

Notices for the week beginning 7 February 2016

Sunday 7 February 2016 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 *Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday **ASH WEDNESDAY Day of Fasting and Abstinence**

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Mass 7.30 pm 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 14 February 2016 First 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, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Mike Fleming and Sheila McGrath; **Anniversaries** Sr Agnes De Sales, Margarita Cepozzo, David Ciano, Julie Connolly, Harry Hornsby, Florence Ives, William Kehoe, Dorothy Long, Margaret Mahoney, Aenne Marx, Charles Morgan, Frances Noon, Joan Salmons, Margaret Smyth, Mary Taaffe, Elsie Walker, Eric Gordon Wallen and Gladys Whitmarsh. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015	6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am	
13/14 Feb	E R W	F Sherratt G Booth D Leadbeater M Sherratt	A Halliday S Wright S Whitehead S Kerr	A De Cesco H Houston P Apps G Maloney A Farrow

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £282.00

Loose: £221.54

Building Fund: £40.53

January Standing Orders:

Offertories £2,114.00

Building Fund: £129.00

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

7 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

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 Pope Francis opened the Year of Mercy last December he told us that “the Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person.” He asked also that “the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy.” Lent is upon us in just three days time. Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. There is mass at 10.00 am and 7.30 pm. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at both masses.

In the Old Testament we are constantly told of the covenant that God made with his chosen people, the Children of Israel. This covenant was a special promise made between God and Israel. It was a love story in which God, ever merciful and forgiving, played the role of betrayed husband while Israel played the role of an unfaithful bride. The prophet Hosea described how time and time again, Israel was unfaithful but God was always ready to forgive.

Pope Francis tells us that mercy expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering us a new chance to look at ourselves, to convert, and believe. In this way God restores his relationship with us. In his crucified son He shows his desire to draw near to sinners, however far they may have strayed from him.

As a man, Jesus of Nazareth is a true son of Israel. Every Sabbath he would have recited the Shema, which Jewish people still recite today. This prayer is the heart of God’s covenant with Israel: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.” As the Son of God, Jesus is the bridegroom who does everything to win over the love of his bride, the Church, to whom he is bound by an unconditional love which becomes visible in the eternal wedding feast of heaven but which expressed now and every time we celebrate mass together.

Pope Francis tells us: “God’s mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbour and to devote ourselves to what the Church’s tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. These works remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbours in body and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things will we be judged. For this reason, I express my hope that the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy; this will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty, and to enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God’s mercy.”

For us, then, members of the parish family of Corpus Christi, the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year is a favourable time. 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.

Yours sincerely

Vincent Beary

Parish Priest

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 will be a list at the back of church next weekend.

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.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or the death of a partner from 15th to 17th April 2016 at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For details please contact Sandra 01293-783965, Freda 01322-838415 or John 01992-642443 email johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

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

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TRING

CTT is the association set up to bring together people from all the churches in Tring and the surrounding villages. The Annual General Meeting takes place next Tuesday, 9 February, at 8.00pm in New Mill Baptist Church. All parishioners are invited to attend. We would like two parishioners to represent us at the ordinary committee meetings which will be held four times (recently changed from the previous six times a year).

The format of the AGM has also been changed. There will be a short business meeting followed by a speaker. On this occasion the Reverend Andrew Cowley, Minister of High Street Baptist Church will speak on “Partnerships – a way ahead for ministry?” This will be an interesting, informative and challenging occasion for a wide audience.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 10 February Ash Wednesday Masses at 10.00 am and 7.30 pm
- 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

21 May First Communion Mass