

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

7 August 2016



**Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry**  
**Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA**  
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**Pastoral Assistant: Wendy Hinds 01442 824369**

**Hall Bookings: Nicola Hickey 01442 826906**

**Youth Worker: Dan Marsh 07776 124434 email: [danyouthwork@gmail.com](mailto:danyouthwork@gmail.com)**

**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.**

**WEBSITE <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/tring/>**

## ***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

When St Francis first visited Assisi there was a ruined church in the valley below the town. He was outside the church praying when he heard God saying to him: "Rebuild my church." He set about rebuilding it. When he had finished he realised he had misunderstood the message. God wanted him to reach out to the ordinary people in villages and country places who were being starved of God's grace. He gathered his group of followers in front of the restored church and together they dedicated themselves to preaching the Gospel to the poor, especially the spiritual poor. The small church came to be known as the Portiuncula which means a "small piece of land." Years later, after the death of Francis, a new church was built around the Portiuncula and dedicated to St Mary of the Angels. Each year on 2 August people gather at the little church for what is called the Pardon of the Portiuncula. It was for this reason that Pope Francis made a pilgrimage to the shrine a few days ago.

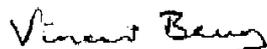
He explained that people had gathered at Assisi to celebrate and experience God's mercy for 800 years in the tiny stone church of the Portiuncula, Pope Francis said people need to experience God's forgiveness and start learning how to forgive others. He said: "Too many people are caught up in resentment and harbour hatred because they are incapable of forgiving. They ruin their own lives and the lives of those around them rather than finding the joy of serenity and peace,"

In his homily to his fellow pilgrims he said that St Francis could ask for nothing greater than "the gift of salvation, eternal life and unending joy" for the townsfolk of Assisi. The pope said: "Forgiveness – pardon – is surely our direct route to that place in heaven" that Jesus promised his followers. What a great gift the Lord has given us in teaching us to forgive and, in this way, to touch the Father's mercy!" He later said: "Jesus teaches us to forgive and to do so without limit. God's forgiveness is "like a caress," so different from the gesture of a threatening fist accompanied by the words, "You'll pay for that!" The pardon St Francis preached at the

Portiuncola, is as necessary as ever. In this Holy Year of Mercy, it becomes ever clearer that the path of forgiveness can truly renew the Church and the world. To offer today's world the witness of mercy is a task from which none of us can feel exempt."

I will always remember the message of Cardinal Hume. He described life as a pilgrimage and ourselves as a pilgrim people, journeying by faith to God's kingdom. He said many of us would prefer the security of Solomon's temple but perhaps we should rather accept the simplicity of Abraham's tent. All over the world huge numbers of people are on the move. Whether we call them migrants, refugees or asylum seekers, it is estimated that the world has not seen such a high level of migration since the end of World War II. In 1959-60 World Refugee Year was declared to find permanent homes for the people still in refugee camps all over Europe. It was a great success and the camps were emptied and millions of displaced people were able to have a new and lasting secure home.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

#### **A MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL NICHOLS**

Last Wednesday Cardinal The cardinal spoke to Westminster Diocese's World Youth Day pilgrims during his homily at Mass in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Krakow. He encouraged young Catholics to explore what the mystery of Christ gives to them as "builders of a better world" and urged them not to be discouraged by those who are persecuted and killed due to their faith. He reflected on the murder of 84-year-old priest Fr Jacques Hamel, and challenged the group by asking them what they are going to do, what they are going to build and what they want to be. He asked the pilgrims to keep the words of St Paul in mind and explore them in a serious way. He said that St Paul invites us to understand the depths he sees in the mystery of Christ. He wants us to understand the depth of the mystery of Christ.

Referring to the death of Fr Hamel, he said: "It's hard to understand why people do those things. It's born of a fanaticism but it makes us stop and ask questions about our world and about ourselves. It makes me ask the question, 'Would I be ready for that?' "As young people, I hope it might just make you ask: What are you going to do? What are you going to build? What do you want to be? You're the ones who will be the builders of what is going to come.

#### **OLYMPIC GAMES**

The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games took place on Friday evening in Rio de Janeiro. For the first time, a team of refugee athletes from around the world will compete in the Games.

Just braving the dangers of escaping oppressive situations of conflict and persecution isn't enough for some people. They want to show the world their resilience and untapped talent. The United Nations refugee agency is giving them that opportunity by hosting the first ever team of refugee athletes to compete in the Olympic Games in Rio. Ten refugees were chosen from the more than 59.5 million people displaced from their homes around the world to form the Refugee Olympic Athletes team.

#### **FIRST COMMUNIONS 2017**

The First Communion Mass will be on Saturday 20 May 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.

#### **GOING GREEN FOR GOD**

For several years parishes, schools and religious communities have benefited from getting equipment and services at a discount from an organisation set up by our bishops called Church Market Place. The Westminster Diocese has also negotiated reduced prices for electricity supplies. A new organisation with the long title of Interdiocesan Fuel Management Ltd (IFM) has recently been set up. In alliance with Church Market Place it will enable over 3000 parishes throughout the country to buy "green" electricity from renewable sources. The Church in England and Wales will thus be working in harmony with the appeal of Pope Francis to show a care for the environment. It will also save parishes more than £180,000 a year. IFM will shortly invite schools and other organisations to join the scheme.

## **Notices for the week beginning 7 August 2016**

#### **Sunday 7 August 2016 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mass Book, pages 7 and 121

6.00 pm (Vigil) People of the Parish; 8.30 am Charlie Lynch (Anniversary);

10.30 am David Bohane (Lately Dead)

Monday *St Dominic*

No Mass

Tuesday *St Teresa Benedicta*

No Mass

Wednesday *St Lawrence*

Mass 10.00 am Patrick O'Sullivan (Lately Dead)

Thursday *St Clare*

Mass 10.00 am Bill Flanagan (Sick)

Friday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Margaret Leadbeater (Anniversary)

followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday *St Pontian and St Hippolitus*

Confessions: 10.00 to 10.30 am; 5.15 to 5.45 pm

Baptisms: 11 am Luca Rabbini; 12 noon Harry Miller

**Sunday 14 August 2016 Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady**

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

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:** David Bohane, Tony Hawes, Patrick O'Sullivan and Margaret Valentine; **Anniversaries:** Sister Agnes de Chantal David, Peggy Abbotts, Ellen Arthur, Tony Bambridge, Rodney Dentith, Lloyd Groves, Valentine Humphrys, Michael Hurley, Joyce Jackson, Oliveira Jennings, Theresa Kimura, Margaret Leadbeater, George Lewis, Leslie Lewis, Roger Lewis, Charlie Lynch, Paula Medicott, Enrico Messeri, Neil Moore, Nora Rafter, Max Regensteiner, Nicholas Robinson, Mary Smith and Anna Watson. May they rest in peace.

### PARISH MINISTRIES

2016		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
13/14 August	E	O Conway M Leadbeater	A Halliday K Andrew	P Apps
	R	M Hart J Lee	C Pennicott S Wright	H Houston S Lewington
	W	M Miles	D Kerr	

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes: £172.01

Loose: £193.31

Building Fund £35.00

July Standing Orders:

Offertory £1,971.00

Building Fund £96.00