

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

23 July 2017



Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry

Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA
telephone 01442 823161 email tring@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/tring

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

Last Sunday we heard the first of a series of passages from St Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus talks to us through a group of parables which talk about the Kingdom of Heaven. Our Lord is using agricultural images to help people understand his message. Last Sunday we heard the parable of the sower, broadcasting seed which fell into different locations, the edge of the path, stony ground, thorns and finally rich soil. Today we hear three more parables – darnel sown with good seed, the mustard seed and the woman mixing yeast with flour to make dough that can be baked into bread.

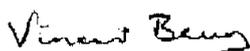
Today's parable is Christ's answer to the question so frequently asked: "Why does God permit evil to triumph so often in this world, why are the wicked allowed to prosper?" The triumph of the wicked is short-lived, the reward of the Christian who suffers from their wickedness is everlasting. The very wickedness and injustices of evil-doers are one of the ways that God uses to perfect his elect.

Darnel is a weed that is also known as cockle, tare and false wheat. It grows annually and looks just the same as wheat until the grains appear. The wheat grains are heavy and bend whereas the darnel grains are light and grown straight upwards. The wheat can therefore be identified distinct from the weed, the false wheat. So, in the parable, the wheat and weed, the good and the bad, are allowed to grow together until harvest time when they can be separated. The darnel is tied in bundles to be burnt and the wheat is gathered to be put in the farmer's barn. Our Lord uses the parable to explain how good and bad people live together but the day of judgement will sort out the good from the bad.

The Gospel today gives us to more images. There is the mustard seed which is tiny but grows into a shrub that sometimes grows up to nine feet high, tall enough for birds to nest in. Our Lord is telling us how the Church would have tiny beginnings in Jerusalem but would eventually spread all over the world. There is also the image that would have been familiar with his listeners. I can still remember watching my grandma baking bread and how the dough, left in front of the kitchen range, would expand from being a small lump of dough into a huge amount that filled the whole bowl.

These parables all make the same point, that the Kingdom of Heaven begins in a small way but eventually achieves universal proportions. I always think of the English expression: "from tiny acorns might oaks do grow." The parables are also telling us about the Church, the kingdom of God on earth. To be called into the Church is a grace, which we accept. But membership of the Church does not mean automatic entry into the kingdom. We are taught elsewhere in the Gospels: '*not everyone who says Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom.*', Life in the Church is demanding, like the growing of crops. There is constant struggle between the good seed, which is the life of Christ within us, and those evil forces, the weeds, which seek to destroy the kingdom on earth.

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

MESSAGE FROM FATHER DAVID BURKE

Fr David would like to meet parishioners before he takes over the parish. You are all welcome to come to a meeting with him on Wednesday 20 September at 7.30 pm in the parish hall.

PARISH CENSUS

We are updating our parish register. A registration form was included with last week's newsletter. There are spare forms on the table at the back of church. Please put the completed forms in the box on the table.

HELP WANTED

If you can help Canon to reorganise the office and move items from the Presbytery, and also help with filing and recycling unwanted articles, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS FOR 2017-2018

Registration forms are on the table at the back of church. Tricia and Catherine would also be glad of help in teaching the children. If anyone has received training as a catechist, please let us know. If anyone would be interested in receiving training, please let us know.

GREAT PUDDING QUIZ

Please make a note in your diary that the Justice and Peace Group are having another Great Pudding Quiz on Saturday 9 September in the Parish Hall.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

The Justice and Peace Group, affiliated to Churches Together in Tring, will hold its next meeting next Wednesday 26th July. It will be held at St Martha's Church, Park Road, at 7.30 pm. The meeting will include a talk by Andy Lillicrap of One Sky Foundation, Thailand, followed by question and answer session.

SUMMER ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON

Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea offers comfortable rooms in July and August. Beautiful gardens and chapel. Rooms from £50 per night (including breakfast). Website: www.allenhall.org.uk; Email: allenhall@rcdow.org.uk; Phone: 020 7349 5600 (option 0)

FOUNDATION DEGREE IN HEALTHCARE

Starting in October, St Mary's University Twickenham is pleased to offer a new foundation degree in Healthcare Ethics, Theology and Care. This is a part time two year programme for those seeking to be hospital chaplains and for people working in healthcare settings, from care homes, to hospices and hospitals. Lectures and seminars take place at St Mary's one evening a week and additional lectures and resources are available online. If you are interested in applying or finding out more please contact matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk

YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULT WEEKEND

Are you 18-40, do you want to deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith, learn its devotions and meet like minded people? Young Catholic Adults are organizing a weekend from 20 to 22 October at Douai Abbey (in Berkshire) with Lawrence Lew O.P., and Canon Poucin ICKSP. You'll be able to hear catechetical talks, learn how to sing Gregorian Chant, say the Rosary, socialize and have fun. Book soon as places are limited.

Notices for the week beginning 23 July 2017

Sunday 23 July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Book, pages 7 and 105

6.00 pm (Vigil) Margaret Valentine (Anniversary); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am Intentions of Michael and Eileen Hornsby

Monday *Feria*

No Mass

Tuesday *St James the Apostle*

No Mass

Wednesday *St Joachim and St Anne (parents of Our Lady)*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Marian Demidecli (Anniversary)

Friday *Feria*

Mass 10.00 am Intentions of Anne De Cesco

Saturday *St Martha*

Confessions 10.00 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

11.00 am Baptism of Archie Murphy

Sunday 30 July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6.00 pm (Vigil) Tony McQuillan (Lately Dead); 8.30 am People of the Parish;

10.30 am George Burmaster (Anniversary).

PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Edith Burch, Lily Butler, Barbara Dixon, Patrick Foster, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Rita Laverty, Adeline Lewis, Peter McDonald, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen, Beryl Taylor and Anne Wilkinson; **Lately Dead:** Canon Peter Gilbert and Tony McQuillan; **Anniversaries:** Father Calum MacLean, Sister Agnes Elizabeth, George Burmaster, Susan Cooper, Ron Cridland, Edward Domkoewski, Klara Fenersteni, Raphael Gordon, Alfred Grabowski, Theresa Maud Jones, Vincent Kowalewski, Margaret Leadbeater, Robert Matthews, Eli Ostmann, John Ralph, Isabella Taylor, Kay Whitmarsh. May they rest in peace.

PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
29/30 July	E	O Conway M Todd	L Hutt A Halliday	A De Cesco
	R	M Sherratt M Hart	C Pennicott D Crauford	P Apps G Maloney
	W		D Kerr	A Farrow

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £204.00

Loose £169.11

Building Fund £69.80