

## Notices for the week beginning 3 May 2015

### Sunday 3 May 2015 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass Book, pages 7 and 268

6.00 pm (Vigil) Paddy & Imy O'Connor (Anniversary); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am Zac Hinds and Family

Monday *English Martyrs*

No Mass

Tuesday *Easter Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Easter Feria*

Mass: 10.00 Intentions of Anne De Cesco

Thursday *Easter Feria*

Mass: 10.00 am Private Intention

Friday *Easter Feria*

Mass: 10.00 am Kay Burton (Lately Dead)

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *Easter Feria* Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

**Mass: 11.00 am First Communion Mass**

### Sunday 10 May 2015 Sixth Sunday of Easter

6.00 pm (Vigil) People of the Parish); 8.30 am Private Intention;

10.30 am Rajam Selvaraj (Anniversary)

### PRAYERS

Please pray for:

**Sick:** Terry Andrew, Rose Beck, Gaby Boccino, Rob Court, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Bertram De Souza, Melanie Edwards, Judy Fernandes, Gwen Herbert, Bill Holliday, Michael Hornsby, Michael Kelly, Adeline Lewis, Sheila McGrath, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Lana Ridley, Sylvina Rodrigues, Gill Rollsprayer, Clair Sutton, Merridee Wadling;

**Lately Dead:** Kay Burton and Barry Doyle

**Anniversaries:** Father Anthony Potter (6 May 2003), Sister Françoise Antoinette, Helena Day, Stella Dick, Joan Christian De Morgan, Kitty Dineen, Bridget Fraser, Jane Lawley, McCarthy, Thomas McQuillan, Paddy & Imy O'Connor, Derek Singleton, Mary Stan, Rajam Selvaraj and Maria Stevens. May they rest in peace.

2015		6.00 pm Vigil	8.30 am	10.30 am
9/10 May	E	F Sherratt	A Halliday	D Long
	R	M Valentine	M Hart	H Houston
		D Ledbetter	K Masterson	P Apps
	W		S Kerr	G Maloney
				A Farrow

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £284.52

Loose: £198.18

Building Fund: £53.50

## PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

3 May 2015



**Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry**

**Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA**  
 telephone 01442 823161 email [tring@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tring@rcdow.org.uk)

**Pastoral Assistant: Wendy Hinds 01442 824369**

**Hall Bookings: Nicola Hickey 01442 826906**

**Local Catholic Schools: St Thomas More (Primary), Berkhamsted, phone 01442 385060 website: [www.stmore.herts.sch.uk](http://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](http://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk); Head teacher: Mr Paul Neves.

### Times of Services

**Sunday**  
**Holydays**  
**Weekday**  
**Saturday**

**Mass: 6.00 pm (Vigil), 8.30 am and 10.30 am**

**Mass: 10.00 am and 7.30 pm**

**Mass: Wednesday to Friday 10.00 am**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.00 – 10.30 am**  
 5.15 - 5.45 pm

## *Letter from Langdon Street*

My dear people

A few days ago Pope Francis spoke about the conversion of St Paul. Saul, as he then was, was on his way to Damascus to round up Christians and have them thrown into prison. As he got close to the city he was struck down. He heard a voice saying: "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" This was his first encounter with Jesus of Nazareth, an encounter which he never forgot. It had a profound effect on him for the rest of his life.

Pope Francis spoke about a number of people who had encounters with Our Lord. First, there was Andrew and James who were sent by John the Baptist to Jesus. Andrew then brought his brother Simon to meet him and Jesus gave Simon a new name, Peter. The Samaritan woman went through a complete life change when she met Jesus at Jacob's well. Pope Francis says we can find so many encounters in the Bible, because the Lord searches for us to have an encounter with us and then each of us can have his or her encounter with Jesus". Our first encounter was at our baptism and we encounter him again when we received other sacraments. There are other encounters. Karl Rahner, a Jesuit theologian who played an important part in the Second Vatican Council, thought that each of us needed to have a deep and personal experience of God. If not, we could not continue the practice of our faith. Pope Francis tells us that our faith is, in fact, "an encounter with Jesus" and this is precisely "the foundation of faith."

Today's Gospel explains how our faith can be inspired by a personal encounter with Our Lord, an encounter that will produce good fruit. He describes himself as a grapevine. We are branches that cannot survive on our own. We have to be grafted into him. The people who heard this story knew that the ordinary grape vine had a poor root system and needed to be grafted onto the stock of another plant that had a good root system. Every year, after harvest time, the vines are cut back, pruned in order to be stronger for the next harvest. When Our Lord spoke to the apostles he wanted them to understand that just as a vine is pruned to make it more fruitful, so they would only grow stronger by being tested in their faith. He tells them to become part of him like branches of a vine: "Make your home in me, as I make mine in you." When Our Lord spoke to the apostles he was not offering something exclusively for them. It was for everyone all over the world and throughout time.

As part of Christ the vine we can draw nourishment, grace, to enable us to grow. Alone we will be like a branch deprived of the life-giving sap which it needs to survive. Without it we will wither and die. We are not alone. We are part of a community, the Church. The poet John Donne wrote: "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." He understood, like St Paul, that we are parts of one body, not isolated individuals. Together we form the Church.

Next Saturday, at 11.00 am, eleven children in our parish will have a special encounter with Our Lord. They will receive Holy Communion for the first time. They have been preparing for this for many months. Please pray for them and their families.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

### **PRIESTS TRAINING FUND**

Thank you for your generous response to the Priests Training Fund last Sunday which raised £549.45. The fund will remain open until next weekend.

### **NEPAL EARTHQUAKE**

We have all seen the terrifying pictures from Nepal. The people desperately need our help. CAFOD and the other major agencies have launched a combined appeal. There is an appeal envelope included with this newsletter. Please return it next Sunday. If you are able to gift aid your gift, please complete the gift aid declaration.

### **GIFT AID TAX REFUND**

We are about to submit our parish claim for 2014. If you Gift Aid your giving to the church, we can reclaim the tax on your Offertories etc. We need to know if you have ceased to be a UK tax payer during the past year. We do not wish to make a false claim. In the circumstances, and in order that we do not claim tax which has not been paid, please will you let Canon Berry or David Long know (in confidence) if you are no longer a UK tax payer.

### **END OF YEAR BBQ**

Please make a note of this in your diary, mobile or tablet. On Sunday 19 July after the 10.30 mass. Messy Church, SPOG and the Youth Club are having a combined celebration. All are welcome. We would be glad of help in preparing for this. Please get in touch with Dan.

### **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.

### **PARISH DIARY**

Our parish diary is funded partly by local advertising. If you own a business or work for someone who would like to include an advert in the next issue, please contact Canon Berry by email at [tring@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tring@rcdow.org.uk).

### **HARRIETTE HICKEY**

Harriett and her family have been members of our parish for many years. She is going to Peru in August 2015 to trek from Cusco to Machu Picchu. This is despite her personal medical difficulties and recent surgery, she is going to make this challenge. She will raise money for Worldwide Cancer Research. Several members of her family and friends have all suffered from cancer. If you would like to sponsor her, you can donate by text to PHQA67 £10 to 70070 or by email: [www.justgiving.com/HarrietteElizabethHickey](http://www.justgiving.com/HarrietteElizabethHickey)

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

2 May Prayer Breakfast at St Peter & St Paul Church at 8.30 am  
6 June Prayer Breakfast at New Mill Baptist Church at 8.30 am  
4 July Prayer Breakfast at High Street Baptist Church at 8.30 am  
19 July End of Year BBQ, after 10.30 mass