

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

28 May 2017



Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry

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 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

Last Wednesday I celebrated the fifty-fifth anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. We had a wonderful thanksgiving mass. Father Brian Reynolds was also celebrating his anniversary. We were both ordained by Cardinal Godfrey at Westminster Cathedral on Thursday 24 May 1962. Archbishop George Stack joined us and delivered a very moving sermon. We had a great congregation of parishioners and friends at the mass and we had a great party afterwards. My sincere thanks to all who prepared the food and drink. We were also blessed with really fine weather for the occasion.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, transferred from last Thursday. St Augustine of Hippo in North Africa proclaimed these words on the Feast: "Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies." When we were baptised, we were incorporated into Jesus Christ, made members of his Body, the Church. Therefore, as St Augustine also wrote, "Where the Head is, there is the Body, where I am, there is my Church, we too are one; the Church is in me and I in her and we two are your Beloved and your Lover."

The apostles were amazed when they saw Jesus being raised up into heaven. Being lifted up happens in our lives. When something special happens we jump up in the air or throw things into the air. Yesterday we saw the FA Cup being lifted up in delight by the winning team. Our Lord's Ascension was a sign of victory.

One of our greatest English saints was St Bede who lived in the eighth century. He spent all his adult life in a monastery in Jarrow. We celebrated his feast a few days ago. He wrote a book on the history of the Church in England starting with the martyrdom of St Alban right down to his own lifetime. He wrote a number of sermons on the mystery of Our Lord's Ascension and a beautiful hymn in honour of the Ascension which we will sing at mass today: *New praises be given to Christ newly crowned,*

who back to his heaven a new way hath found;

St Bede is buried in the Galilee Chapel of Durham Cathedral. Engraved on his tomb is the following prayer:

O Christ, our Morning Star, Splendour of Light Eternal, shining with the glory of the rainbow, come and waken us from the greyness of our apathy, and renew in us your gift of hope. Amen.

Yours sincerely

Vincent Berry

Parish Priest

PENTECOST NOVENA

A novena is nine days of prayer. The first novena was the time the apostles spent together after they had witnessed Our Lord's Ascension until the Holy Spirit came down on the Feast of Pentecost. They had returned to the Upper Room where the Last Supper took place and where Jesus visited them on Easter Sunday evening. In the Acts of the Apostles that they devoted time to prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus and other disciples.

On May 4, 1897, Pope Leo XIII proclaimed: "We decree and command that throughout the whole Catholic Church, this year and in every subsequent year, a novena shall take place before Whit-Sunday (Pentecost), in all parish churches." The purpose of this novena was to pray for the re-union of Christendom, the re-union of all the churches. This novena was overtaken in many places by the Church Unity Octave but continued to be ordered by the Church until recently.

It has now been taken up again by a global prayer movement, called *The Kingdom come*. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has given it considerably publicity and many churches have taken it up.

Here in Tring we are invited to be part of **Eight till Eight** next Saturday 3rd June at St Peter and St Paul's Parish Church where there will be a drop-in day of prayer from 8.00 am until 8.00 pm. It will include the monthly Prayer Breakfast from 8.30 to 9.30 am. Throughout the day there will be activities, short talks music, fresh ideas, and a chance to explore and experience different forms of prayer. Come when you like. Stay as long as you like.

SPEC RETREAT CENTRE, PINNER

SPEC is the residential Catholic retreat centre for children and young people in the Diocese of Westminster. It was based at All Saints Pastoral Centre near St Albans in Hertfordshire until March 2014 when it moved to new premises in Pinner, Middlesex. SPEC is an integral part of Westminster Youth Ministry and works closely with colleagues based at the Centre for Youth Ministry in Somers Town. SPEC is dedicated to providing a space for children and young people to retreat from the busyness of daily life in order to reflect on – and hopefully experience – the presence of God in their lives. SPEC is also dedicated to providing a year of formation for the volunteer missionaries who share in the life and work of the SPEC Community. SPEC has two vacancies for young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 who might consider spending a year at SPEC as a Volunteer Missionary. For further information please contact SPEC at Waxwell House, 125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 3EP. Telephone: 020 3757 2500 2500; E-mail: spec@rcdow.org.uk; Twitter: [@SPEC_Community](https://twitter.com/SPEC_Community); or on Facebook: [Facebook.com/speccentre](https://www.facebook.com/speccentre).

DAY OF PRAYER FOR SYRIA

War and conflict in Syria has led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands since 2011 and the displacement of millions. Our bishops are encouraging the Catholic community in England and Wales to pray for Syria and its people on the Feast of St Ephrem - 9 June 2017. In his Easter Message Urbi et Orbi Pope Francis said: "May the Risen Lord sustain the efforts of all those actively engaged in bringing comfort and relief to the civil population in beloved Syria, so greatly suffering from a war that continues to sow horror and death."

St Ephrem was a fourth century Syrian who suffered social injustice but, when Syria faced times of famine and conflict, he volunteered to distribute food fairly among the people and inspired them to unite for the common good.

Notices for the week beginning 28 May 2017

Sunday 28 May Sunday of the Ascension

Mass Book, pages 7 and 268

6.00 pm (Vigil) David Briggs; 8.30 am Michael Shelley (Anniversary);

10.30 am John and Andrew Livingstone (Anniversary)

Monday *Easter Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Easter Feria*

No Mass

1.00 pm

Wednesday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Thanksgiving Mass for Canon Berry & Fr Brian Reynolds

Thursday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Thanksgiving Mass for Canon Berry & Fr Brian Reynolds

Friday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Tom Apps

Saturday *Our Lady of Fatima*

Confessions 10.00 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

Sunday 4 June Feast of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

6.00 pm (Vigil) David Briggs; 8.30 am Michael Shelley (Anniversary);

10.30 am John and Andrew Livingstone (Anniversary)

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** 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:** David Briggs, Geogina Butcher, Andrew Lawless, Stephen Lehane, Kevin McHugh and Jincy Shiju; **Anniversaries:** Monsignor Denis McGuinness, Sr Gianni De Carli, Oliver Bambridge, Rupert Bambridge, Constance Crowhurst, Denis Dennehy, Grace Lois Edwards, Edmund Faunce, James Highfield, Annette Homer, Clara Hoops, Violet Kent, Casimir Kowalewski, David Lovekin, Mary Ann McDonnell, Antonio Martinez, Teodoro Palomares, Michael Shelley, Felicis Talarowski and Kathleen Thompson, May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
27/28 May	E	F Sherratt G Booth	A Halliday K Andrew	P Apps
	R	M Sherratt J Lee	L Hutt D Crauford	S Lewington G Maloney
	W		S Kerr	

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £484.50

Loose £214.06

Building Fund £314.50

