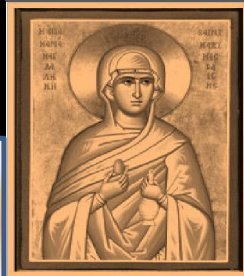


WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

19TH – 25TH NOVEMBER 2017



**EUCCHARISTIC COMMUNITY OF SAINTS
FRANCIS DE SALES AND MARY MAGDALENE
MASS AND CONFESSION TIMES**

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION
OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH

33RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR— YEAR A

	ST FRANCIS DE SALES <small>Weekdays open 9am to 7pm</small>	ST MARY MAGDALENE <small>Weekdays open 9am to 7pm</small>	MASS INTENTIONS
SATURDAY 18th Nov (Green)	<i>6pm Rosary</i> 6:30pm Mass		PARSHIONERS
SUNDAY 19th Nov (Green)	<i>08.00am Rosary</i> 08.30am Mass in Portuguese language <i>11.00am Rosary</i> 11.30am Mass <i>12.30 Divine Mercy</i> 5.30-6.30pm Benediction and Exposition	<i>08.45am Rosary</i> 09.15am Mass	ROGERS & SULLIVAN DECEASED ANTONIA & CARMELA PILA RIP

Week 33 of Ordinary Time Year 1 – Psalter: Week 1

Monday 20th Nov (Red)	ST EDMUND	<i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass	
Tuesday 21st Nov (Blue)	PRESENTATION OF THE BVM <i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass		HOLY SOULS
Wednesday 22nd Nov (Red)	ST CECILIA <i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass	Adoration 7am-7pm	HOLY SOULS
Thursday 23rd Nov (Green)		<i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass	HOLY SOULS
Friday 24th Nov (Green)	<i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass		HOLY SOULS
Saturday 25th Nov (Blue)	OUR LADY ON SATURDAY	<i>09.30am Rosary</i> 10.00am Mass <i>10.45-11.45am Confessions</i>	HOLY SOULS
	12 noon: Blessing of Graves at Wolverton Cemetery		

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR SICK AND RETIRED CLERGY

The Memorial Prayer for the suffering souls in purgatory is prayed after all Masses in November until the feast of Christ the King

**PARISH
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DETAILS**

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HOLY SOULS, INDULGENCES AND TREASURY OF MERIT

The Holy Souls in Purgatory need the Requiem Mass, and need too Masses, prayers and acts of penance to be offered for them because though they died in a state of sanctifying grace, truly contrite for all their sins - and thus were friends of God - they had not done sufficient penance for all their sins. The bottom line is: Christ mediates his grace to us through creatures, especially other people. We have nothing to offer God by ourselves. Even our ability to say yes is a gift of grace. But God has so willed that we can indeed make that offering—or not. When we do, it is joined to Christ's offering and becomes part of the gift he makes of himself to the Church.

Hence why St. Paul said, '*Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the Church.*' From a practical and utilitarian viewpoint, a bedridden victim of some disease appears to have "nothing to offer". But then, so did Jesus when he hung on the cross and, to utilitarian eyes, accomplished nothing useful for six hours. In fact, of course, he accomplished the redemption of the world. A suffering soul likewise can join his or her sufferings to Jesus and, in his mysterious exchange of love, do great and wonderful things for others.

So, let's look at this treasury of merit that acts like a **dam** keeping back the flood waters of sin that would otherwise have overwhelmed our world and brought it to an end and how it is the **treasury of merit** founded on the works of Christ, Our Lady and the Saints. We can contribute to this treasury when, in a **state of grace**, we offer up our trials, sufferings, tribulations and works of faith, hope and charity that occur in our earthly lives. By so doing we *supernaturalise* these natural acts and give them a *vertical* as well as a horizontal effect in effecting goodness over evil such that God's grace works through our being in action to make our actions *powers of grace*. If the totality of human sin is like a *mountain* then this treasury of merit and mercy of God is like an *ocean*.

Now, if by the Passion and death of Jesus we have been forgiven the guilt of sin and thus the eternal punishment for sin (Hell) in and through the sacraments, there is still the temporal punishment due for sin as sin harms both the Church and the world in time and space. The Church has been given the **power of the keys** by Jesus to Peter and the Apostles **to bind and loose**; to forgive sins and to withhold forgiveness; to excommunicate and bring back into full communion; to bind people to their sins and to set them free; to withhold mercy and to apply it! It is this power of the Keys that stands over the reality of human freedom as exercised throughout human history by freely chosen acts of every human being for good or evil.

Thus, the **Magisterium of the Church** (the Pope and Bishops) by the power of the keys attaches **indulgences** to certain acts which **remit**, either partially or fully (plenary), the *temporal punishments due for our sins*; what the Church calls partial or plenary indulgences. Indulgences apply the treasury of merit obtained by the works of Our Lord, Our Lady and the Saints to sinners on earth and in Purgatory (who though they truly repented of their sins, they were lacking in works of penance) that offsets the temporal punishments due for sins. What a wonderful gift of mercy are these indulgences! They reflect both God's justice and God's mercy and our freedom to co-operate with this grace.

The Holders of the power of the keys of the Kingdom of God reflects both **God's mercy and justice** but it also reflects **human freedom** which must *co-operate with grace*. This means they must be applied **by us** in a *particular place*, in a *particular time* for a *particular purpose* by our *particular will* as informed by truth held by faith in our *particular minds*. Notice the **specificity** and **particularity** of this gift of mercy which reflects the gift-nature of Grace: the *shock* of the incarnation, the *scandal* of the Cross, the *embodied nature* of faith that corresponds to human nature and the vital necessity of *human free will*. The infinite treasury of

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merit needs to be applied by a finite human mind and will in a specific way in time and space as God does not ever take away **human free will**.

PARISH / EXTERNAL EVENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR	AlvahHottinger is the Parish Maintenance Co-Ordinator. Any maintenance issues, please email alvah.hottinger@dignet2.co.uk or tel. 07961 500350
SVP CONTACT	Tel: 07803 369371 or email: svp@dignet2.co.uk
GOING INTO MK HOSPITAL?	GOING INTO MK HOSPITAL? Chaplaincy 01908 006061. The Catholic Chaplain visits during the week and a lay team brings Communion Sundays. Call the Chaplaincy for Holy Communion - not a priest.
MASS INTENTIONS Mass cards cost 60p - please include money for a 2 nd class stamp (54p) if you need it posted to you	To have Mass offered, fill out a request form and hand it, with your money for the stipend, to the office at St Mary's, or put it in an envelope, clearly marked, in the collection basket & it will be taken to the office. Your Mass will be listed on page 1 of the newsletter on the week it will be said, showing which Church, it will be said at.
9-12 CLUB - All young people aged 9-12 welcome!	Starting again on 3rd November, then every following Friday with the last one on 1st December. More dates will follow in 2018.
ALL MEMBERS OF THE GUILD OF ST CATHERINE	There is a meeting for ALL MEMBERS of the Guild of St Catherine on Sat 9th December 12.00 - 15.00, in the parish hall. It is important that everyone attend.
FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS	From Sunday 26 th November, we will be taking donations for the Christmas Flowers for both of our churches. Please give what you can to help us make the churches beautiful for our celebration of the birth of Christ! Many thanks.
CAFOD WORLD GIFTS	Brochures are in the porch at both Churches for Cafod's World Gifts. If you are unsure what gift to give someone this Christmas, why not give something on their behalf, for a family in a developing country ... they will get a beautiful card to show what their gift is and who it is helping
PARISH HISTORY BOOK – AN USUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT	Wanting to give a different Christmas gift this year? Then consider buying a copy of the Parish History Book. £7.00 per copy.
BLOCKED GUTTERS? LAWNSCIENCE HERE TO HELP. WE DO THE WORK YOU DONATE TO THE CHURCH	Lawnsience has just invested in a "state of the art" ladder-less gutter clearing system. So if you want to have your gutters cleaned for winter and at the same time provide a bit of dosh to your Parish call Terry on 01908 504664 or e-mail terry@lawnsience.co.uk . See flyer for further details. This is how it works... below are normal costs for residential gutter cleaning, book a gutter clean and you decide how much you pay to the parish...we arrange to clean your gutters and you send the payment you decide to make direct to the parish. Simple! Normal costs: 2 bed properties £69.00, 3 bed properties £79.00, 4 bed properties £89.00, 5 bed properties £99.00. As a Parishioner you decide the donation.
FELLOWSHIP ON SUNDAY after 9.15am Mass & 11.30am Mass	Tea and coffee after the 9.15am Mass in the parish hall. After 11.30am Mass join us in the Braai Shack, next door to the Old Queen Victoria Pub. Please do come and join us.
ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER	The copy deadline for the newsletter is 12noon on a Tuesday. To have entry put into the newsletter, or for corrections etc., please e-mail the details to: newsletter@dignet2.co.uk
SILENCE IN CHURCH	
To encourage silence and prayerful thanksgiving after Mass, Fr Bernard & Fr Richard invite you to pray St Thomas Aquinas's "Prayer of thanksgiving after Mass." Copies are available at the back of church.	
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION: for those unable to receive Holy Communion at Mass. My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things: I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come at least into my	

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heart. I embrace You, and I unite myself entirely, to You as if You had already come.
Do not permit me to be ever separated from you.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FELLOWSHIP AND IMPORTANT THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK	If you are going into hospital, please do think about receiving the Sacrament of the Sick. Contact the parish office to arrange this.
HOLY MATRIMONY	One year's notice is required. Contact Janet (01908 510216). The course starts Tuesday, 12th September 2017. For more information e-mail Janet on janet.tate@diginet2.co.uk
BAPTISM COURSE	Another course will run in the New Year 2018. Call Pauline (01908 511897) – watch this space for future details.
RCIA ADULTS – APOLOGETICS	The RCIA runs on Mondays 7-8.30pm in the presbytery at Wolverton – the course continues on 20th and 27th Nov, 4th Dec 2017 and 8th January 2018 . Contact Fr. Bernard or email rcia@diginet2.co.uk for more information. NOTE NEW DATE IN JANUARY, MORE DATES TO FOLLOW.
RCIA YOUTH COURSE	The RCIA Youth has started for any young people aged 9 and over, who have either not been baptised, or have not yet made their First Communion (younger children should join the usual baptism/First Communion programmes). Runs on Saturdays, at St Francis presbytery from 3.30-5pm on 2nd and 9th December.
FAITH & PIZZA SESSIONS 1 st Saturday of each Month NEXT ONE 6 TH JANUARY 2018	Sessions run at St Francis de Sales from 7.30pm - 9.00pm. 6th Jan, 3rd Feb, 3rd March, 7th April, 5th May, 2nd June and 7th July. These sessions are for young people who are post-Confirmation including those who went through the RCIA Youth.
THINKING THEOLOGY LECTURE	Monday, 4th December , 7pm in the Chapel at St Paul's. Chris Coles will be speaking on 'how my faith took me to prison.' Please see the posters in the porch.
CHRISTMAS MASS CARDS	These have arrived at the parish office and are selling well – if you wish to give a Mass as a Christmas gift, do be sure not to leave it for too long, if you would specifically like a Christmas Mass card!
NOVEMBER HOLY SOULS	November is the month of the Holy Souls and all weekday Masses are being offered for the souls gathered before our altar in the Holy Souls box. To join in this devotion, write the names of your deceased friends, relatives and loved ones on a piece of paper, enclose a donation (a sacrifice strengthens your prayers) and put these into an envelope (you will find envelopes in the porch) and put this into the Holy Souls box which is at the altar at all Masses. These names will then be included in the Masses offered this month.
PARISH OFFICE CONTACT: office@diginet2.co.uk	To contact the office, please ring 01908 564363 normally Monday – Friday, 0900 to 12 noon. Or email office@diginet2.co.uk at any time ... or text 07761 583307 – texts and emails will be picked up even when the office is closed. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE EMERGENCY CONTACTS BELOW, EXCEPT FOR NEEDING TO CALL A PRIEST TO THE DYING.
EMERGENCY CONTACTS	Need a priest urgently? Call: Dawn Clark (07761 583307), Derick Rooney (01908 265819), Janet Tate (01908 510216) or Mary Barker (01908 312171). These numbers are for emergency use only – for other matters, the parish office can be called on 01908 564363 (manned weekday mornings, not afternoons or weekends), or email: office@diginet2.co.uk or use the 'contact us' button on the website.
PARISH DETAILS: WEBSITE & INTRANET PARISH PRIEST E-MAIL	Parish Website: www.saints-francis-and-mary.org.uk Parish Intranet for Admin: www.diginet2.co.uk Parish Priest email: bernard.barrett@diginet2.co.uk PARISH PRIEST: FR. BERNARD BARRETT

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