

# PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

28 February 2016



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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 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 week Pope Francis spoke to many pilgrims gathered in St Peter's Square. This is a summary of what he said: "The Jubilee of Mercy is an opportunity to enter in depth into the mystery of God's goodness and love. In this Lenten time, the Church invites us to get to know better the Lord Jesus, and to live faith in a way coherent with a lifestyle that expresses the Father's mercy. My life, my attitude, my way of going about the world must be a concrete sign of the fact that God is close to us. Little gestures of love, of tenderness, of attention, that let us think that the Lord is with us, close to us. In this way we open the door of mercy. For this, it is necessary to be committed, and this means assuming a responsibility, a task in relation to someone, and fulfilling it with fidelity, dedication and care. God too has committed Himself to us. His first commitment was that of creating the world, and despite our attempts to spoil it, He is committed to keeping it alive. But His greatest commitment was that of giving Jesus to us. St. Paul recalls this when he writes that God 'did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all'. In the Gospel it is very easy to see how God's commitment to us is made manifest. "In Jesus, God commits Himself fully in order to restore hope to the poor, to those who are deprived of their dignity, to outsiders, the sick, the imprisoned, and to sinners who welcome Him with good will. In all of this, Jesus was the living expression of the Father's mercy".

When we try to understand the abundant mercy of God some people wonder how a loving and merciful God allows terrible things to happen to innocent people in our world. We can think of the atrocities being committed in Syria and other places. We can think of the men, women and children being drowned as they attempt to reach safety. In Our Lord's time there were other atrocities. We read about this in today's Gospel. Pontius Pilate had a lot to answer for long before he agreed to the death of Jesus. We also hear about a

tragedy that occurred near the Temple when the Tower of Siloam collapsed killing innocent people. It is no wonder that we can sometimes wonder why God seems to allow innocent people to suffer.

In every age, people have been appalled at the suffering of the innocent. The teaching of Our Lord makes it plain that suffering in this life is never brought about by God's punishment for sin.

The life of Our Lord reminds us of the good news that God does not ignore our suffering and pain. God shares it. As we journey through Lent we learn again how God loves us so much that he sent us his Son who would suffer so much. Through his suffering and death, Our Lord came back to life in the resurrection which points to the total destruction of all suffering, all pain, all sorrow.

In this diocese we have the tradition of the Cardinal's annual appeal for Lenten Alms. Cardinal Nichols has asked us to devote some of our almsgiving to the work of Caritas which co-ordinates much of the charitable work being undertaken in the diocese of Westminster. In a few weeks special envelopes will be distributed to receive your gifts.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

#### **CAFOD LENT FAST DAY**

Thanks for your generous gifts last Sunday for the CAFOD Family Fast day which raised £5,696.62. The fund will close after mass today.

#### **MESSY CHURCH**

This month's Messy Church takes place this afternoon in the parish hall, from 3 to 5 pm.

#### **LENT LUNCHESES**

Many thanks to those who helped to provide everything. Donations received came to £85 which will be given to Christian Aid.

#### **WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER ON FRIDAY 4 MARCH**

Each year women all over the world meet to pray on the first Friday in March. Here in Tring we shall gather at St Martha's Methodist Church in Chapel Lane. The theme this year, prepared

by the women of Cuba, is on the theme of "Receive children, receive me." There are two services, 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm. We are asked to do one of the readings. Please phone Wendy on 01442 824369.

#### **TERRY ANDREW**

You are invited to the Funeral Mass of Terry Andrew, who died peacefully at Florence Nightingale Hospice on Saturday 20 February, after a seven-year illness. It is on Thursday 3 March at 11am in Corpus Christi Church. There is also a Vigil at 4pm on Wednesday 3 March. Interment is at All Saints Church, Vicarage Road and Church Lane, Marsworth. Everyone is welcome. This will be followed by refreshments at the Red Lion pub just down from the churchyard in Marsworth. No flowers please, but donations made payable to the Florence Nightingale Hospice would be welcomed in a box in church or c/o Church View Funeral Directors, Church Yard, Tring, Herts HP23 5AE. Tel 01442 825472. Please come and support Kate, India and Jessica, who would like to thank everyone very much for prayers and support over the length of Terry's illness.

#### **RED BOXES**

Sheila McGrath was the local co-ordinator for the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) and the St Joseph's Missionary Society (Mill Hill Fathers). Jenny Brown has kindly agreed to take over this important role. She can be contacted on 01442 824627. The principal source of income is from what we call the Red Boxes.

Red Boxes are now due for collection. Money or cheques should be given to Jenny Brown (01442 824627) by Sunday 20 March. If anyone has a box that has not been emptied, please return it to the church ASAP.

#### **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.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

28 February Messy Church, 3 to 5 pm

25 March Good Friday

27 March Easter Sunday

## **Notices for the week beginning 28 February 2016**

#### **Sunday 28 February 2016 Third Sunday of Lent**

Mass Book, pages 7 and 160

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 *St David, Patron of Wales*

No Mass

Wednesday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *Lent Feria*

Mass 11.00 am **Funeral of Terry Andrew**

Friday *Lent Feria Also Women's World Day of Prayer*

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 6 March 2016 Fourth Sunday of Lent**

6.00 pm (Vigil) Private Intention; 8.30 am Private Intention; 10.30 am People of the Parish

#### PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Bettine Byrd, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Sam Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Mary and Michael Howlings, Adeline Lewis, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Warren Ward, Naomi Wadling and Anne Wilkinson; **Lately Dead:** Terry Andrew, Thomas Prior and Cherlallann Visel. **Anniversaries:** Alice Bennett, Patricia Calladine, Doris Couchman, John Diamond, Anna Marmolino Durante, Brian Fitzgerald, John Grabowski, Elizabeth Ellen Harwood, Joseph Lloyd Harwood, James Herring, Barbara Maxwell, Julie O'Mahoney, Andrew Scotland, Douglas Sears, Ken Valentine and Matilda Valentine. May they rest in peace.

#### PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
5/6 March	E	F Sherratt G Booth	A Halliday	P Apps W Hinds
	R	D Leadbeater M Sherratt	S Whitehead P Milton	S Lewington H Houston
	W		D Kerr	A Farrow

#### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £284.50

Loose: £240.99

Building Fund: £38.50