



Weekly Newsletter

17th - 22nd February 2019



Catholic Parish of St Francis de Sales and St Mary Magdalene

Holy Mass and Confession Times

SIXTH SUNDAY OF YEAR C

	ST FRANCIS DE SALES Weekdays open 9am-7pm	ST MARY MAGDALENE Weekdays open 9am to 7pm	Intentions
Saturday 16th February (Green)	6pm Rosary 6.30pm Mass		PARISHIONERS
Sunday 17th February (Green)	8.00am Rosary 8.30am Mass in Portuguese language 11.00am Rosary 11.30am Mass 12.30pm Divine Mercy 5.30-6.30pm: Exposition & Benediction for Mission	8.45am Rosary 9.15am Mass	MARTIN FINN QUILL RIP NOREEN MUNNELLY & FAMILY
6th week in Ordinary Time (Year C) Psalter: Week 2			
Monday 18th February (Green)		09.30am Rosary 10am Mass	DENISE NICHOLSON RIP
Tuesday 19th February (Green)	No Mass		
Wednesday 20th February (Green)	No Mass	Adoration 7am-7pm	
Thursday 21st February (Green)	No Mass		
Friday 22nd February (White)	ST PETER'S CHAIR	09.30am Rosary 10.00am Mass	DAVID, SYLVAIN & FAMILY
Saturday 23rd February (Red)	ST POLYCARP 12 noon Healing Mass followed by Exposition & Benediction		1) PAUL DONOGHUE 2) GERRY PEPPARD RIP 3) WILLIAM NICHOLSON 4) DAVID EASTOE & FAMILY 5) GREG TREALOR 6) FR HUGH MCKENZIE RIP

There is a second collection for the SVP this weekend



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



Forming Intentional Disciples

DECISION TIME FOR ALL & COMMUNION ON THE TONGUE

The **norm** for receiving communion in the Catholic Church is **communion on the tongue on our knees** as this is the ancient tradition of the Catholic Church. So, no priest can forbid *communion on the tongue*. But we can ask: how did *communion on the hand* become so widespread in the Church? [cf book 'Dominus Est' by Archbishop Athanasius Schneider].

Let us begin with Isaiah 6:1-8, where Isaiah confesses before the heavenly altar of God:

"Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

But the seraphim came to Isaiah holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from God's altar and touched Isaiah's mouth with it, and said: **"See, now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged."** Yet, what many may not know is that this passage was used by the Early Fathers of the Church to explain *communion on the tongue*!

Some clergy, and laity too, claim that *communion in the hand* is a return to the practice of the Early Church. However, this is not true. Saint Basil [d. 379AD] in Turkey gives us the summary of what the Early Fathers taught, namely, that *Communion in the hand* was only allowed: **'under times of persecution where no priest is present'**.

Yet some clergy persist in saying that the practice of *communion in the hand* was common, but they can only give one piece of evidence for this claim, namely, in St Cyril of Jerusalem's **Mystagogical lectures**. St Cyril [d. 387AD] wrote 18 lectures but there were 5 additional ones about which scholars deny St Cyril was their author. Yet it is only in the last of these 5 lectures does one read about *communion in the hand* [1] and it is a rather bizarre and superstitious account. However, in 380AD the Council of Saragossa in Spain excommunicated anyone who dared to continue *communion in the hand* as persecution of Christians had ended. The 6th Oecumenical Council of Constantinople in 680-1AD forbade laity taking *communion in the hand* on pain of excommunication in the churches of both East and West!

So how did Communion in the hand come about in our time, given it was universally forbidden from 680AD to 1970? In the late 1960s, beginning in Belgium and thereafter in Germany, France and Holland certain dioceses pushed *communion in the hand* which the Church at the time condemned as a *liturgical abuse*! But eventually Rome came under such pressure from the bishops of these countries that an **Indult** [note - not a dispensation!] was reluctantly given for *communion in the hand* because this abuse had grown widespread, but it was given on very strict conditions; conditions which were never adhered to.

Now as *communion in the hand* became more common, so too reverence for the Eucharist declined, lapsation accelerated, growing reports of sacred hosts being found on the floors of churches and schools and a rise of hosts being stolen from the Mass and used in occult practices or sold on the internet. However, the growth in the Church today is increasingly found in those parishes that restore the *ancient norm* of receiving the Eucharist, as Cardinal Sarah has recently declared [see a rather one sided report in the Catholic Herald:

<https://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2018/02/23>]. Given the above, **where do you stand?**

[1] Here is the full text used to justify communion in the hand and it is bizarre: "Approaching therefore, do not come forward with the palms of the hands outstretched nor with the fingers apart, but making the left [hand] a throne for the right..."Then, come forward only for the cup of the Blood...**While the moisture is still on your lips, touch them with your hands and sanctify your eyes, your forehead, and all your other sensory organs."** !!!! [S. Cyrilli, Catechesis mystagogica V, xxi-xxii, ed. Touttee-Maran; On the question of the dubious authorship of this work see: J. Quasten, Patrology, vol. III (Utrecht, Antwerp, 1963), pp. 364-366.]

Parish / External Events & Other Information

MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR	Alvah is the Parish Maintenance Co-Ordinator. Any maintenance issues, please email parishmaintenance@diginet2.co.uk or tel. 07961 500350
SVP CONTACT	Tel: 07803 369371
GOING INTO MK HOSPITAL?	Chaplaincy: 01908 996061. The Catholic Chaplain visits during the week & a lay team brings Communion Sundays. Call the Chaplaincy for Holy Communion.
MASS INTENTIONS Mass cards cost 60p - please include money for a 2 nd class stamp (now 56p) if you need it posted to you	To request a Mass, fill out a form and hand it, with 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. Or fill in on online Mass request form at the GDPR section of diginet2 - and send the stipend money, separately, to the parish 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. There are a few weekday slots left in April, but plenty available in May. Sundays are currently very full - with a couple of slots in April and a couple in May.
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.
FELLOWSHIP ON SUNDAY	No teas and coffees after 9.15am Mass at present. After 11.30am Mass in the Braai Shack, restaurant side of the Old Queen Vic. Do come and join us.
CAFOD SUPPORTERS' EVENT	All warmly welcome to come and hear about some of the hardest to reach most vulnerable communities in the world and how your support is empowering them to overcome poverty. Sat 23 Feb: Our Lady Help of Christians, West Street, Olney, MK46 5HJ, from 10.15am-2.30pm (coffee/tea from 10am with shared lunch from 1:30pm). Please book a place - 01494 863777 or northampton@cafod.org.uk.
CATHOLIC SINGLES	Catholic Singles helps single Catholics over 18 years old, meet other single Catholics, either one-to-one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk
THINKING THEOLOGY LECTURE	"Henceforth all generations will call me blessed" - a lecture by Fr Pius Amoako, a member of the Sion Community and one of the priests serving the MK Cluster. The lecture is on Monday, 25th February, 7pm in the Chapel at St Paul's school. All welcome - admission free. More details on the poster in the porch.
PARISH HALL CLOSURE - Work is nearing completion , but the hall remains closed for the moment. Owing to Health and Safety, no one is allowed anywhere near this area at present.	
SENTINELS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP	Next Meeting is on SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2019 at St Francis de Sales presbytery. Time 3.30pm to 5.00pm
FAITH & PIZZA	Saturday, 23rd February, 7.30pm-9pm at St Francis de Sales.
HEALING MASS	Saturday, 23rd February, 12 noon at St Francis de Sales. The theme is "healing of the family tree". Mass is followed by Exposition & Benediction. All welcome.
ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER	The copy deadline for the newsletter is 12 noon on Tuesday. To have entry put into the newsletter please e-mail:newsletter@diginet2.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 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.

**PARISH CONTACT
DETAILS**

St Francis de Sales,
Radcliffe Street, Wolverton.
Tel: 01908 313162

St Mary Magdalene,
105 High Street, Stony Stratford.
Tel: 01908 564363

An Opportunity For Fellowship & Important Things You Need To Know

HOLY MATRIMONY	Our programme covers the themes: Does marriage really matter? And if so, how do we begin to understand its mystery and meaning? How do we live this beautiful Sacrament day unto day? Next course begins in September 2019. For further information, email matrimony@dignet2.co.uk One year's notice required.
BAPTISM COURSE	Last session: Saturday, 23rd Feb in the meeting room at St Mary's, from 10am-11:30am. In order to keep to the scheduled time, parents should arrive 10 minutes beforehand. Parents must attend ALL sessions, to proceed to the Sacrament of Baptism. The next course will run in the late spring for summer baptisms - watch this space for details of how to register.
RCIA ADULTS – APOLOGETICS	Mondays 7.00-8.30pm in the presbytery at Wolverton – 25th February, 4th March and 29th April. Contact Fr. Bernard or email rcia@dignet2.co.uk
RCIA YOUTH COURSE	For young people aged 9-17 years old, who have not received Baptism and First Communion. Runs at St Francis from 10.00am-11.30am 3rd & 17th Mar, 7th and 14th April.
CONFIRMATION	The Course continues from 2pm-4.30pm on Saturdays 9th & 16th March; 13th April; 18th May; 8th & 15th June and 6th July with a retreat on 13th July.
NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	This year, because of the change to Data Protection law, sign-up for offertory boxes is ONLY online. Go to: www.dignet2.co.uk and select the first option: GDPR site. Scroll down to the bottom of the next screen and click on "Sign up" in the second row of blue buttons. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Offertory Boxes" ... and fill out the form. New boxes of envelopes will be distributed from mid-March. If you do not have a computer yourself, and do not have anyone who can help you, we will shortly have someone in the porch each Sunday, with a laptop, to help parishioners sign up for online services, courses etc.
CAR PARKING AT ST MARY MAGDALENE	Please do not park your cars on the new path alongside the Church! This is getting damaged owing to people running their cars up onto it. We need to leave the path for pedestrians. It is much flatter to walk on than the gravel drive and it is safer to keep pedestrians and cars separate! Many thanks.
SCHOOL VACANCY	The Diocese of Northampton, in partnership with St Luke Academies Trust, Corby, is seeking to recruit a School Improvement Director for September 2019. Full details are on the noticeboard in the porch. Application closing date is Monday 11th February and interviews are the week commencing 25th February 2019.
JOB VACANCY: CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT OFFICER	Bible Society is looking for a Catholic Scripture Engagement Officer to nurture Scripture conversations within the Catholic Community. Based in Swindon and with some home working. See full details on the noticeboard in the porch.
SHROVE TUESDAY FISH SUPPER	Tuesday, 5th March from 7pm-9pm at New Life Church, The Ridgeway Centre. Choice of Fish & Chips: £6.50 or Cheese salad: £2.50 (<i>the price includes bread & butter, sauces, salt & pepper and dessert</i>). There will also be a fun quiz. Fish and Chips are being ordered from the award-winning Napoli, in New Bradwell. Please order by 24th February so the order can be placed with the shop. Please book through the Parish Office - you <u>must</u> make your payment when you book. See posters for more details.
PARISH OFFICE CONTACT: office@dignet2.co.uk	To contact the office, ring 01908 564363 normally Monday – Friday, 0900 to 12 noon. Or email office@dignet2.co.uk at any time ... or text 07761 583307 PLEASE ONLY USE THE EMERGENCY CONTACTS BELOW TO CALL A PRIEST TO THE DYING. Do not ring the mobile for routine matters at weekends!
EMERGENCY CONTACTS	Need a priest urgently? Call: Dawn (07761 583307), Derick (07484 162623) or Janet (07821 698419). These numbers are for emergency use only if you need to call a priest to the dying. For other matters, please contact the parish office, weekday mornings between 9am and 12 noon (01908 564363).
GDPR	Details of how we process your data, and your rights, are on the full Privacy Notice which may be seen in the Parish Office, on the Parish website, on the Diocesan website, or contact parish.data@dignet2.co.uk

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