

Notices for the week beginning 14 February 2016

Sunday 14 February 2016 First Sunday of Lent

Mass Book, pages 7 and 135

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

10.30 am Intentions of Thomas Apps

Monday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Friday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Sheila McGrath (Lately Dead)

Stations of the Cross 10.30 am and 7.30 pm

Saturday *Lent Feria*

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Sunday 21 February 2016 Second Sunday of Lent

6.00 pm (Vigil) Mike Fleming (Lately Dead); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am Sheila McGrath (lately Dead)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: *Sick*: Terry Andrew, Bettine Byrd, 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 and Anne Wilkinson; *Anniversaries*: Derrick Barber, Percy Davies, Agnes Gibb, Diana Harwood, Josefa Kowalewski, Josephine Kearns, Edward Magdycz, Zygfryd Newton, Peter Norton, Leslie Potter, Nora Russell, Michael Smyth, Ken Valentine, Joe Ward and Edwin Wolveridge. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
20/21 Feb	E	F Sherratt G Booth	A Halliday	P Apps W Hinds
	R	J Lee M Miles	C Pennicott D Crauford	H Houston S Lewington
	W		D Kerr	J Brown

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £235.71

Loose: £169.38

Building Fund: £52.50

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

14 February 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

On Ash Wednesday we began the season of Lent which prepares us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Our Lord. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are traditional Lenten practices recommended by the Church.

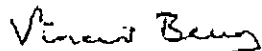
Most religions have fasting as part of their religious practices. We can think of Ramadan, a month of daytime fasting, practiced by Muslims. Fasting was an important part of Jewish tradition and the First Christians continued to follow this tradition, especially on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

It was only about 300 years after Jesus's death that anyone looked to the Bible to find a source for the practice. At that time adult converts completed their preparation for baptism at Easter by fasting. A book called the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles was discovered in Syria in the nineteenth century which dated back to AD 230. It included rules about fasting: "Therefore you shall fast in the days of the Pascha from the tenth, which is the second day of the week; and you shall sustain yourselves with bread and salt and water only, at the ninth hour, until the fifth day of the week. But on the Friday and on the Sabbath fast wholly, and taste nothing." This linked fasting with the three days leading to Our Lord's Resurrection. Some people still keep the Black Fast (black rye bread, water and salt) for three days before Easter. It was only later that the practice of fasting for forty days before Easter was based on the forty day fast undertaken by Our Lord in preparation for his public ministry. Sundays are days of the commemorations of Easter and are not fast days. Between Ash Wednesday and Easter there are forty weekdays.

There were strict rules of fasting until 1939. Fast days every weekday in Lent with meatless days on the Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent. During World War II Pope Pius XII suspended the rules. After the war he introduced a restricted set of rules and Pope Paul VI later said there should be only two compulsory fast days, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (which were also days of abstinence) and restricted days of abstinence to Fridays. The days of abstinence were later made optional.

Fifty years ago our bishops set up CAFOD, the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development, and introduced two voluntary fasts days, one in Lent and one in the autumn at harvest time. This was based on the ancient tradition that people fasted and gave the money they saved to the poor. This year's Lent Fast Day is next Friday and an envelope is included with this newsletter for your fast gift which will be collected next Sunday. We have an opportunity to come together as a Catholic community to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. CAFOD is working with local expert organisations around the world to bring water to family homes, so girls who used to spend hours collecting it every day, now have time for school, study and to play with their friends. And there is very good news: the UK government has promised to match every pound and penny you give this Lent!

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

This year CAFOD is working to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. CAFOD is working with local expert organisations around the world to bring water to family homes; so girls who used to spend hours collecting it every day, now have time for school, study and to play with their friends.

This year's Fast Day is next Friday, 19 February. CAFOD Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Please take home the CAFOD Fast Day envelope that is included in today's newsletter, fast this coming Friday and give as much as you can in next week's collection. Extra Good news: the UK government has promised to match every pound and penny you give to CAFOD this Lent!

LENT LUNCHES

We 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 is a list at the back of church this weekend.

DENS FOOD BANK

This month DENS is asking for: sugar, fruit juice (1L long life), sponge puddings, vinegar and Bags for Life

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.

PACT

Pact - Prison Advice & Care Trust, a Catholic prison charity is seeking two new trustees to give guidance, to ensure good governance, strategic oversight and direction. Pact is a growing, award-winning independent Catholic national charity working in prisons and communities across England & Wales. Its aim is to offer realistic hope of a fresh start to tens of thousands of prisoners, ex-prisoners, offenders, children and families. To find out more visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk/get-involved or call Chris Dunne: 020 7735 9535

YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Cardinal Nichols will this year lead the sixth Westminster Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. It will take place between 4-12 November. The price is £1495 per person sharing; £320 single supplement. Full board. Contact Gil Didino at Tangney Tours for or a booking form at Gill@tangney-tours.com; or by telephone at 01732 886666

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19 February Lent Fast Day (for CAFOD, the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development)
24 February Lent Lunch at Corpus Christi, 12.00 noon
25 March Good Friday
27 March Easter Sunday