

Notices for the week beginning 30 August 2015

Sunday 30 August 2015 22 Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Book, pages 7 and 126

6.00 pm (Vigil) Brother of Sue Valentine (Lately Dead); 8.30 am; People of the Parish;

10.30 am Intentions of Barrie Maloney

Monday *St Aidan and the Saints of Lindisfarne*

No Mass

Tuesday *Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Feria*

No Mass Communion Service at 10.00 am

Thursday *St Gregory the Great*

No Mass

Friday *St Cuthbert*

No Mass Communion Service at 10.00 am

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *Feria*

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Sunday 6 September 2015 23 Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.00 pm (Vigil) Sadie Hill (Lately Dead); 8.30 am ; Tom and Margaret Blackbourn;

10.30 am Declan and Michael Hurley (Anniversary)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Terry Andrew, Rose Beck, Gaby Boccino, Maria Breen, Barbara Clark, Rob Court, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Frank Dalton, Melanie Edwards, Jenny Fulcher, Gwen Herbert, Michael Hornsby, Adeline Lewis, Charlie Lynch, Sheila McGrath, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Lana Ridley, Gill Rollsprayer, Charlie Rossley, Claire Sutton, Roy Underill and Naomi Wadling.

Lately Dead: Monsignor Walter Drumm, Father Raymond Legge, Father Norman Wrigley, Sadie Hill, Peter Warren and Brian Wolfenden; **Anniversaries:** Liselotte Drescher, Nora Francis, Sydney Lancashire, Martin Long, Rhianna McDonnell, Patrick McDonough, Ellen Margaret Sheehan and John Watson. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015	6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
5/6 Sept	E	F Sherratt O Conway	A Halliday
	R	D Leadbeater M Sherratt	P Milton S Wright
	W	M Miles	D Kerr

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £403.50

Loose: £182.75

Building Fund: £89.00

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

30 August 2015



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

Holidays 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

When St John XXIII convened the Second Vatican Council in 1962 he set about an incredible number of changes in law and practice in the Church. This caused a lot of trouble for some people because they could not change their attitude. One commentator spoke about non-historical orthodoxy. He suggested that some people resisted the changes because they argued that a particular rule or practice had always been so. After the Council many religious orders changed their form of dress and their constitutions. Perhaps you remember the Sisters of Charity whose headdress was like butterfly wings. I remember reading about a group of Carmelite nuns in Spain who petitioned the pope not to approve any changes in their constitution and even to go back to St Teresa's original rule which had in fact been modified on a few occasions. Their hopes came unstuck when they discussed St Teresa's instruction for confession. A nun must always be accompanied by a companion or chaperone when confessing to a priest. The thought of two nuns squeezing into a confessional box would have been a sight to be seen. The fact is that when St Teresa was writing her Rule, confessional boxes had not been invented. They began to be introduced gradually in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, partly to provide anonymity for the penitent and partly to prevent the risk of improper behaviour by a priest towards women. That's what non-historical orthodoxy is all about.

I have just come across this story about a group of Jewish people who had gathered together for a ceremony on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). One person in the group said: "I hate the Day of Atonement. I hate the focus on guilt, and admitting sin and having to atone for it. It's all so negative." "It could be worse," said another. "You could be a Catholic, then you feel guilty all the time."

Non-historical orthodoxy emerges in today's Gospel. The scribes and Pharisees complain to Jesus. The disciples were "eating with unwashed hands" which for them was a grave infringement of the law. We might have called it a mortal sin. The original laws drawn up by Moses were added to and added to. This was a similar situation for Our Lord to what we have to put up with over the over-scrupulous interpretation of supposed rules of health and safety. The reply of Our Lord is not strident. He does not suggest that matters of ritual purity are of no value. What he does do is to insist that there are other things that are of greater importance.

Some of the changes in the Church have been painful. It is not enough to react against changes in what we have become used to. We must not assume that our way of doing things is best because "this has always been the way things have been done." We may feel, deep in our heart, that certain changes are wrong. We must be open enough, and humble enough, to consider the possibility, even the remote possibility, that we could be mistaken.

The letter of James today is giving us the same message as Our Lord give us in the Gospel. He is telling us what religion is really all about, what he calls "pure and undefiled" religion. For him purity of religion is caring for others, loving your neighbour, especially those who can't care for themselves like widows and orphans, and not following the ways, the traditions of the ungodly world. James also adds that we must not just listen to God's word, but we have to follow it through and do it.

Our Lord ends his dispute by reminding us what our faith is all about. He wants from us a heart that is humble, a heart that knows its limitations, a heart that is ready to accept change when change is called for. He wants us to be "gentle and humble of heart."

I was saddened to hear last week of the death of Peter Warren. He and his brother Bernard were regulars at the 8.30 mass. Bernard died a few years ago. Last year Peter moved to St Mawes in Cornwall. May he rest in peace.

Next Saturday it is will be our turn to act as hosts for the monthly Prayer Breakfast. These breakfasts are arranged by the members of Churches Together in Tring on the first Saturday of each month. They starts at 8.30 am with a simple breakfast followed by time for prayer which lasts for about half an hour. If you can help us prepare the Parish Hall for breakfast, please come along at about 8 o'clock. Also, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

I shall be on holiday for the next two weekends. Father Brian Reynolds will be here next Sunday. He came last January when I was in Australia. The following week Father John Zampese will be here for the Mission Appeal. I am sure you will give them both a traditional Tring welcome.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

XAVERIAN MISSION APPEAL

Every year the major missionary societies make appeals in parishes to ask our help in their work. This year the St Francis Xavier Foreign Mission Society, usually called the Xaverian Missionaries, will be making an appeal here in Tring. This will be in two weeks' time, Sunday 13 September. Father John Zampese will be making the appeal.

ASSISTED SUICIDE

On Friday 11th September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. Please contact your MP, urging them to attend the debate and vote against the Bill. You can send an e-mail to your MP via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website (www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide) or send a letter by post, a draft of which can be found at the back of the Church. Even better, you could ask to see your MP and express your concerns directly. There are cards available in church today.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2016

In September we shall be preparing children in the parish for their First Holy Communion next spring. Application forms are available at the back of church.

RHAPSODIES, FANTASIES AND MORE

This is the title of a special musical evening at St Peter and St Paul Church next Sunday 13 September at 3.00 pm. Beckie Whiteman who used to serve at the 8.30 mass before she went to university will be taking part.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 1 September, 7.30 pm, Pray and Fast at New Mill Baptist Church

Saturday 5 September, Prayer Breakfast at Corpus Christi, 8.30 am

Thursday 1 October, 12.30 pm, Pray and Fast at High Street Baptist Church