

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

7 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**

**Hall Bookings: Nicola Hickey 01442 826906**

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

## *Letter from Langdon Street*

My dear people

This weekend we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, a day when we pray specially for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. In this diocese we also have a special collection to help fund the formation and training of future priests who will devote their lives striving to follow Christ the Good Shepherd to serve the people of God in the Diocese of Westminster.

Sheep farming was a regular part of life in the Holy Land, which is why sheep and shepherds are a frequent image in both Old and New Testaments. We probably all know the Psalm, 'The Lord is my shepherd' and the hymn based on it. And there are the words of Jesus: 'Fear not, little flock, for it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom'. There is also the parable describing the Final Judgment as the separation of the sheep from the goats. Sheep were often kept overnight in sheepfolds which were often large circles of stone. The only way in was through a narrow opening to let the sheep in and out. At night the shepherd would spread his bedroll across the base of the opening and would sleep there. Predatory animals could only enter the sheepfold by crossing over the body of the shepherd which was something a wolf would not attempt to do. There were times when sheep belonging to different shepherds would get mixed in with each other. But that didn't pose much of a problem because the sheep recognized their own shepherd's voice and would follow only him. No need for painting colored dyes on the sheep. Voice recognition was enough.

In this country sheep are led to fresh pasture with the sheepdogs guiding the sheep in the right direction. The shepherd follows up in the rear to make sure the stragglers keep in line. In Palestine the shepherd goes out in front. The sheep would follow him listening to his voice. He might talk to the sheep or sing to them or play a tune on a tin whistle or some other musical instrument. Sometimes a sheep would go off on its own and become lost. Being out on their own sheep could easily be at risk from wolves and other predatory

while to go in search of the sheep that had strayed and got lost. There would always be rejoicing when the shepherd returned with the lost sheep on his shoulders.

Jesus compares himself to the hired hand who runs away when wolves attack the flock. He himself was prepared to lay down his life for his sheep. He was the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep and his sheep know him. He not only leads them to nourishing pasture; he will also protect them from mortal danger, even to the extent of laying down his own life. Pope Francis uses the image of the shepherd who knows the smell of his sheep. He reminds us of the care the Good Shepherd has for us and the assurance that he can be relied upon to give us all the nourishment we need. It also links this with his self-sacrifice – laying down his life for the sheep – by his death on the cross. Jesus is the Good Shepherd we desperately need. He laid his life down for us. True shepherding is a life of total self-giving. Sheep without a shepherd have no defence against the wolves of this world.

Yours sincerely

*Vincent Berry*

Parish Priest

#### **PRIESTS TRAINING FUND**

Today, on Good Shepherd Sunday, we pray specially for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. There is a second collection to help the formation and training of future priests in the Diocese of Westminster. At present we have thirty nine candidates who are studying for the priesthood at our diocesan seminary of Allen Hall in Chelsea and at three seminaries in Rome and Valladolid in Spain. Last year six men were ordained as priests for the Westminster Diocese and in June this year we hope to see even more priests ordained to work in our diocese. The Priests Training Fund, previously called the Westminster Ecclesiastical Education Fund (WEEF), needs to raise on average £25,000 per year to train each future priest with the full cost being £150,000. Priests are at the heart of the Catholic Church. Please be generous in your prayer and support. The fund also provides for priests undergoing specialist ministries, further education and ongoing enrichment to strengthen priests by means of sabbaticals and retreats.

#### **CANON BERRY'S EMERALD JUBILEE**

On Wednesday 24 May Canon Berry will celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood. You are invited to join him at the ten o'clock mass on that date. Archbishop George Stack will attend and preach. Father Brian Reynolds celebrates his jubilee on the same day and will also concelebrate mass. After mass, all are invited to continue the celebration with refreshments in the Parish Hall. It would help if you would sign your name on the list at the back of church so that we can provide enough refreshments.

#### **FRANK CLARK RIP**

Frank has been a long time member of St Martha's Methodist Church. He and his wife who died last year were active members of the Methodist Community for many years and always attended Churches Together events, such as yesterday's prayer breakfast, and were active members of the Justice & Peace group and the Bible Society. He will be sadly missed. May he rest in peace. His funeral service will be at 3.00 pm on Monday 15th May in St Martha's Church.

#### **COMMENT MAGAZINE**

'COMMENT' magazine is available this week - please take one. There is an article on the Woman's World Day of Prayer written by Caroline Burmaster and the photos are by Frances Sherratt, both from our parish. At the moment we are running pages on 100 Favourite Places, Favourite Books and Favourite Hymns. Just a few lines on a special book or hymn or a photo of a memorable place. The deadline for articles is 6th of the month. We really would like to increase the contributions from Corpus Christi so if you would like to put 'pen to paper' email Patricia Apps on [patriciaapps@aol.com](mailto:patriciaapps@aol.com) or on mobile: 07927313165

#### **BEREAVEMENT LUNCHESES**

The organisers invite you to one of these lunches which are held on the first Saturday of each month in St Peter and St Paul's Parish Hall. This lunch is for people who are on their own after losing a loved one. It gives them an opportunity to enjoy a meal together and the companionship of others who are in a similar position. The current team of helpers work in two teams on alternate months, 12 noon – 3 pm. They are in urgent need of helpers: Kitchen helpers - to serve meals and clear away afterwards - no cooking required; Drivers - to transport the diners to and from the Hall. If you would like to be a part of a team – or would like further information – please phone Pam Russell ( 82 65 33) or Sheila Whitehead ( 82 22 26).

## **Notices for the week beginning 7 May 2017**

### **Sunday 7 May Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)**

Mass Book, pages 7 and 262

6.00 pm (Vigil) Deceased members of the Byrd and Sherratt families; 8.30 am Private Intention (Shelley); 10.30 am Father Anthony Potter (Anniversary)

Monday *Easter Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *Easter Feria*

No Mass

Wednesday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Friday *Easter Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Sue Valentine

Saturday *Our Lady of Fatima*

Confessions 10.00 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

**Sunday 14 May Fifth Sunday of Easter**

6.00 pm (Vigil) Intentions of Frances Sherratt; 8.30 am Private Intention; 10.30 am People of the Parish

### PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Edith Burch, Lily Butler, Patrick Foster, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Rita Lavery, Adeline Lewis, Peter McDonald, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen and Anne Wilkinson; **Latently Dead:** Frank Clark; **Anniversaries:** Sister Françoise, Moyra Brooks, John Carter, Judy Clark, Margaret Cole, Joan Christian De Morgan, Bridget Golledge, Daniel Hurley, Ella Knock, Catherine O'Sullivan, Mary Parker, Derek Singleton, Peter Sobecinski, Mary Stan, Maria Stevens, Anne Whadcoat and Maria Weeks. May they rest in peace.

### PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
13/14 May	E	F Sherratt	A Halliday	H Houston
	R	M Leadbeater	L Hutt	
		M Hart	S Wright	G Maloney
	W	M Sherratt	L Hutt	S Lewingotn
			S Kerr	

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £276.74                  Loose £158.54                  Building Fund £38.50

April Standing Orders: Offertories: £1,856.00                  Building Fund: £96.00



You can print this out and scan the code for the Parish Website