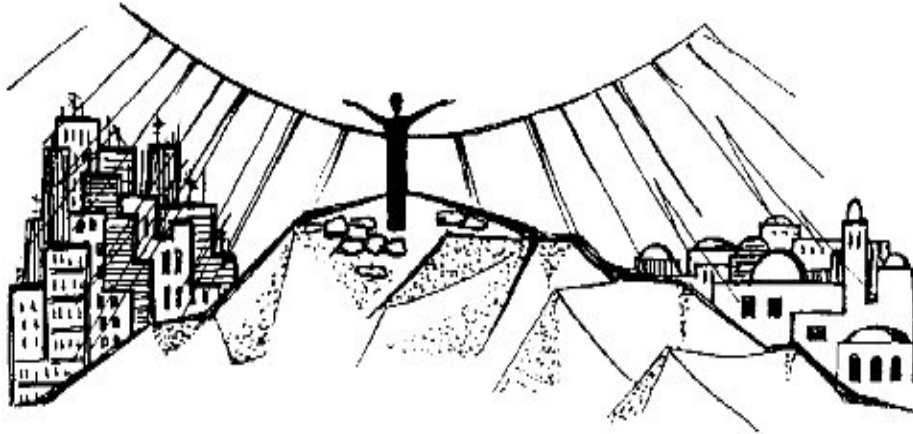


# PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

5 March 2017



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Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA  
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Pastoral Assistant: Wendy Hinds 01442 824369  
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Parish Youth Worker: Pete Emmott [pete@youthshb.org.uk](mailto:pete@youthshb.org.uk) 07541 412 128

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.

## *Times of Services*

<b>Sunday</b>	Mass: 6.00 pm (Vigil), 8.30 am and 10.30 am
<b>Holydays</b>	Mass: 10.00 am and 7.30 pm
<b>Weekday</b>	Mass: Wednesday to Friday 10.00 am
<b>Saturday</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.00 – 10.30 am 5.15 – 5.45 pm

## *Letter from Langdon Street*

My dear people

Lent has always been a special time for us in the Church. The word Lent comes from an Anglo-Saxon word for spring-time, the season of lengthening days. In the early centuries of the Church it was a special time for the catechumens, people who were preparing to join the Church at Easter. Until they were baptised they could only attend the first part of the mass, the part we used to call the Mass of the Catechumens which we now call the Liturgy of the Word.

People who had fallen from grace through sin were marked out as Penitents and for the period of time they were carrying out a penance they too had to leave before the Offertory, the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Today, the First Sunday of Lent, is the day we begin to accompany Our Lord on his forty day journey. St Matthew tells us the story of his “desert experience” temptations in the wilderness. In our modern times we hear of people going to boot camps or training camps. Jesus experienced a time of fasting, praying and soul-searching. The strength he gained enabled him to confront his temptations. Our first parents gave way to the first temptation, the original sin, and fell from grace.

“Forty days” was a Hebrew expression meaning a considerable period of time, as seen in various incidents in Jewish history: the forty days of rain in Noah’s time which he spent in the ark in prayer; the forty days which Moses spent on the mountain with God to receive the Ten Commandments; the forty days the prophet Elijah travelled on the strength of the meal which the angel had given him to reach Mount Horeb, the Mountain of God.

The message for us in today's readings from the Scriptures is three-fold: we are to confront and conquer temptations as Jesus did; we are to grow in holiness by prayer, reconciliation and sharing with others during Lent. We must try to find time to follow the path Jesus offered us at mass on Ash Wednesday: prayer, fasting and abstinence.

As we start our journey through Lent, we are invited by Our Lord to adopt the same confidence that he had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

#### **LENT FAST DAY**

The annual appeal for CAFOD takes place next Friday. The very first Family Fast Day was held on Friday 11 March 1960, when volunteer members of the National Board of Catholic Women raised funds for a mother and baby clinic on the island of Dominica. The following year the Bishops of England and Wales decided to set up an agency which would provide long term help for people in what was then called the Third World. They called it the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development. It is now called the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, usually known as CAFOD. This year, the Lent Fast Day is next Friday 10 March, and focuses on the work that CAFOD and their other partners are doing in Zambia. We have included an envelope with today's newsletter. There will be a second collection at mass next Sunday. Please put your envelope in the blue bags which will be circulated after Holy Communion.

#### **LENT LUNCHESES**

Every Wednesday during Lent, a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese is served from 12 noon— 2pm in aid of Christian Aid. The local church communities in Tring and some local villages act as hosts on the following Wednesdays: 8th March New Mill Baptist Church; 15th March Corpus Christi Church Hall; 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.

#### **PRAYER BREAKFASTS IN 2017**

Everyone is welcome at the Prayer Breakfasts which take place in different churches in Tring on the first Saturdays of each month. The breakfasts start at 8.30 am with breakfast and a chat followed by half an hour of prayer led by the host community. Dates for the rest of the year are as follows:

1 April St Martha's Methodist Church; 6 May Corpus Christi Church; 3 June St Peter & St Paul's Church; 1 July New Mill Baptist Church; 5 August High Street Baptist Church; 2 September St Martha' Methodist Church; 7 October Corpus Christi Church; 4 November St Peter & St Paul's Church; 2 December New Mill Baptist 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.

#### **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

If you are engaged to be married you will need to do a marriage preparation course. There will be a two day course on the 11th/12th March at Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead. For more information contact Charles and Krysia Golabek on their website where you can find more details about the weekend and can also book: [wwme.org.uk/marriage-preparation](http://wwme.org.uk/marriage-preparation)

#### **MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS**

Following the Year of Mercy we in the Westminster Diocese are being offered a number of events which may be of help to us. As part of a season of prayer and action 'Called to Serve the Sick', Cardinal Nichols wants this to be a time to remember, to pray, to give thanks and to entrust our children to the Lord.

The first is a mass for bereaved parents at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 11 March at 2.30 pm. It will be celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan. During Mass, after the homily, parents will be invited to write the name of their deceased child on a card and the cards will be taken along with the offertory to the sanctuary.

#### **ANNUAL MASS IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Cardinal Nichols invites couples who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 60+, to join him for a thanksgiving mass at Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## **Notices for the week beginning 5 March 2017**

### **Sunday 5 March First Sunday of Lent**

Mass Book, pages 7 and 151

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) People of the Parish; 8.30 am Dominic Rocha

10.30 am Private Intention

Monday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Lent Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Friday *Lent Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Special Intention

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 12 March Second Sunday of Lent**

Mass 6.00 pm (Vigil) Thanksgiving; 8.30 am Private Intention

10.30 am People of the Parish

#### PRAYERS

Please pray for: *Sick*: Father Peter Burke, Debbie Bewley, Edith Burch, Patrick Foster, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Rita Laverty, Adeline Lewis, Peter McDonald, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen and Anne Wilkinson; *Anniversaries*: Dorothy Adams, Alice Brannon, Mark Carroll, Gina Davey, Theodosia Grabowski, Helen Hart, Walter Hawkins, Frances Pennock, Katy Puma, June Roberts, Lino Sammut, Alice Sherratt and Michael Toman. May they rest in peace.

#### PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
11/12 March	E	F Sherratt M Todd	A Halliday K Andrew	H Houston A De Cesco
	R	M Sherratt M Miles	L Hutt D Crauford	S Lewington P Apps
	W		S Kerr	

#### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £197.00    Loose £181.52    Building Fund £40.50

February Standing Orders: Offertories £1,622.00    Building Fund £96.00