

PARISH NEWS

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

1 May 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 Sunday addressed young people in St Peter's Square and this is what he said to them:

Dear young friends, what an enormous responsibility the Lord gives us today! He tells us that the world will recognize the disciples of Jesus by the way they love one another. Love, in other words, is the Christian's identity card, the only valid "document" identifying us as Christians. It is the only valid document. If this card expires and is not constantly renewed, we stop being witnesses of the Master. So I ask you: Do you wish to say yes to Jesus' invitation to be his disciples? Do you wish to be his faithful friends? The true friends of Jesus stand out essentially by the genuine love; not some "pie in the sky" love; no, it is a genuine love that shines forth in their way of life. Love is always shown in real actions. Those who are not real and genuine and who speak of love are like characters in a soap opera, some fake love story. Do you want to experience his love? Do you want this love: yes or no? Let us learn from him, for his words are a school of life, a school where we learn to love. This is a task which we must engage in every day: to learn how to love.

Before all else, love is beautiful, it is the path to happiness. But it is not an easy path. It is demanding and it requires effort. Think, for example, of when we receive a gift. It makes us happy, but receiving a gift means that someone generous has invested time and effort; by their gift they also give us a bit of themselves, a sacrifice they have made. Think too of the gift that your parents and group leaders have given you in allowing you to come to Rome for this Jubilee day dedicated to you. They planned, organized, and prepared everything for you, and this made them happy, even if it meant that they had to give up a trip for themselves. This is putting love into action. To love means to give, not only something material, but also something of one's self: one's own time, one's friendship, one's own abilities.

At this point in life you feel also a great longing for freedom. Many people will say to you that freedom means doing whatever you want. But here you have to be able to say no. If you do not know how to say "no", you are not free. The person who is free is he or she who is able to say "yes" and who knows how to say "no". Freedom is not the ability simply to do what I want. This makes us self-centred and aloof, and it prevents us from being

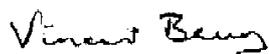
open and sincere friends; it is not true to say "it is good enough if it serves me". No, this is not true. Instead, freedom is the gift of being able to choose the good: this is true freedom. The free person is the one who chooses what is good, what is pleasing to God, even if it requires effort, even if it is not easy. I believe that you young men and women are not afraid to make the effort, that you are indeed courageous! Only by courageous and firm decisions do we realize our greatest dreams, the dreams which it is worth spending our entire lives to pursue. Courageous and noble choices. Do not be content with mediocrity, with "simply going with the flow", with being comfortable and laid back. Don't believe those who would distract you from the real treasure, which you are, by telling you that life is beautiful only if you have many possessions.

Look up at Jesus on the cross, embrace the cross and don't ever let go of his hand. He will point you ever higher, and pick you up whenever you fall. Throughout life we will fall many times, because we are sinners, we are weak. But there is always the hand of God who picks us up, who raises us up. Jesus wants us to be up on our feet! Think of the beautiful word Jesus said to the paralytic: "Arise!" God has created us to be on our feet. I know that you are capable of acts of great friendship and goodness. With these you are called to build the future, together with others and for others, but never against anyone! One never builds "against"; this is called "destruction". You will do amazing things if you prepare well, starting now, by living your youth and all its gifts to the fullest and without fear of hard work. Be like sporting champions, who attain high goals by quiet daily effort and practice. Let your daily programme be the works of mercy. Enthusiastically practice them, so as to be champions in life, champions in love! In this way you will be recognized as disciples of Jesus. In this way, you will have the identification card of the Christian. And I promise you: your joy will be complete.

These are precious words not just for young people but for us golden oldies and everyone else between.

Last Sunday I announced the appeal from Pope Francis for us to help our brothers and sisters in Ukraine who are suffering so much and are still adjusting to the freedoms they gained after many years of suppression under Soviet rule. There will be a second collection today after Holy Communion.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

PARISH MEETING

There will be a Parish Meeting on Wednesday 18 May at 8.00 pm. The first item on the agenda will be to consider plans to improve the condition of the car park. We are still awaiting quotes for the work but the first estimate is for £50,000. The second item is to consider installing a tv system which would allow housebound parishioners to watch mass being broadcast from the church into their home. Further details about this are in the next item in this newsletter. If anyone would like any other item to be raised, please send a message to the presbytery by post or by email: tring@rcdow.org.uk.

HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

We have recently had a request from a former parishioner whose mother still lives in Tring and is no longer able to get to Sunday Mass. There may be others who are in a similar position. Perhaps we could arrange a rota to bring people to church. Alternatively, we can arrange to bring them Holy Communion at home. A number of parishes have set up a programme by which housebound parishioners can tune in to their computer and watch services live from their local church. Our nearest neighbour to do this is Borehamwood. You can access this by tuning into their parish website or go direct to: <http://www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood>. They broadcast Sunday and weekday masses and other services. There is a list of all the churches in Britain and Ireland that use this system. You may like to tune into any of these churches.

CORPUS CHRISTI FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Our friendship group meets on Monday mornings at 10.30 am 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.

HAY FEVER

The Chesham Bois Catholic Players have chosen Hay Fever by Noel Coward as their next performance. It will be in The Little Theatre by the Park (Temperance Hall) in Church Street, Chesham, HP5 1HU on Friday 20 May at 7.30 pm, Saturday 21 May at 7.30 pm and Sunday 21 May at 4.00 pm. Ticket 3366 s cost £10 (concessions £8) and are available by phone on 0333 666 or www.ticketsource.co.uk/event/126389. Further information at the back of church.

Notices for the week beginning 1 May 2016

Sunday 1 May 2016 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass Book, pages 7 and 271

6.00 pm (Vigil) Queen Elizabeth II; 8.30 am People of the Parish; 10.30 am Bridget

Walsh (Lately Dead). 12 noon Baptism of Ravenna Cruse

Monday *St Athanasius*

No Mass

Tuesday *Saints Philip and James*

No Mass

Wednesday *The English Martyrs*

No Mass (St Thomas More School at 9.15 am)

Thursday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am **Funeral of Jerry O'Shaughnessy**

Friday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Sonia McEvoy

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *Easter Feria*

Confessions: 10.00 to 10.320 am; 5.15 to 5.45 pm

Sunday 8 May 2016 The Ascension of Our Lord

6.00 pm (Vigil) Members of the Halliday, Roper, Croxford and De Clasca families;

8.30 am Father Tony Potter (Anniversary); 10.30 am Wendy Hinds

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Nina & Erica De Cesco, Melanie Edwards, Sam Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Adeline Lewis, Bob Masini, Paul Mostyn, Gerry O'Shaughnessy, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Tara Ridley, Warren Ward, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Bettine Byrd and Jerry O'Shaughnessy. **Anniversaries:** Father Tony Potter, Helena Day, Stella Dick, Kitty Dineen, Bridget Fraser, Jane Lawley, Larry Long, Robert McCarthy, Thomas McQuillan, Paddy O'Connor and Maria Stevens. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2015		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
7/8 May	E	F Sherratt	A Halliday	H Houston
		O Conway	K Andrew	W Hinds
	R	M Hart	S Whitehead	P Apps
		M Sherratt	L Hutt	S Lewington
	W		D Kerr	J Brown

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £194.50

Loose: £227.84

Building Fund: £53.50