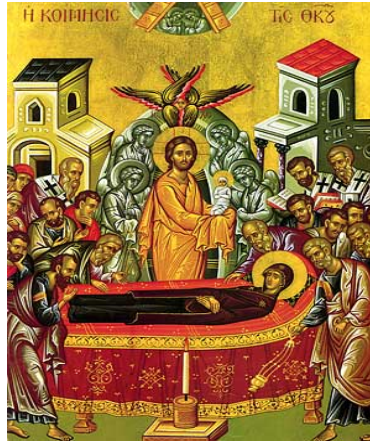


PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

14 August 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 we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. It is normally held on 15 August but this year is transferred from Monday to Sunday. In certain countries it is celebrated on other days. The Orthodox Churches call today the feast of the Dormition or Falling Asleep of Our Lady. They describe today in very florid terms: The Feast of the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos (God Bearer) and Ever-Virgin Mary. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition and in the Greek *kimisis*) or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos.

We do not know for sure when or where Our Lady died. One tradition suggests Ephesus but most traditions suggest Jerusalem. There is a church next to the Garden of Gethsemane dedicated to the Dormition of Our Lady, cared for by Benedictine monks. One of the traditions said that before she died, the apostles gathered around her bedside. Following her death her body was carried in procession to the Garden of Gethsemane and laid in a tomb. This tradition also says that St Thomas arrived sometime after the burial and begged to be allowed to see the body. When the stone was rolled back, just as at Our Lord's Resurrection, the tomb was found to be empty. It is just a tradition but when the bishops of the world met in 451AD for the Council of Chalcedon, the Byzantine Emperor asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Our Lady to Constantinople. The Patriarch explained that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "Mary had died in the presence of the apostles, but her tomb, when opened later, was found empty and so the apostles

concluded that the body was taken up into heaven." The icon on the front cover of today's newsletter shows Our Lady surrounded by the apostles. Above is Our Lord holding in his arms the pure soul of the Virgin Mary.

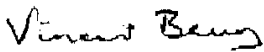
From earliest times the Church has believed that after death Our Lady was assumed (taken up) into heaven but the dogma was only proclaimed as church teaching by Pope Pius XII in 1950: "According to the general rule, God does not grant to the just the full effect of the victory over death until the end of time has come. And so it is that the bodies of even the just are corrupted after death, and only on the last day will they be joined, each to its own glorious soul. Now God has willed that the Blessed Virgin Mary should be exempted from this general rule. She, by an entirely unique privilege, completely overcame sin by her Immaculate Conception, and as a result she was not subject to the law of remaining in the corruption of the grave, and she did not have to wait until the end of time for the redemption of her body. Thus, when it was solemnly proclaimed that Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, was from the very beginning free from the taint of original sin, the minds of the faithful were filled with a stronger hope that the day might soon come when the dogma of the Virgin Mary's bodily Assumption into heaven would also be defined by the Church's supreme teaching authority." And so the pope proclaimed something formally that had always been accepted by Christians from the earliest time.

There is no mention of Our Lady's death in the Scriptures. The Scriptures tell us the story of Our Lord but the evangelists only record what needs to be known. In St John's Gospel we are told that not everything that Jesus said or did is recorded in the Gospels. There is

enough to help us believe. There is no record details of the death of St Joseph or the martyrdom of St Peter and St Paul. Yet we believe that these events did happen.

St Paul tells us that our true homeland is in heaven. That is our destiny. We are pilgrims in this life. We were born damaged by the effects of the original sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve. We needed baptism to be cleansed of this. When our pilgrimage of faith comes to an end, we cross over the threshold of death and, provided we are in a state of grace, we are invited to join Our Lord in his kingdom. At the end of time our bodies and souls will be reunited. Our Lady was given two special privileges. She was protected from original sin at what we call her immaculate conception. She was conceived without sin. At the end of her life her body was not allowed to corrupt but was assumed (taken up) into heaven.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

MARGARET VALENTINE RIP

The family of Margaret have sent the following message to Canon Berry: We all wanted to say how beautiful Mum's requiem mass was last Friday and to say a huge thank you. It was made very special by all your efforts but also the lovely flower ladies who had worked so hard and made the church look spectacular and to the parishioners who sang their hearts out and made the service one of celebration, as well as sadness. It has been a huge comfort to all four of us. If you could convey our thanks to the congregation, that would be very much appreciated as we didn't have a chance to speak to everyone.

FIRST COMMUNIONS 2017

For the past three years the catechism classes have been on Saturday mornings from 10.30 to 11.30 am. We would like to discuss again with parents if this is the most convenient time. Please be aware that our catechists are volunteers and we also have to take into account what is convenient for them. To discuss this there will be a parents meeting on Saturday 24 September (10.30 to 11.30 am) when parents will register their children. The children will at the same have their first catechism class. Application forms are available today at the back of church.

FARE SHARE FOOD

A charity called FareShare is currently working in partnership with Tesco to divert their daily food surplus from the landfill by redistributing it to local charities. Local cafés and bakeries might like to join the scheme. Local charities might wish to benefit from this. The aim of the scheme is to redistribute fit to eat food from the store level directly to charities, not-for-profits and community groups. Tesco Extras and Superstores across the Thames Valley will begin to donate food from 22nd August 2016. More information can be obtained from the website: www.fareshare.org.uk.

CHEQUES

Please note that following the closure of HSBC in Tring, cheques must be made payable to **Tring Catholic Church** which is the name of the parish bank account. Cheques made out to Corpus Christ or Corpus Christi Church will not be accepted at our new bank.

Notices for the week beginning 14 August 2016

Sunday 14 August 2016 Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady

Mass Book, pages 7 and 188

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

10.30 am P J Cunningham (Anniversary)

Monday *Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *St Stephen of Hungary*

No Mass

Wednesday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Wendy Hinds (Sick)

Thursday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Wendy Hinds (Sick)

Friday *Feria*

No Mass

Saturday *St Bernard of Clairvaux*

Confessions: 10.00 to 10.30 am; 5.15 to 5.45 pm

Baptisms: 11 am Luca Rabbini; 12 noon Harry Miller

Sunday 21 August 2016 21 Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.00 pm (Vigil) People of the Parish; 8.30 am Jack Godwin (Lately Dead);

10.30 am Private Intention

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Debbie Bewley, Nina & Erica De Cesco, Melanie Edwards, Patrick Foster, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Adeline Lewis, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen, Sam Patel, Lana Ridley, Tara Ridley, Elizabeth Rogers, Warren Ward, Anne Wilkinson and Susan Wright; **Lately Dead:** Georgette Cave, Jack Godwin and Margaret Valentine **Anniversaries:** Sister Mary Bernadette, Sister Bertha Gonzaga, Eileen Brady, P J Cunningham, Archibald Frost, Thomas Furlong, Alan Gray, John Keane, Peter Keough, Eleanor Lettin, Micada Matejak, Hermann Ostmann, Mark Pomichalek Harry Rogers, Mary Sanger and Henrietta Thorpe. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2016		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
20/21 August	E	F Sherratt M Todd	A Halliday S Whitehead	H Houston
	R	M Sherratt D Leadbeater	W Winstone D Crauford	G Maloney P Apps
	W		S Kerr	J Brown

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £236.76

Loose: £138.97

Building Fund £43.50