

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

19 March 2017



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

Parish Youth Worker: Pete Emmott pete@youthshb.org.uk 07541 412 128

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

Water is one of the most important things we need to survive in this world. According to scientific studies, water makes up to 60-75 percent of our total body fluid. In the Old Testament, water is a common metaphor for spiritual satisfaction. The first reading at mass today tells us of the ordeal of the Israelites in the wilderness. After four hundred and thirty years of slavery in Egypt, God came to deliver them but they grumbled against Moses, and consequently, against God because they were thirsty. God instructed Moses to strike the rock. From it water came forth. The Israelites drank, and were satisfied. Both the rock Moses struck, and the water that gushed out from it prefigure Our Lord. He is both the rock of our salvation, and our eternal living water. On this third Sunday of Lent, we also need a spiritual drink from the living water that flows from Christ, the Rock of Ages, in order to quench our spiritual thirst this Lenten season.

In today's second reading, Paul described how the love of Christ, "*is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.*" Here, Paul implicitly mentions water by the use of the verb: "*to pour.*" He reminds us also of how helpless our life was and could still be without Christ, the Living Water. In other words, through his death, Christ made himself the source of our own life. In today's gospel, Jesus presents himself to the Samaritan woman as Living Water. This underscores the importance of Christ in our life. The lesson from this, is we must not discriminate against people on the basis of their race or culture. Jesus knew quite well who the woman was and her life history. Yet, he approached her for a drink. Jesus' aim was actually, to draw her closer to himself. According to Jewish practice he should have nothing to do with the woman. By breaking the silence and going against social customs and prejudices between Jews and Samaritans, Jesus becomes the gift of God to this woman and her people. Like Jesus therefore, we must be ready to take risks. This is what Pope Francis has always done as a priest, as a bishop and finally as pope.

Last Sunday you responded generously to the CAFOD appeal. I am sorry that it is necessary to call on your generosity again in so short a time but tragedies do not call to order. In the last few days we have seen terrible pictures on television of the people of East Africa who are suffering so much. Even Bob Geldoff, who launched the original Live Aid Appeal years ago in Ethiopia, has said that the situation in East Africa is much worse. Millions of men, women and children are in need of urgent help in South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya. If we don't act now the famine already in parts of South Sudan will spread across the rest of the country. The Disasters Emergencies Committee (DEC) comprises CAFOD, OXFAM, Save the Children and other charities who come together at a time of crisis to work with partners overseas to share resources for those in desperate need. This is such a time. People are dying daily from hunger and malnutrition across East Africa. This is the worst humanitarian crisis since 1945 Sixteen million people in East Africa are on the brink of starvation and urgently need food, water and medical treatment. Please give what you can. There will be a special collection at mass next Sunday.

Yours sincerely

Vincent Berry

Parish Priest

LENT FAST DAY

Thank you for your kind response to the appeal last Sunday for the Lent Fast Day which came to £492.69.

LENT LUNCHES

Every Wednesday during Lent, a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese is served from 12 noon to 2.00 pm in aid of Christian Aid. The local church communities in Tring and some local villages act as hosts on the following Wednesdays: 22nd March St Cross, Wilstone Village Hall; 29th March High Street Baptist Church; 5th April St Peter & St Paul Parish Hall; 12th April St Martha's Church. We would be glad of helpers when Corpus Christi Parish acts as host on Wednesday 15 March, 12 noon to 2.00 pm. We would like to thank all who came to our parish hall last Wednesday.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Those of you who use planned giving envelopes will know that your present supply is nearly finished. The new supply is available at the back of Church.

PARISH DIARY

There are still a few copies left of our parish diary. The publishers are now preparing next year's diary and are looking for adverts to subsidise the cost of printing etc. If you are interested in including an advert for your company or service, please contact David of Nordic Press by phone on 01530 811629.

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

The Governors of St Thomas More Catholic Primary School & Nursery, Berkhamsted wish to appoint a Deputy Head to join our thriving school. Please contact the school on 01442 385060 for further details. The present Deputy Head, Fionnuala Smith, has been appointed as Head Teacher of St Cuthbert Mayne Primary School, Hemel Hempstead. We wish her every blessing for the future.

ANNUAL MASS IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Cardinal Nichols invites couples who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+, to join him for a thanksgiving mass at Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 3rd June at 3pm. Please send your contact details to Canon Berry not later than 24th March 2017, so that personal invitations from the Cardinal can be sent in time.

COME AND SEE

Come and See - becoming a Permanent Deacon. Men wanting to know more about the permanent diaconate are invited to come to a two hour meeting at St Edward the Confessor, 700 Finchley Rd, Golders Green, NW11 7NE on Saturday 25th March from 10am to 12. No booking needed. Wives welcome. Contact details Deacon Adrian Cullen 07961 594725 or Deacon Anthony Clark 07545 373548.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Westminster Cathedral Choir and Orchestra will be having a Lenten Concert on Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 7.30pm. The concert will include the ever-popular *Miserere* by Allegri, *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* by Vaughan Williams and the powerful meditation on the *Seven Last Words from the Cross* by James MacMillan. Tickets are available from the Cathedral Gift Shop, or from www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

Notices for the week beginning 19 March 2017

Sunday 19 March Third Sunday of Lent

Mass Book, pages 7 and 158

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Father Jim Fanning (Lately Dead); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am Anna Correia Lewington (Lately Dead)

10.30 am Private Intention

Monday **St Joseph, Husband of Our Lady, Foster Father of Jesus**

No Mass

Tuesday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Richard Berry (Anniversary)

Thursday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Susanna Horwood (Anniversary)

Friday **Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord**

Mass 10.00 am Wendy Hinds (Sick)

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 26 March Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Dr Michael Rogers (Lately Dead); 8.30 am Private Intention;

10.30 am Anna Correia Lewington (Lately Dead)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Father Peter Burke, Debbie Bewley, Edith Burch, Lily Butler, Patrick Foster, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Rita Laverty, Adeline Lewis, Peter McDonald, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen and Anne Wilkinson; **Lately Dead:** Father Jim Fanning; **Anniversaries:**

Sister Louise Aimée, Sister Margarita-Cecilia, Arnold Allen, Helen Andrew, Gerard Barker, Arthur Berry, Richard Berry, Eleanor Brogan, Teresa Butler, Beryl Carter, Neil Clarke, Sybil Clay, Eric Cooper, Nicholas Egan, Linda Gallagher, Cathrine Gannon, Maude Grant-Scarfe, Norman Hodge, Susanna Horwood, Stella Kowalewski, Henry Gordon Lloyd, Joseph McCorckle, John Povey, Ursula Robjohn, Reginald Sherratt, Loraine Waters, Raymond Weed and Timothy Whrlan. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
25/26 Mar	E	F Sherratt M Todd	A Halliday L Hutt	H Houston
	R	M Sherratt M Miles	D Crauford L Hutt	P Apps G Maloney
	W		S Kerr	J Brown

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £226.10