

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

4 June 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

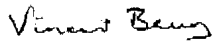
My dear people

Today is the fiftieth and last day of Eastertide. We call it the feast of Pentecost, a Greek word meaning fiftieth day. In Britain and Ireland it is also known as Whit Sunday. The vestments used today were originally white not red. There is mention of this in the early 13th-century poem called the *Ancrene Riwle*. Today is an important day in the history of the Church. In fact it marks the the beginning and first birthday of the Church. When Jesus took leave of the apostles he told them to go back to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit to come to them. Today's passage from the Acts of the Apostles describes what happened when the Holy Spirit came down upon them. As a result of Peter's first sermon three thousand people asked for baptism. From then on the Church began to grow and flourish. The apostles were still a fearful group of men until Pentecost. Most of them were uneducated fishermen and yet, after receiving the Spirit, the boldly preached about Our Lord as the Son of God and Saviour of the World. They received wisdom and knowledge. The Pharisees and leaders were amazed at the knowledge the apostles had acquired and the authority with which the spoke.

At the Last Supper, Jesus spoke of the Spirit as the Paraclete, the Friend who would stand by us. He also called the Spirit "the Spirit of Truth". The Biblical word that means "truth" also means "loyalty", and being loyal is an act of *love*. In the old marriage ceremony the bridegroom said to the bride: "I plight unto thee my troth." The bond of love that exists between a husband and wife is a gift of the Holy Spirit. This spreads to the growing community of the family. It also exists in the community of believers that is found in the parish family. St Augustine, one of the Fathers of the early Church, reminds us that a community is united by the things it loves, the

When we look at the civil society in which we find ourselves, we can see that in the lives of many people, we have ceased to be a true community of people who share the same values. It might still be possible to find genuine pockets of community here and there but these days many people lead very private if not lonely lives motivated by largely individualistic values. Jesus provides us with the model of a true human community. There was certainly much confusion in his own society in which Jewish values had to compete with Greek, Roman and other values. His response to this turbulent and often violent world was to bring to light the essential character of the God who had never forsaken his chosen people. He could only do this with conviction because he is the Son of that same God, literally One with the Father and the Spirit. Perhaps we can begin to understand why Pentecost was necessary and that is why the Church, at its best, *is* that perfect community for which all human beings long. Communities are united by their common values but a perfect community requires the presence of the Holy Spirit in each one of us, binding us together in perfect love. That perfect community is certainly to be found in heaven but even here on earth we can help to build it by communicating the merciful love of God to our own society and to the whole world.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

TRING – A FAIRTRADE TOWN

Tring has just been awarded the status as a Fairtrade Town for the tenth time. It was first given in 2007. This is a great honour for Tring and special congratulations are due to the Justice and Peace Group who have done sterling work to enable the Town to receive the award ten years ago and each time the award came up for renewal.

GENERAL ELECTION

The General Election next Thursday has come upon us very quickly. There are five candidates standing in the South West Hertfordshire Constituency. There are five candidates standing in this constituency and each has been asked by the Justice & Peace Group where they stand on certain issues. For the questions put and the responses received so far, please look up on the internet: www.justiceandpeacetring.org

SPEC RETREAT CENTRE, PINNER

SPEC is the residential Catholic retreat centre for children and young people in the Diocese of Westminster. In March 2014 it moved from All Saints Pastoral Centre 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).

JUSTICE AND PEACE YOUTH WORKER

The Westminster Diocese has appointed a new youth worker who will be part of the diocesan Justice and Peace Group. She is Julia Corcoran. She has previously worked with CAFOD and other organisations with a particular concern about climate change and Migration.

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.

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE

St Columba's is an independent Catholic boys' school in St Albans. It is holding an Open School Working Day on Friday 16th June. Means-tested bursaries are available for Catholic boys entering Year 7. Applications for September 2018 must be made by the end of October 2017. For further information, please contact: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org Direct line: 01727 892012.

Notices for the week beginning 4 June 2017

Sunday 4 June Feast of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Mass Book, pages 7 and 288

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

10.30 am Intentions of John and Emelia Collins

Monday *St Boniface*

No Mass

Tuesday *St Norbert*

No Mass

Wednesday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Baby Thomas Collins

Thursday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Ann De Cesco

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Natalie Browne

Saturday *Feria*

Confessions 10.00 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

Sunday 11 June Feast of Holy Trinity

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

10.30 am John and Andrew Livingstone (Anniversary)

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:** Geogina Butcher; **Anniversaries:** Patrick Boyce, Winifred Breadnam, William Chadfield, George Connell, August Dvorak, Joan Grabowski, Audrey Hughes, James Lawton, Andrew Livingstone, Mary Long, Cathrine McCorkle, Alice McDonald, Sandra Nelson, Sylvia Rodrigues, Hugh Rodway, Ron Spiteri, Tessa Stranaghan and Blanche Walczak. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
10/11 June	E	F Sherratt M Leadbeater	A Halliday K Andrew	H Houston
	R	D Leadbeater M Sherratt	L Hutt S Whitehead	G Maloney S Lewington
	W		S Kerr	J Brown

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £243.17 Loose £223.09 Building Fund £37.50

May Standing Orders: Offertories £1,686.00 Building Fund: £96.00