

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



3rd January 2016

THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD

MOST HOLY NAME
OF JESUS

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 3RD JANUARY (VIGIL)	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – Int. People of the parish
	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	10.00am	Mass
Monday after Epiphany	9.30am	Mass – Int. Eden Linton
Tuesday after Epiphany	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday after Epiphany	NO MASS	
Thursday after Epiphany	6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Loretta Lane
Friday after Epiphany	9.00am	Mass
Saturday after Epiphany	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY – BAPTISM OF THE LORD	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – Int. People of the parish
HOLY FAMILY	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
BAPTISM OF THE LORD	10.00am	Mass



Applications for preparation for **First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** at Our Lady's Church have now closed. We will begin early in the New Year once we receive the resource materials.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Krakow for World Youth Day Friday 22nd July – Monday 1st August 2016 and we welcome those in the diocese aged 16 – 30 years old (16 by the date of travel). For a booking form or further information please contact Fiona at fiona@nymo.org or call 01582 720627 or see www.nymo.org

ABOUT LITURGY

Gift of worship: Each Sunday when the Christian assembly gathers for liturgy, many gifts are given to God: the gift of time and talent shown in the various ministries; the gift of money and food goods for those in need and the upkeep of the parish; the gift of ourselves to each other by our presence and full, conscious, and active participation. All of this is good. At the same time we must never forget that we gather on Sunday *in response* to God's prior gifts to us summed up in the Son and our share in divine Life. Thus our Sunday celebration most of all ought to be characterised by thankfulness for all God has given us and praise (homage) for this God who chooses to be so intimately present to us. It is all too easy for our Sunday celebrations to be subtly focused on ourselves. Although we can never be passive at Sunday Mass (and our greeting each other, hospitality, offering are an important and indispensable part of the time spent in worship), we must never forget however, that we are there first and foremost to give God praise and thanksgiving. The purpose of Sunday worship is just that: *worship*. Threaded through the speaking and singing, gestures and postures, relating and responding must be an attitude of awe, reverence, and deep-felt gratitude for God's lavish generosity to us in so many ways. In the end the only lasting gift we can really give God is ourselves in worship and self-emptying service of others.

LANDINGS

The *Landings* programme gives Catholic who have been away from the Church a chance to explore their faith and to consider their future with the Church. A few parishioners welcome potential returners to ley-led meetings that are gentle, entirely confidential, and enriching for who take part.

A *Landings* workshop at St. Theresa's Church, Beaconsfield is planned for early in the New Year (date to be fixed) to enable all who may be interested to find out more, both those thinking of renewing connections with parish life and those who might like to act as welcomers in their own parishes. New recruits are always welcome but you won't be asked for a definite commitment.

For more information contact Maggie Millrain or Ian Johnson on 01752 482 496 or via maggiemillrain@icloud.com. The following website is well worth a visit ... www.landings.org.uk

Lectionary for Mass

Today we celebrate that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation (the meaning of epiphany) of God. Christ is revealed in many ways: as Lord, as King, as the one in whom God is present and acts. All of these manifestations are "lights" that shine on Christ, revealing a deeper understanding of who he is. All the readings for today reveal, in a way, a different manifestation of who Christ is for all who believe. Traditionally, three events in the life of Christ are remembered today as manifestations of God's presence and action through Christ: the visit of the Magi, the wedding feast of Cana, and the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. Lights have played an important role in today's solemnity.

First Reading: There is a reason for Israel to hope. The Lord "shines" upon the people. God is in their midst! A reversal of fortunes is taking place. Jerusalem will no longer be insignificant among the nations. Now, other lands will depend upon Jerusalem for light. Jerusalem will see a variety of people streaming toward her: exiles returning home, as well as people from other lands, laden with rich gifts. The restoration of Jerusalem and the praise of God are intimately related.

Responsorial Psalm 71: The King will govern God's people with justice. This royal psalm prays that God will endow Israel's king and his successors with good judgement so that they may govern his people with justice and peace. The Psalm with justice and peace. The Psalm invites us, like the Magi, to pay homage to Jesus as the universal king and to imitate his concern for peace and justice.

Second Reading: In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he speaks of Christ as the one who gathers all to share in the same promise, the same inheritance, making them members of the same body.

Gospel: The star represents a highly significant and imminent birth or other event. The wise ones from the East believe that the star signals the birth of the King of the Jews to whom they all homage as their Lord. This manifestations of God by the star touches true seekers everywhere – even those on the fringes. The visit of the Wise Men is tinged with foreboding danger, pointing to Jesus' Death and Resurrection.

Money Matt

Last week's Offertory Collection - £268.85

**NEXT WEEKEND – SECOND COLLECTION
for SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL**

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.

Thanks to all who work so hard throughout the year ensuring Our Lady's Church is a place of beauty, welcome and prayer: cleaning teams, flower arrangers, grounds-keepers, counters, tea and coffee providers, those who launder and prepare the Altar linens, welcomers, Servers, Readers, and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.



My heartfelt gratitude to you all for your kindness and generous greetings cards, gifts and Christmas Offering. I will offer a Mass for you all in gratitude for your generosity. May God continue to bless you during this holy and joyful Christmas season. Happy New Year 2016!

Father Andy Ollard

The closing date for applications for admissions for September 2016 at

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School is 15th January.

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