

Notices for the week beginning 13 December 2015

Sunday 13 December 2015 Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Book, pages 7 and 87

6.00 pm (Vigil) Intentions of Anne De Cesco; 8.30 am Amy and Damascene De Souza

(Anniversary); 10.30 am Derek Lewington (Anniversary)

11.30 am to 3.30 pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to mark the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Monday *Advent Feria*

11.00 am Funeral Service for Rohan Fitsimons

Tuesday *Advent Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Advent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Dan Marsh

Thursday *Advent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Margaret Demidecka (Anniversary)

Friday *Advent Feria*

Communion Service 10.00 am

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *Advent Feria*

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Sunday 20 December 2015 Fourth Sunday of Advent

6.00 pm (Vigil) Intentions of the friends of Wendy Hinds; 8.30 am Kathleen O'Connor (Anniversary); 10.30 am Bill Flanagan (Sick)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Terry Andrew, Rose Beck, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Frank Dalton, Michael Hornsby, Mary and Michael Howlings, Adeline Lewis, Sheila McGrath, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Michael Rogers, Claire Sutton, Warren Ward, Naomi Wadling and Anne Wilkinson; **Latently Dead:** Rohan Fitsimons and Gwen Herbert; **Anniversaries:** Sister Cécile Agnes, Sister Louise Françoise, Sister Marie Alexis, Robert Andrew, Frank Bates, Anthony Bentley, Robert Bonsall, Annie Brogan, Ann Cooke, Richard Cusack, Edith Davies, Margaret Demidecka, Michael Gamble, Rita Gibney, Mary Gregory, Christine Hanley, Bob Hart, Vincent Keough, Maureen Lawless, Teresa McLaughlin, Lady Mary Muir-Mackenzie, Bernard Petersen, Florence Rodden, Ludmila and Emanuel Sitta, Joyce Taylor and Stephen Waite.

May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
19/20 Dec	E	F Sherratt	A Halliday	D Marsh
	R	O Conway	L Hutt	H Houston
		M Miles	W Winstone	W Hinds
	W	D Leadbeater	S Kerr	G Maloney

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £376.00 Loose: £205.33 Building Fund: £39.70

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

13 December 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

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


Last Tuesday Pope Francis marked the beginning of the Jubilee Year of Faith by opening the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica. Today he opens the Holy Door at St John Lateran, the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Rome. All over the world bishops are doing the same in their cathedral and other churches. Cardinal Nichols will open the Holy Door at Westminster Cathedral at 3.30 pm. At the same time we will close a period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition will start after The 10.30 mass. I hope everybody will be able to spend some time praying before the Blessed Sacrament.

In Jewish tradition a Jubilee was declared every seventy years. During a jubilee year all debts were cancelled and people in dispute were reconciled. The first Christian Jubilee was declared by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 AD. It was originally intended to be held every hundred years but this was reduced to fifty years and in 1450 to twenty five years. Popes can also declare special holy years which is what Pope Francis has decided to do. The door was made of wood and normally bricked up. At the start of the year, usually on Christmas Eve, the pope would bang on the wall with a hammer and wait while workmen, the sampietrini, knocked it down. People would gather up bricks and mortar as mementos of the occasion. Blessed Paul VI had a narrow escape when some of the bricks landed near him. St John Paul II decided that for safety reasons the walls should be removed in advance of the ceremony and that the old plain wooden doors should have bronze panels fitted. This happened for the Great Jubilee Year of 2000 AD.

When Pope Francis speaks about mercy he links with it a number of Old Testament words: love, mercy, kindness, compassion, goodness, grace, fidelity, healing and forgiveness. The spin-off for all this is found in the works of mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned and bury the dead. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are to counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offenses, bear wrongs patiently and pray for the living and the dead.

Pope Francis, once spoke about today's celebration: "The Christian message is called the 'gospel,' that is, 'good news,' an announcement of joy for all people; the Church is not a shelter for sad people, the Church is the house of joy! Christian joy, like hope, has its foundation in the faithfulness of God, in the certainty that He always keeps his promises. The third Sunday of Advent is often referred to by its Latin name, Gaudete Sunday, which indicates that it is a day of 'rejoicing.' In the liturgy, the invitation to rejoice, to arise, resounds repeatedly, because the Lord is near, Christmas is near. Like a mother, the Church encourages us to follow faithfully the spiritual path in order to celebrate the feast of Christmas with renewed exaltation."

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Each year we invite you to contribute to the cost of decorating the church with flowers for the Christmas celebrations. There will be a collection after mass today. Many thanks to all who gave so generously last weekend.

The Christmas flower arranging workshop will be held on Friday 18th December at 7.30 in the Church. Please put your name & telephone number on the list at the back of the Church if you are interested in joining us. My contact number is 07736669019 and e-mail is annabelle_halliday@hotmail.com.

PREPARING FOR OUR JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

We are preparing for this year's Nativity Play which will be part of our Christmas Eve Mass for families. It will bring together the children who are part of SPOG, the Sunday Children's Liturgy Group and the First Communion Class. We hope other children will join in.

THE PLAYING OF THE MERRY ORGAN

It is sad to say farewell to Barrie Maloney who has played the organ at mass Sunday after Sunday for nearly eight years. He has recently moved to North Yorkshire and will be sadly missed. We need to find a replacement. Jane Bird and Chris Howlings continue to play but their work commitments mean that they are often away at weekends. Please remember Christ and family in your prayers. His parents are both very ill. If you play the piano or keyboard you will be able to canon play the organ. Please come and try. We have music at the Saturday 6 pm mass and at the Sunday 10.30 mass. If anyone has trained to play the organ, so much the better. Please contact Canon Berry at tring@rcdow.org.uk

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

The J&P Group are grateful for all who supported the Community Christmas Concert last weekend which raised over seven hundred pounds for the Sethule Orphans' Trust in Zimbabwe.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TRING CAROLING

CTT has arranged its annual spiritual pub crawl next Friday. You are invited to join in the carol singing starting at the Robin Hood at 7.30 pm before moving round the other pubs in the town.

REFUGEE VOLUNTEER EVENING

We would like to invite you to the Refugee Volunteer Evening which we are holding on Tuesday 26 January in the Westminster Centre for Youth Ministry, 20 Phoenix Road, Euston, NW1 1TA. The evening will give you the chance to talk to organisations and projects working with migrants and refugees in London and Hertfordshire, to find out about volunteering opportunities, and to get information on setting up your own project. All are welcome

BOGUS DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTIONS

The police have warned us that canvassers are currently claiming they are helping the British Legion to help Army Personnel get jobs. They even present bogus ID cards. The Royal British Legion does not have any door to door appeal at this time. Should you receive a door

to door caller claiming to represent The Royal British Legion, please report this to the police and under no circumstances give them any personal details or donations.