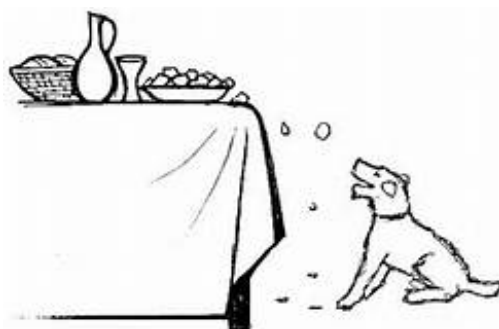


## PARISH NEWSLETTER

Corpus Christi Church, Langdon Street, Tring

20 August 2017



**Parish Priest: Canon Vincent Berry**  
**Presbytery: 51 Langdon Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6BA**  
**telephone 01442 823161 email [tring@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tring@rcdow.org.uk)**  
**Parish Website: <https://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](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*

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

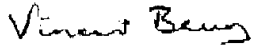
Last Sunday we heard about Our Lord walking on the waters of the Sea of Galilee, about Peter being called a “man of little faith” and the apostles honouring him as the the Son of God. Today Jesus and the apostles have left the land of Israel and encountered a pagan woman who was not of the Jewish Faith. We overhear her conversation with Jesus which also reveals his sense of humour. We tend to think of the Gospel as a serious message, which indeed it is, but it also reveals one of several occasions when Jesus laughs. The woman's cry for help is one of profound faith in Jesus. She was not Jewish but recognised Jesus as the Son of David, the Son of God. Her request is simple. Her daughter is possessed by a demon. We can hardly begin to imagine just what this woman and her daughter must have suffered. This poor woman believes that Jesus can free her daughter from her terrible affliction. In her sincere and humble faith the Canaanite woman stands in contrast with so many others in the Gospel. She does not ask for a sign, nor does she ask for the best place in his kingdom. This woman of faith simply asks that her daughter to be made well again.

When we read Matthew's Gospel it is hard not to sense the tension between Jesus' declaration that he has been sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel and the end of the Gospel when the Risen Jesus sends his disciples out to make disciples of all nations. The Canaanite woman called out to Jesus, "Son of David, take pity on me." In his reply the divide between Jew and Gentile was very real. But even though throughout his ministry Jews would reject Jesus, and eventually crucify him, he never rejects them. To do so would be the negation of God's covenant with the Israel, and his mission. The focus in this passage isn't on the healing of the child but on the woman's faith. The child is healed at a distance. The mother's confidence that Jesus can heal her daughter is unshakeable. The

woman will not be put off. When Jesus states the limited nature of his mission, she responds by expressing the true faith of Israel. She speaks like a Jew who believes in Jesus. She accepts that the food should rightly be given to the children, not to the dogs, but even the dogs can eat what falls from the table.

In her faith the woman acknowledges the distinction between Jew and Gentile but she also acts from the deep-felt conviction that this barrier can and will be overcome. The real miracle is the very fact that such faith could be found in the heart of this Gentile woman. Her faith is unshakeable. It seems that true faith in Jesus is found not always among those to whom he was sent, but to those outside of Israel. We are reminded of the wise men who travelled from the East, of the centurion, another gentile, whose servant was ill, and the centurion who witnessed the death of Jesus on Calvary and recognised him as "truly the son of God."

Yours sincerely



Parish Priest

#### **CARDINAL CORMAC MURPHY O'CONNOR**

Cardinal Cormac is seriously ill in hospital. Cardinal Nichols has written to ask for our prayers. In his letter he writes: "these loving prayers are a source of great strength and comfort as he calmly ponders on all that lies ahead, all in God's good time. May the Lord strengthen him in faith and trust and may the prayers of the Church, which he loves so much, comfort and uphold him."

#### **NEW CHURCH ROTA**

Sue Wright has prepared a new ministers rota which ends on 24 September, the last date before the change in mass times. Please contact Sue by email on [swright@aldbury.herts.sch.uk](mailto:swright@aldbury.herts.sch.uk) to let her know your preference for the new mass times of Saturday, 6.00 pm or Sunday, 10.15 am. Also, let her know if you have more than one ministry, Eucharistic minister, reader or welcome.

#### **HELP WANTED**

We would like to re-decorate the Parish Hall in preparation for the Cardinal's visit. He will be leading the Canon's retirement celebrations. If you are free on Saturday 2 September, from 10.00 am onwards, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

#### **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. Proceeds will go towards the Watford Refugee Project. Even if you cannot attend, please make a donation. Tickets cost £5 and will be available after mass today.

#### **PARISH CENSUS**

We are updating our parish register. A registration form was recently included with the weekly newsletter. There are spare forms on the table at the back of church. Please put the completed forms in the box on the table. The form is also available on the parish website which is listed on the front page of this newsletter.

#### **HELP WANTED**

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#### **MESSAGE FROM TRICIA APPS: SPOG IS BACK IN SEPTEMBER!**

SPOG is for primary children and their friends. It runs on Fridays 4.30 to 6pm ish! term time. Cost £1 only. It will start Friday 8 September - make a note in your diary. For those not in the know, SPOG means *Special People Of God!* who like Fun, Food and Faith. Let your children chill out at the end of the school week. In order for activities to run well help is needed: a. food, b. activities, c. chat and play with children. All is needed is a rapport with children. Child Safeguarding procedures apply. There will be more info at the back of church as to activities or you can catch me after 10.30 mass. Contact details: mobile 07927313165 or 01442 822352.

#### **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 inter

## **Notices for the week beginning 20 August 2017**

#### **Sunday 20 August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mass Book, pages 7 and 117

6.00 pm (Vigil) People of the Parish; 8.30 am Tom Blackburn (Anniversary);

10.30 am Paul Shevlin (Anniversary)

Monday *St Pius X*

No Mass

Tuesday *The Queenship of Our Lady*

No Mass

Wednesday *St Rose of Lima*

Mass 10.00 am Private Intention

Thursday *St Bartholomew*

Mass 10.00 am Angela Gannon (Sick)

Friday *St Louis of France*

Mass 10.00 am Funeral of Philip Doody RIP

Saturday *Blessed Dominic Barberi*

Confessions 10.00 – 10.30 am; 5.15 – 5.45 pm

**Sunday 27 August Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

10.30 am Intentions of Patricia Collins.

### PRAYERS

Please pray for: **Sick:** Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor, Edith Burch, Lily Butler, Barbara Dixon, Patrick Foster, Angela Gannon, Bruce Hinds, Wendy Hinds, Michael Hornsby, Rita Laverty, Adeline Lewis, Peter McDonald, Paul Mostyn, Honor Owen, Lana Ridley, Anne Wilkinson and Gerard Wright; **Lately Dead:** Philip Doody; **Anniversaries:** Basil Clark, Mary Cronin, Sylvia Simmonds, Paul Dominici, Norman Fisher, Edwina Johnson, Chris Lilley, Patrick McHugh, John Malone, Hermann Ostmann, Clement Stevens, Henrietta Thorpe, Peter Wallen and Mary Watts. May they rest in peace.

### PARISH MINISTRIES

2017		6.00 pm	8.30 am	10.30 am
26/27 August	E	O Conway	A Halliday	A De Cesco
	R	G Booth	L Hutt	
		M Miles	C Pennicott	S Lewington
		D Leadbeater	S Wright	H Houston
	W		D Kerr	

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes £212.80

Loose £205.22

Building Fund £33.50

ested in receiving training, please let us know.