

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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17th May 2015

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

(SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION)

SUNDAY 17TH MAY - (VIGIL)

	6.00pm	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
	8.00am	Low Mass in Extraordinary Form
	10.00am	Mass
	11.45am	Mass (<i>St Aidan's Congregation</i>)
Monday Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Feria	9.30am	Mass

Wednesday Feria

Thursday Feria

Friday Feria

Saturday Feria

SUNDAY 24TH MAY – PENTECOST

WHITSUNDAY

	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
	8.00am	Low Mass in Extraordinary Form (<i>Tridentine</i>)
	10.00am	Mass
	11.45am	Mass (<i>St Aidan's Congregation</i>)



*Tea, coffee and cold drinks
are served in The Guild
Room after both the Sunday
Masses. All are welcome!*



WEBSITES – PARISH: www.ourladyschurch-cheshambois.org – SCHOOL: www.ourladys-bucks-sch.co.uk – PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST PETER: www.fssp.org.uk

Celebrating Ascension on Sunday: The Bishops of England & Wales have transferred the celebration of the Ascension to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. In addition to the obvious pastoral reasons for this decision – more people will actually celebrate this important mystery if it takes place on Sunday when people are used to coming to Mass – there are also good theological reasons for this transfer of the festival from Thursday to Sunday.

The Synoptic Gospels present a different time frame for the Easter-Ascension-Pentecost events than does John's gospel. Matthew, Mark, and Luke take a more historical approach: Jesus' ascension happened on the fortieth day after the resurrection (John's gospel has Jesus ascending on Easter evening), with Pentecost being celebrated on the fiftieth day. If the Ascension is transferred to Sunday, then Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost are all celebrated on the same day of the week – Sunday, the Lord's Day. The advantage of this is that it challenges a historical approach and helps us integrate these events into a single mystery of salvation. Our annual celebration of the paschal mystery is not a historical reenactment of those events of long ago, but a here-and-now celebration of the reality of what it means to be baptised into Jesus' death and resurrection, what it means for us to receive the Holy Spirit, and how we are to continue today Jesus' saving mission.



Gospel: Mark's longer ending to his Gospel account mentions the Ascension, with Jesus taken up to heaven and seated at the right hand of God. The focus of the passage is on Jesus's commissioning his disciples, along with instructions concerning their mission. They are to proclaim the Gospel to every creature, leaving the choice up to them as to whether they believe and are baptised or not. Signs will accompany those who believe: heal the sick, drive out demons, speak new languages and encounter deadly things that will not harm them. With Jesus enthroned in heaven, they went forth and the Lord was with them, confirming them their word through signs. Such is still the mission of every disciple, always assured that Jesus is with us in all our witnessing.

Proclaim '15: BUILDING MISSIONARY PARISHES is the name of a new national Bishops' initiative being launched in 2015 to support the development of parish evangelisation. It is inspired by Pope Francis' writings and has five parts which include: the provision of free parish small group materials; the organisation of a National Catholic Evangelisation Conference in Birmingham on 11 July 2015 for 850 evangelisation representatives from across England and Wales; an invitation to parishes to host a parish Prayer Vigil on the night of 11 July 2015 with free prayer materials provided; the invitation to dioceses, deaneries and parishes to have their own *Proclaim '15* event in autumn 2015; the publication of new evangelisation resources as a fruit of the National Conference to equip local evangelisers. Please do get involved in what is a significant new step in service of the proclamation of the Gospel in our area. More information will be available in our newsletter over the coming months.

Website: www.catholicnews.org.uk/proclaim15

To watch the Cardinal Nichols' video message and for more details: www.catholicnews.org.uk/proclaim15

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Mary, Mother of Silence – Saturday 13th June 2015. Lead by Bishop Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton. See Poster. Will a group from our parish be joining this year's pilgrimage?

Diocese of Northampton Ecumenical Commission 'Ecumenism and the Ordinate' Guest Speaker: Mgr. Keith Newton (Leader of the Ordinate in England and Wales) Saturday 6th June at 10.30am. Bishop Peter invites ecumenical friends and representatives from all parishes to this meeting with the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission. Refreshments from 10am, Talk followed by Q&A. Reflections from the Cathedral event last January ending with Midday Prayer. **St Augustine's Church, Milton Keynes, MK13 7PL**

Gift Aid Declarations Forms and Boxes of Offertory Envelopes are now available. Please consider giving under Gift Aid as this increases your giving by enabling the Diocese to recover the tax you have paid without any extra cost to yourself. Please contact Philip Seed, Parish Treasurer, or Fr Andy.

Pastoral Council Meeting – Tuesday (19th May) at 7.30pm in the Guild Room

During this year of 2015, we are celebrating the Centenary of Our Lady's Church building here in Chesham Bois.

On Sunday 7th June 2015 the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, immediately following the 10am Mass, our parish will have a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. We are planning a carpet of flowers to line the main aisle of our church over which the Blessed Sacrament will be carried. For this carpet, we will need many flower heads. We have decided to take up a special second collection on Pentecost Sunday (24th May) to enable parishioners to contribute to the cost of these flowers.



World Communications Day is celebrated today, Ascension Sunday. The theme is **Communicating the Family: A Privileged Place of Encounter with the Gift of Love**. On this day we are encouraged to pray for communications professionals, especially those who work in the media. Please support the second collection which provides the funding for the Catholic Communications Network.

The CCN provides support for the bishops of England and Wales and the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. The office is the central point for media enquiries and plays a key role in developing the public profile of the Church. It is possible to donate online at: www.catholicnews.org.uk/donations
Some commemorative prayer cards for this day have been printed and are available to take away. Please support the CCN through your prayers and generosity.

MONEY MATTERS

Last week's Offertory Collection - £1,089.32

Many thanks for your generosity.

Second Collection TODAY for the Work of the Church in the media

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY – Donations to defray the cost of Carpet of Flowers for the Solemnity of The BODY & BLOOD of CHRIST

Infant Baptism and Marriage. By appointment with Fr Andy after completing the necessary preparation.