

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Registered Charity No. 234091



24th January 2016

THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

SEPTUAGESIMA

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 24TH JANUARY (VIGIL)	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
	8.00am	Mass in <i>Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)</i>
	10.00am	Mass
Monday CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday SS <i>Timothy & Titus</i>	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday <i>Feria</i>	9.00am	Mass
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 31ST JANUARY – 4RD SUNDAY IN O.T.	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
SEXAGESIMA	8.00am	Mass in <i>Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)</i>
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Applications for preparation for **First Reconciliation** and **First Holy Communion** at Our Lady's Church have now closed. The resource materials have now arrived. There will be a **meeting with candidates and parents after the 10am Mass TODAY Sunday 24th January 2016**. This will be an important meeting please do all you can to attend.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Krakow for World Youth Day Friday 22nd July – Monday 1st August 2016. Bookings have now closed. See www.nymo.org

ABOUT LITURGY

Eucharistic word and fulfilment: Each Sunday during the Liturgy of the Word we hear God's word proclaimed. Would that this word so moved us that, like the people of Ezra's time, we would prostrate ourselves before the Presence of God! Yet, even when our hearing the word is less intent. God still fulfils it.

The liturgy of the Word always opens onto the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There is a very real pastoral danger that we focus during this part of the Mass only on receiving Holy Communion. Important as that moment is, we cannot neglect the eucharistic prayer. In this sprayer narrative we hear the story of God's faithful deeds in bringing about our salvation. The Eucharistic prayer is Jesus' "autobiography" writ small. Now, with our twenty-twenty hindsight we are hearing a narrative of salvation *already fulfilled in Christ* and in this are encouraged and strengthened to respond to the word that we have just heard. We come forward in the Communion procession, toward the altar-table which is a symbol of the messianic banquet, to feast and have our fill at god's table, knowing that God nourishes us to be ourselves the fulfilment of the word in our daily lives.

Coming to Communion without paying due attention to the Lectionary of the Word and the salvation narrative of the Eucharistic prayer is like coming late for a banquet meal and missing all the conversation that brings the joy and satisfaction to the meal. This gospel challenges us to prepare well for Sunday liturgy – not just to reflect on the readings but also occasionally to read prayerfully the eucharistic prayers so that are truly *prayers*. Eucharistic Prayer IV borrows words from this Sunday's gospel and it would be a good choice to begin our prayerful reflection on these beautiful narrative of salvation.

Interested in the *Christian approach to Punishment and Prison?*

Pact – Prison Advice & Care Trust, a Catholic prison charity is seeking two new trustees to give guidance, to ensure good governance, strategic oversight and direction. Pact is a growing, award-winning independent Catholic national charity working in prisons and communities across England & Wales. Its aim is to offer realistic hope of a fresh start to tens of thousands of prisoners, ex-prisoners, offenders, children and families.

To find out more visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk/get-involved or call Chris Dunne: 020 7735 9535

PREPARATIONS FOR LENT 2016

Lent begins on 10th February. Please bring along all the blessed palms and palm crosses from your homes. After the 10am Mass on Sunday 7th February, we will burn blessed palms from last Palm Sunday, to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

CAFOD Supporters' Day – All welcome!

Join us on **Saturday 30th January** – Christ the King Hall, Harrowden Road, Bedford, MK42 0SP to hear about CAFOD's work in Uganda and how you have helped. Why not bring a friend along? Coffee/tea from 10am, session from: **10.30am-1.30pm** followed by lunch. If transport is a problem, we may be able to help! To book a place: northampton@cafod.org.uk or 01844 274 723.

New Year's Resolution – Volunteer for CAFOD

Why not make volunteering for CAFOD your New Year's resolution? We need volunteers to speak in Schools and/or parishes about our work in the developing world. Training will be given. If you are able to use social media, we would love to hear from you too. Please get in touch on 01844 274 723 or northampton@cafod.org.uk if you are interested.

Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: The context of this reading is in the reestablishment of the city of Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile. Because the fate of the city and the nation is tied to the people's fidelity to the covenant, the community celebrates this event with a public proclamation of the law. For the children of Israel, the law is not a constraint on their freedom, but a sign of God's loving care for them and the foundation of their nation.

Responsorial Psalm: Today's Responsorial Psalm continues the reflection on the law of God and its importance in the life of the community. The law is described as "perfect," "trustworthy," "right," "clear," "pure," and "true." The law not only gives peace and stability to the nation it gives peace and wisdom to the individual who, lives by it.

Second Reading: One of Paul's greatest contributions to the life and theology of the early Church was his understanding of the Church as the Body of Christ. By Baptism, each Christian is incorporated into this body. Baptism erased divisions between individual members. There was no need for jealousy and competition because each member placed his other gifts at the service of the common good.

Gospel: In the introduction, Luke sets forth his goal in writing the Gospel. He intends to reassure a lover of God (Theophilus) of the reliability of what he has heard about Jesus. This reassurance extends to people today. In the second part of the reading, in his first visit to his hometown after his baptism by John, Jesus was sets the agenda for his ministry. His mission is to bring God's Kingdom – a kingdom were the poor, the lonely, the imprisoned, and the oppressed will find freedom from want and fear and need.

Bishop Peter Doyle warmly invites you to

The Diocesan Mass for Married Life, at **The Holy Ghost Catholic Church, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD** on **Saturday 13th February 2016**. Praise will start at 11.30am followed by **Mass at 12noon**.

It has been suggested that travelling to Luton rail station would be advisable due to lack of parking around the church. Bishop Peter will give his pastoral blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones in their marriage i.e. 1, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 years etc. If you are celebrating such a milestone please contact Eamonn & Paola McMorrow on 07412 151517 or at mfl@nores.org.uk All are very welcome to attend. Refreshments available after Mass.

Our Lady's Catholic school are currently consulting on their admissions policy for 2017-2018. All the related documentation is on the website www.ols.education/Admissions-Consulation. Consultation will close on 31st January 2016. Any comments may be forwarded to the school office email: office@ols.education

Money Matters

Last week's Offertory Collection - £222.51

PAX CHRISTI APPEAL - £104.36

Many thanks for your generosity.

Gift Aid Declarations Forms and Offertory Envelopes are now available.

Are you new to the parish?

If so, you are very welcome!

Do introduce yourself to Father Andy after Mass, and please complete a parish registration form.



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

Infant Baptism and Marriage. By appointment with Fr Andy after completing the necessary preparation. **The Church requires** notice of at least six months prior to the Sacrament of Matrimony being celebrated.