

Notices for the week beginning 31 January 2016

Sunday 31 January 2016 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Book, pages 7 and 132

6.00 pm (Vigil) Sheila McGrath (Lately Dead); 8.30 am Andrew Scotland (Anniversary);

10.30 am Dennis Kelly (Sick)

12.30 Baptism of Sebastian Boulter

Monday *Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple (Candlemas Day)*

No Mass

Wednesday *Saints Lawrence, Dunstan and Theodore*

Mass 10.00 am Sheila McGrath (Lately Dead)

Thursday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Reception of Body: 4.00 pm

Friday *St Agatha*

Mass 10.00 am **Funeral of Sheila McGrath RIP**

Saturday *St Paul Miki and the Martyrs of Japan*

Prayer Breakfast at 8.30 am

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Sunday 7 February 2016 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.00 pm (Vigil) Sheila McGrath (Lately Dead); 8.30 am Andrew Scotland (Anniversary);

10.30 am Dennis Kelly (Sick)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Terry Andrew, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Michael Hornsby, Mary and Michael Howlings, Dennis Kelly, Adeline Lewis, Colin McHugh, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Claire Sutton, Warren Ward, Naomi Wadling, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Sheila McGrath.; **Anniversaries** Father Paul D'Hoine, Joan Askey, Thomas Branson, Mary Carmey, Ken Carrington, Ben Cerutti, Mico Conway, Marguerite Couillaault, Stephen Crowhurst, Elizabeth Dolphin, Charles Donovan, Charles Douglas, Genevieve Durier, Ellen Gaves, Nora Gorman, Annie Hickman, Arthur Hug, Bridget Kehoe, Alan Kerr, Bernadine Lucas, Colin Maidment, Nino Marcello, Michael Moore, Pru Nowaczewska, David Palmer, Andrew Scotland, Tony Toole, Winifred Wallen and Charles Whitmarsh. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
06/07 Feb	E	F Sherratt O Conway	A Halliday	D Long W Hinds
	R	M Miles J Lee	J Samuel P Milton	S Lewington H Houston
	W		D Kerr	

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £121.66

Loose: £109.25

Building Fund: £23.50

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

31 January 2016



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 Wednesday Pope Francis spoke about God's mercy throughout history. He spoke about Moses, who led the Israelites from slavery to freedom. This reminds us that the mercy of God cannot remain indifferent in the face of the suffering of the oppressed, the cry of those subject to violence, reduced to slavery, condemned to death. He tells us that suffering is a reality in every age, a reality that can make us feel impotent, and tempt us to indifference. But, Pope Francis said, "God is not indifferent, He never looks away from human suffering." The God of mercy hears the groaning of the poor and intervenes to save them, especially by "raising up men and women able to hear the cries of the suffering, and working in favour of the oppressed."

As Moses was God's instrument leading the people of Israel to freedom, we too, especially in this Year of Mercy, can be mediators of God's mercy. "There are so many good things we can do!" the Pope said. He spoke of how God made a covenant with the Jewish people, creating a special, privileged relationship with them. This special relationship, brought to fulfilment through the Blood of Christ, "destroys our sin through forgiveness, and makes us definitively children of God."

When Our Lord began his mission he spoke first to his own people but explained that his mission was to everyone. Last Sunday we heard, from St Luke's Gospel, how he went back to his home town of Nazareth and commented on the words of the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, to give new sight to the blind, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour." He then told those present in the synagogue that the prophecy was being fulfilled in their presence. They liked this when they hear it. They did not like what followed. He criticised his own townspeople for making assumptions about who he was and he really upset them when he made biting allusions to their behaviour. He told them that his message was not just for them. It was for everyone. They were so upset that they hustled him out of town intent on killing him.

Our Lord invited many people to become his disciples and then gathered together some of them to be apostles. That invitation was extended to all people of all time, and this includes all of us here today. Today we hear the words from the prophet Jeremiah where the Lord gives us the strength to carry out our calling to follow him. We also hear St Paul telling us that of all the many gifts that are offered to us, the greatest is love. In the Gospel Our Lord expresses his sadness at the response of the people of Nazareth.

Jesus spoke about the Lord's year of favour. This is reflected in the Year of Mercy that Pope Francis established just over a month ago. We are being invited to turn back to the Lord. If we have fallen from grace, we are being given the opportunity to return to the Lord for forgiveness, mercy and love. This will enable us to work with him to transform not only our own lives but also the lives of others. It is the hope of Pope Francis that in this Year of Mercy, because of the mercy God has shown us, "we might cooperate with God in accomplishing works of mercy."

Yours sincerely

Vincent Beung

Parish Priest

NEW BISHOPS

Last Monday Cardinal Nichols ordained two new bishops. Canon Paul McAleenan has until recently been parish priest of Holy Rood, Watford. He has been given pastoral responsibility for the parishes in Hertfordshire. Father John Wilson, formerly parish priest of Wakefield, has been given charge of West London. Bishop John Sherrington has been transferred from Hertfordshire to North London. He has been a very good leader for us in Hertfordshire and we shall miss him very much.

FEBRUARY PRAYER BREAKFAST

Next Saturday we will act as host for the monthly Prayer Breakfast. It will be in the Parish Hall at 8.30 am Please come along and join in. We also need a few people from 8 o'clock onwards to prepare the hall for the breakfast. Please do not leave this to others.

It has been the custom for many years for people from the different churches in Tring to meet once a month, on the first Saturday of each month, for a prayer breakfast. We gather by rota in one of the churches for a simple breakfast at 8.30 am followed at 9.00 am with time for prayer.

LENT LUNCHESES

We also have a custom for people from the different churches in Tring and the surrounding villages to meet each Wednesday during Lent for a simple lunch. The first lunch will be on Wednesday 17 February at New Mill Baptist Church.

We at Corpus Christi will act as host on Wednesday 24 February. We need a few helpers and there will be a list at the back of church next weekend.

LENT IS COMING SOON

This year Easter Sunday is very early, on 27 March. Ash Wednesday is on 10 February, just two weeks away. Lent is a special time each year. This year Pope Francis wants us to make it extra special. It would be good for us to begin thinking about what we might do this Lent. The traditional "tools" offered us by the Church are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

CORPUS CHRISTI FRIENDSHIP GROUP

We have formed a friendship group in our Parish. It meets on Monday mornings at 10.30 am. For the time being it will meet in the Akeman, Akeman Street. Our aim is that we meet together and enjoy each other's company. If you are interested, please phone Wendy on 01442 824369 or Simon on 01442 826681. Lifts can be provided if necessary.

VISIT TO QUASAR IN HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

We are having a church trip to Quasar in Hemel Hempstead on the 8th of February. It is for school year 3+. Children and young people are all welcome! The trip cost £5 and the time is 6.30-8.00 pm.

Forms are available at the back of Church with all information.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7 February Prayer Breakfast at Corpus Christi, 8.30-9.30 am

10 February Ash Wednesday Masses at 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

24 February Lent Lunch at Corpus Christi, 12.00 noon