

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

13 March 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

Today is the fifth Sunday of Lent. We are coming close to the end of Lent. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday when we begin Holy Week. As we concentrate our thoughts on suffering and death we are also given hope as our thought turn gradually from pain to glory. In today's first reading God tells us of the new things he has started doing among us and for us. He is restoring our hope, and giving us every reason to continue living. This means that in spite of the difficulties of this present world we can look forward to the life of glory. In our second reading St Paul tells us that he decided to count everything as a loss for the sake of Christ. This was in order to gain the future glory that will be revealed in Christ: "I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection."

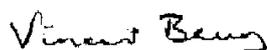
There is a tremendous contrast in today's Gospel between the cruelty of the scribes and Pharisees and the compassion of Jesus. They had no regard for the woman or for the missing person, the man who had been with her. But Jesus is full of compassion. He restored the woman again, in two ways. He restored her spiritually by forgiving her, telling her he did not condemn her. By forgiving her he saved her life and restored her to society.

No one knows what Jesus wrote on the ground but some people suspect Jesus wrote the sins of the scribes and Pharisees. They saw the significance in what he wrote and it was the eldest who went away first. Perhaps he had committed more sins than the others. When they had all left there was just the woman standing alone. Jesus forgave her but did not let her off lightly. He expected her to live a life of grace and union with God from now on by not sinning any more. This reminds us that mercy is not an easy option. Pope Francis understands this but some of his critics do not.

Jesus talks about forgiveness. The Greek word for forgiveness means literally "letting go." That is what we do when we forgive. We let go. The reading from Isaiah stresses this. We must not cling to past hurts and grievances. We are sometimes asked to draw a line in the sand. When we do this we leave everything behind and make as fresh start. St Paul understood this as he speaks about racing ahead. He wrote today's epistle in prison but was able to concentrate his thoughts on the future, not the past.

In a recent homily Pope Francis spoke about the blind beggar whose sight was restored by Our Lord. He said that when we draw near to Jesus, we, like Bartimaeus, can once more the light which enables us to look to the future with confidence and find anew the strength and the courage to set out on the way that leads us to experience the joy of his love.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Next Sunday there will be the procession of palms at the start of each mass. Weather permitting, it will start in the church garden. The times of services for Holy Week are available on our parish website which is: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/tring>.

EASTER FLOWERS

There will be a collection after mass next Sunday to receive offerings that will enable us to decorate the Church with flowers for Easter.

PETE EMMOTT

Pete was our parish youth worker before Dan was appointed three years ago. He continues to be the youth worker at the Sacred Heart Church in Berkhamsted. He is looking for somewhere to rent for himself, his wife Cassie and growing family. He would like to live in and around Berkhamsted and Tring. The lease on their present accommodation ends at the end of April. If anyone knows of anything that would be suitable for them, please contact Pete either on 07541 412 128, or pete.emmott@gmail.com

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.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

As part of the Year of Mercy celebrations Cardinal Nichols has invited people throughout the diocese to join him on the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 9 July. Walsingham is known as England's Nazareth. The theme of the pilgrimage is "Mary, the Mother of Mercy." The day will include an outdoor Mass, procession with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and banners along the Holy Mile, prayers and Benediction in the Priory grounds, and free time to visit the Basilica, the Slipper Chapel and the Holy Door. Bring a picnic lunch. The Cardinal is also asking priests to consider cancelling the Saturday evening mass on 9 July to enable them to travel with their parishioners.

If you would like to express an interest, please put your name on the list at the back of church. At the moment this is not a firm commitment by you. It is just to see if there are sufficient numbers.

Notices for the week beginning 13 March 2016

Sunday 13 March 2016 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass Book, pages 7 and 176

6.00 pm (Vigil) Bernard George Cullen (Lately Dead); 8.30 am Tom and Margaret Blackburn (Anniversary); 10.30 am People of the Parish

Monday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Leo Foster RIP

Thursday *St Patrick*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Friday *St Cyril of Jerusalem*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Julia Foster (Lately Dead)

Stations of the Cross 10.30 am and 7.30 pm

Saturday *St Joseph*

Confessions 10.00-10.30 am; 5.15-5.45 pm

Wedding 1.00 pm Harris and Holly

Sunday 20 March 2016 Palm Sunday

6.00 pm (Vigil) Richard Berry(Anniversary); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am Susanna Horwood (Anniversary)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Nina & Erica De Cesco, Sam Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Mary and Michael Howlings, Adeline Lewis, Bob Masini, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Naomi Wadling, Warren Ward, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Bernard George Cullen and Julia Foster. **Anniversaries:** Helen Andrew, Harold Bennett, Richard Berry, Tom and Margaret Blackburn, Eric Burgess, Bernard Davies, Fosca De Cesco, Nial Doherty, Kath Farrington, Leo Foster, Dorothy Francis, Hugh Gallagher, Thomas Harte, Norman Hodge, Susanna Horwood, Gertrud Kerstgens, John McGuinness, Ronald Maslinski, John Murray, Marianne Seward, Cecil Valentine, Olive Watson and Raymond Weed. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
19/20 March	E	F Sherratt G Booth	A Halliday	P Apps W Hinds
	R	M Hart M Miles	J Samuel W Winstone	H Houston S Lewington
	W		D Kerr	

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £229.49 Loose: £159.22 Building Fund: £58.10

CAFOD Appeals:

Family Fast Day: £5,728.62 Christmas Concert for Syrian Refugees £133.20