker, Pat Bevan, Kay Boswell, Thomas Brogan, Joseph Chouvanec, Joseph Close, Rose Mary Glenister, Kasper Grob, Rosa Hammond, Mary Agnes King, Joseph Larkim, Joseph and Ludmila Mazany, Neil Moore, Margaret Murphy, Philip O'Donohue, Sam Perigini, Margaret Sammons, Gordon Wallen and Howard Whitmarsh. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm Vigil	8.30 am	10.30 am
17/18 Jan	E	F Sherratt G Booth	A Halliday	P Apps W Hinds
	R	J Ruck M Valentine	L Hutt K Masterson	H Houston S Lewington
	W		D Kerr	

PARISH NEWS

11 January 2015



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

Every Wednesday Pope Francis meets the people in St Peter's Square and gives a talk on a particular theme. At present he is giving a series of talks about family life. He wants to use the time between the end of the Synod of Bishops that met last October and the opening of the next Synod which will begin next October to emphasise the importance of the Church's present reflection on marriage and family life..

The first Synod attracted a great attention from the Media and Pope Francis complimented the press for catching the mood of the occasion which had attracted so much attention. Unfortunately some of the reporters seem to have thought of the event as if it was a sport event or a political occasion with two teams or groups of people, some for and some against a particular position, some conservatives and some progressives.

The Pope told the people how he had asked the Synod Fathers to speak frankly and openly. He wanted them to listen with humility to the opinions of others. He wanted them to say with courage all that they had in their heart. He wanted there to be no prior censorship. He wanted there to be open debate. There were arguments. Some of the Synod Fathers had strongly held views and expressed them. Pope Francis thanked them for doing this. He reminds us that even the Apostles argued among themselves "because they were seeking God's will about how pagans could enter the Church. It was something new. Always, when God's will is sought, in a Synod Assembly, there are different points of view and there is debate and this is not a bad thing! Providing it be done with humility and with the spirit of service to the assembly of brothers. Prior censorship would have been a bad thing. No, no, each one had to say what he was thinking."

Pope Francis pointed out that during the Synod no one called into question the fundamental truths of the Sacrament of Marriage, namely: indissolubility, unity, fidelity and openness to life. These were stressed at the Second Vatican Council and are also described in the Code of Canon Law. There was much to discuss but people must also listen. In this context certain issues emerged: the context and challenges to the family; the gaze on Christ, the Gospel of the Family and a discussion of pastoral perspectives. After the open discussion the Fathers divided into small discussion groups, some speaking in Italian, English, Spanish and French. Each group, after finishing its work, presented a report, and all the group reports were published immediately.

The Pope said he was happy the way the Synod had unfolded. The way the Synod worked was different from previous synods and it took everyone time to get used to the new procedures. He was happy that by the close of this Synod, people were speaking freely but recognised that everything happened "*cum Petro* and *sub Petro*" (with Peter and under Peter), that is to say, in the presence of the Pope, who is the guarantor for everyone of freedom and trust, and who guarantees orthodoxy. Before the close of the Synod Pope Francis said: "We must understand that the Synod is not a parliament, a representative from this Church or that Church.... No, it is not this. Representatives come, yes, but the structure is not parliamentary, it is completely different. The Synod is a protected space in order that the Holy Spirit can work; there were no clashes between factions, like in parliament where this is permissible, but a comparison among Bishops,

which has come after lengthy preparations and which now will work further for the good of families, of the Church, and of society.

Those of us who have watched the Synod at work from a distance are being reminded by Pope Francis that between now and the next Synod we have an important contribution to make. Cardinal Nichols in this diocese and the bishops of other dioceses will be inviting the priests, religious and lay people to express their views on the issues that will be put to us shortly. Pope Francis spoke of this as an important time for prayer, reflection and fraternal discussion.

Last Sunday I read out the Cardinal's pastoral letter on family life which was also circulated with the newsletter. There are copies available at the back of church for those of you who were away.

I am most grateful to Bishop John Sherrington and Father Brian Reynolds who are with us this weekend to celebrate our three Sunday masses.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

CRIB OFFERINGS

Offerings at the Crib and the children's offerings on Christmas Eve will be given to the Catholic Children's Society

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Youth Club and SPOG (Small People of God) are now taking a break until after the Christmas holidays. SPOG reopens on 16 January and the Youth Club reopens on 26 January 2015.

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.

TON-UP CLUB

The parish has been running the Ton-Up Club for many years and it raises over £1,000 every year. It is a small lottery where members pay £20 per year and there are monthly draws. For 2015 the prize allocation is changing and there will be one £50 prize each month with an additional Christmas bonus prize of £100. There are still a few numbers available on our 100 square so if you would like to subscribe please see Heather at the 10.30am Mass or email h.houston@ntlworld.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7 February	Prayer Breakfast at St Martha's Methodist Church at 8.30 am
7 March	Prayer Breakfast at St Bartholomew's Church, Wigginton at 8.30 am