

Notices for the week beginning 15 February 2015

Sunday 15 February 2015 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Book, pages 7 and 137

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Luiza Pinto RIP; 8.30 am Intentions of the Pennicott Family; 10.30 am Sean Murphy (Lately Dead).

Monday *Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order*

No Mass

Wednesday *Ash Wednesday*

Mass: 10.00 am Ken Valentine (Anniversary)

7.30 pm Sheila McGrath (Sick)

Thursday *Lent Feria*

Mass: 10.00 am Mary and Derrick Barber (Anniversary)

Friday *Lent Feria*

Mass: 10.00 am Richard Fisher (Anniversary)

followed by **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday *Lent Feria*

Sunday 22 February 2015 First Sunday of Lent

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Frankie Lynch (Anniversary);

8.30 am Sarah Ravencroft (Lately Dead); 10.30 am Sheila McGrath (Sick)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: *Sick*: Terry Andrew, Rose Beck, Gaby Boccino, David Boulton, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Bertram De Souza, Lorraine Davey, Breda Farrington, Judy Fernandes, Hazel, Gwen Herbert, Bill Holliday, Michael Hornsby, Adeline Lewis, Sheila McGrath, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Lana Ridley, Sylvina Rodrigues, Clair Sutton, Merridee and Naomi Wadling; *Lately Dead*: Peter Miles, Sean Murphy and Sarah Ravencroft; *Anniversaries*: Mary and Derrick Barber, Percy Davies, Agnes Gibb, Diana Harwood, Josephine Kearns, Jozefa Kowalewski, Edward Magdycz, Zygfryd Newton, Peter Norton, Leslie Potter, Nora Russell, Michael Smyth, Agnes Valentine, Ken Valentine, Joe Ward, Edwin Wolveridge and Maria Wylda. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

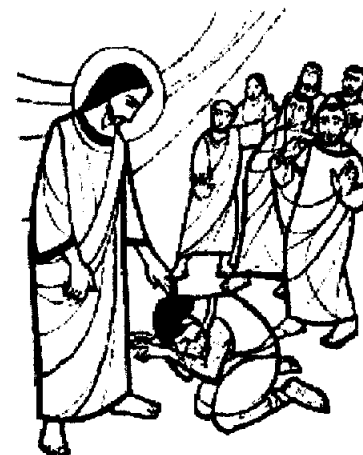
2015		6.00 pm Vigil	8.30 am	10.30 am
21/22 Feb	E	F Sherratt	A Halliday	D Long H Houston
	R	D Leadbetter M Valentine	S Wright W Winstone	P Apps G Maloney
	W		S Kerr	A Farrow

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £407.13 Loose: £266.87 Building Fund: £52.00

PARISH NEWS

15 February 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

In today's Gospel, we continue to hear about the miraculous healings that Jesus performed in Galilee, including the healing of a man with leprosy. Leprosy is a disfiguring, infectious skin disease that has been surrounded by many social and religious taboos throughout history. In 1873, the cause of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was identified and medical treatments can cure it. In Our Lord's time, however, religious and social taboos dictated the behaviour of those with leprosy and other skin diseases. The Law of Moses provided for the examination of skin diseases by the priests, and if leprosy was identified, the person was declared unclean. People with leprosy lived in isolation from the community. They were instructed to rip their clothes and to announce their presence with loud cries when moving in the community. If the leprosy was healed, the Law of Moses provided a purification rite that permitted the person to return to the community.

In today's Gospel, a man with leprosy came to Jesus and asked for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean but we can interpret this as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. While healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses. Although Jesus touched the leper, he did not break completely with the Law of Moses. He instructed the man not to tell anyone about the cure and told him to present himself to the priests as prescribed by the Law of Moses.

St Mark's Gospel tells us that after this healing, it became difficult for Jesus to travel freely. Despite his instructions, the cured man spread the word about Jesus' healing power. Even when Jesus was in deserted places, people sought him out in search of his healing.

On Molokai Island in Hawaii, a nineteenth century Belgian missionary, Father Damian de Veuster, insisted on remaining in a leper colony shunned by the civil authorities, and counted it his greatest day when, after years of serving and tending to his suffering brothers and sisters, he discovered the first signs of the still-dread disease in his own flesh. Christians make Christ credible by reproducing in their own lives his readiness to serve others especially those who suffer. To become more like Christ – the 'suffering servant' of Isaiah – we need to become more like our brothers and sisters who are suffering and take their burdens on ourselves. St John Paul II canonised Father Damian as a saint.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. The arrival of Lent reminds us of the Lent Family Fast Day. As we reflect on the needs of the hungry we are reminded that more than a third of all of the food that's produced on our planet never reaches a table. It's either spoiled in transit or thrown out by consumers in wealthier countries, who typically buy too much and throw away what they do not need. This works out to roughly 1.3 billion tons of food, worth millions and millions of pounds.

We are encouraged by the Church to do something special during Lent. It is entirely up to us to decide what to do. The tradition things recommended in the Gospel involve prayer, fasting and acts of kindness that are often spoken of as the works of mercy. In William Shakespeare's play, The Merchant of Venice, Portia says: "The quality of mercy is not strain'd, It droppeth as

the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath. It is twice blest; it blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

Included with this newsletter is a copy of last year's parish accounts which I hope will be of interest to you. I have also included a copy of the pastoral letter on Catholic Education which was read out two weeks ago. Finally there are details of the annual Lenten Alms appeal which this year will go to Caritas Westminster.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

MESSY CHURCH

This takes place today from 3 to 5 pm. All are welcome, not just the young, but the young at heart.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, There will be mass at 10.00 am and at 7.30 pm. Ashes will be blessed at both masses.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

This year the Fairtrade Fortnight is from 23 February to 8 March.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This annual event takes place on the first Friday of March and this year on 6 March there will be a service at High Street Baptist Church. All the ladies of the parish are invited to take part.

CATHOLIC DIRECTORY

The Catholic Directory has launched a mobile version on line. Just to let you know - we've just launched a mobile version of their online directory. It means people can find the nearest Church or the nearest Mass at the click of a button. They hope this will bring more people to your Church and to your liturgies. Contact www.CatholicDirectory.org.

HUSTINGS

Churches Together In Tring are discussing ways in which local candidates at the forthcoming General Election would be invited for a Hustings session with the local churches and other groups in Tring.

LA DOLCE VITA DINNER DANCE

This is being organised by our neighbours in Berkhamsted. Details on the notice at the back of Church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15 February	Messy Church
7 March	Prayer Breakfast at St Bartholomew's Church, Wigginton at 8.30 am
6 April	Prayer Breakfast at Corpus Christi Church at 8.30 am
2 May	Prayer Breakfast at St Peter & St Paul Church at 8.30 am