

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



28th February 2016

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY (VIGIL)	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	10.00am	Mass
Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday ST DAVID, <i>bishop – patron of Wales</i>	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	(Pastoral Area Service for Reconciliation for Lent)*
Friday St Casimir	9.00am	Mass
	1.30pm	Marriage of <i>Chloe Saunders and Ian Bines</i>
24 Hours for the Lord	6.00pm*	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 6TH MARCH – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	10.00am	Mass



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Just before the season of Lent began, we enrolled our candidates for preparing for **First Reconciliation** and First Holy Communion later this spring: **Charlotte G., Imogen R., and William V.** We celebrated First Reconciliation (*Confession*) in Our Lady's Church last Friday. As a parish community we promised to support and encourage these children with our prayers, example and personal witness. *Please keep these children and their families, in your prayers.*

Chloe Saunders and Ian Bines are to be **married in Our Lady's Church on Friday**. *Please keep them, their families and friends in your prayers.*



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.

ABOUT LITURGY

Year C Lenten Gospels: During Year C of the Lectionary three-year cycle, a common thread runs through the gospels from the third to the fifth Sunday of Lent – that of repentance. Not only is this an important Lenten theme, but it is an important theme in Luke's gospel as well.

The penitential act and confession of sins: During Lent we have been using the *Confiteor* (I confess to almighty God...) for the penitential act at the beginning of Mass. If we consider all the helpful choices we have for the introductory rites and use them well, we can establish a rhythm at the beginning of Mass that captures something of the rhythm of Christian living. Using the *Confiteor* during Lent (and on Fridays for daily Mass at other times of the year) reminds us that we still must overcome our sinful ways and are always in need of repentance and reconciliation.

Acknowledging God's gifts to us in bringing us to salvation and our sometimes refusal (like Israel of old) of those gifts fosters a genuine humility in us and right relationships with God and others.

Using the Rite for the Blessing and Sprinkling of Water during Easter (and on a few other appropriate Sundays during the year, for example, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord) reminds us that we are the redeemed Body of Christ, plunged into baptismal waters that bring us a share in divine Life. Using the *Kyrie* invocations as a litany of praise during Ordinary Time reminds us that the Lord Jesus has walked the journey before us and showed us the way through death to new Life. The rhythm, then, flows among repentance and reconciliation, celebration of divine Life, and praise for Jesus' example of dying and rising.

The **PASTORAL AREA SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION FOR LENT** will take place next Thursday, 3rd March at 7:30pm in **St Joseph's Church, Chalfont St Peter (SL9 8RY)**. Bishop Peter says, "*I do hope that you will join me, and that you will bring some family and friends. Together we can be attentive to God's word in our lives. Together we can pray before the Blessed Sacrament. And perhaps it may be an opportunity to rejoice in God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession*". The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. It is an experience of the gift of God's boundless mercy – not only does it free us from our sins but it also challenges us to have the same kind of compassion and forgiveness for those who sin against us.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHESHAM – SERIES OF TALKS FOR LENT 2016

8pm on **Wednesdays** at **Broadway Baptist Church, Chesham:**
2nd March – Dr Sharon Dirckx, *Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics*
9th March – Lord Leslie Griffiths, *Methodist Superintendent Minister*
16th March – Anne Atkins, *broadcaster, novelist and journalist*

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY 4TH MARCH 2016

Praying for Cuba

St John's Methodist Church, Woodside Road, Amersham at 11am, to be followed by a Soup Lunch. Speaker: The Rev Erna Stevenson. **All are welcome!**

Through Women's World Day of Prayer women are encouraged:

- To be enriched by the faith experience of other Christians
- To become aware of the situation of women in other countries
- To share their hopes, fears, joys, sorrows, opportunities and needs and to pray with and for them
- To turn their prayers into positive action

Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: This familiar yet powerful passage offers us a glimpse of the commission given to Moses by God. God emphasises that he is the God of continuity; this experience is not separated from what has come before, although this is the first moment that the people receive the name of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103: The psalm underlines the reading from Exodus. God is faithful, just, merciful, kind, and always attentive. Those who believe in him need to practice both praise and remembrance. Forgetfulness is a chronic human issue, and the psalm presents a litany of qualities of God that must be remembered.

Second Reading: Here, Paul recounts the wondrous deliverance of the Exodus. Notice the language of Baptism that is used. Paul is inspired to look at these wonders through the lens of Christian Baptism and the Holy Spirit.

He also warns that the story bears lessons for those who would follow Christ.

Gospel: The stories of cruelty and devastation found in this Gospel are exclusive to Luke; they appear in no other Gospel or, for that matter, historical narrative of the time. They are, however, in keeping with what we know of the considerable persecution that the Jews and others experienced under Pilate. These stories, including that of the fig tree, serve to underline the theme of the need for repentance now, not at some time in the future.

Going into Hospital?

If you are going to be in hospital for an overnight stay and would like to have a visit from a priest, it is important that you tell the ward staff that you are a Roman Catholic and you would like the Hospital Chaplain to arrange for a visit by a Catholic priest.

Wycombe Hospital Please contact St Augustine's Church 01494 523969. Mgr Paul Donovan normally takes Communion on a Saturday afternoon.

Amersham Hospital Please contact Our Lady's Church 01494 727469. Fr Andy will then arrange for Communion to be taken to you.

If you are expecting a stay in hospital do let Fr Andy know.

"24 HOURS FOR THE LORD" Every Diocese in the world will unite together in 24 hours Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during this Year of Mercy. For our Pastoral Area this will take place at St Joseph's Church, Chalfont St Peter (SL9 8RY) beginning at 9:45am on **Friday, 4th March** and finishing at 9:45am on **Saturday 5th March**. **ALL ARE INVITED** to participate in this time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at certain times during the 24 hours. To help this happen at least three people are needed to commit for each hour. *If you would like to volunteer to be part of this and cover one hour*, please contact Joan Barham at St Joseph's Office 01753 886581.

Money Matters

Last week's Offertory Collection - £233.36

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY - £378.13

NEXT SUNDAY – SECOND COLLECTION
Easter Flowers for Our Lady's Church

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.