

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



31st January 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

SEXAGESIMA

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 31ST JANUARY (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 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	9.30am	Mass at Our Lady's School
Wednesday <i>St Blaise</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>Feria</i>	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday <i>St Agatha</i>	9.00am	Mass
Saturday <i>SS Paul Miki & Companions</i>	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY – FIFTH SUNDAY IN O.T.	6.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – <i>Int. People of the parish</i>
QUINQUAGESIMA	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FIFTH 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. Our candidates will be enrolled into sacramental preparation during **Mass next Sunday 7th February 2016**. Please pray for our children and their families as they prepare for the Sacraments.

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

Sin affects the whole Body: As each of us grows in our awareness of being members of the Body of Christ, we also grow in our understanding that there is no such thing as a "private" sin. The prodigal son returned to his merciful father and declared that he had "sinned against heaven and against" his father. Each time we choose the death-dealing blow of sin, we have "sinned against heaven and against" all other members of the Body. In the Body we are one in Christ. When one member is built up, the whole Body is built up. When one member sines, the whole Body is weakened. There can be many motivations for repentance besides "dying from hunger" and the dire necessity faced by the prodigal son. One strong motivation might be our genuine Christian love for one another; if we sin. We weaken the Body. At the same time, when we repent and seek reconciliation, we make the Body stronger. Repentance and a worthy reception of the sacrament of penance help us pass from death to Life.

This is about the time in Lent when many parishes offer Lenten communal penance liturgies. Part of our preparation for this wonderful opportunity to repent and be forgiven ought to be a serious consideration of how our sin affects those with whom we live, work, and spend our leisure time. It is too easy simply to go to confession and list one's sins, being assured of God's forgiveness through the sacramental ministry of the ordained priest. Perhaps recognising how we hurt others and reaching out to seek their forgiveness, too, might be the best deterrent for sin and the most fruitful motivation to repent.

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

Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: The First Reading relates the call of the prophet Jeremiah. Knowing the challenges that faced God's prophets, Jeremiah demurred from accepting God's call, giving all the reasons that he would not be a good prophet. Following God's path is never easy. The Lord tells Jeremiah as much. But, at the same time, God promises Jeremiah that he will never abandon him.

Responsorial Psalm: The psalm builds on the assurances of the Lord that conclude the First Reading. The psalmist recalls that God has been with him from the first moments of his life, to guide and protect him. He expresses his hope and his trust that God will maintain his saving presence. As always, the experience of God's loving presence and faithful always, the experience of god's loving presence and faithful protection transforms us and calls us to "declare [his] justice" and proclaim his "wondrous deeds."

Second Reading: Paul was is known for the power of his teaching and for his skill in building up the Church. Yet, here he makes his priorities clear. No accomplishment has no value without love. In the end, the love we have poured forth will be the measure of our lives. Only the faith we have shared, the hope on which we have relied, and the love we have expressed will last when our earthly achievements have passed away.

Gospel: Last Sunday's Gospel related Jesus' preaching in the synagogue in Nazareth. Today's gospel shows the aftermath of that preaching. While the people were impressed by his preaching, they could not accept that it came from someone familiar to them. They wanted more proof, but by reminding his listeners that God does not act in the way we expect. He seeks out those disregarded by others and he protects all of those he calls.

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 mfi@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 - £301.36

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.

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 next Sunday 7th February, we will burn blessed palms from last Palm Sunday, to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

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.

Thornton College (Convent of Jesus and Mary) MK17 0HJ are holding an **Open Afternoon** next **Sunday, 7th February 2016 at 2pm**. An opportunity to see the facilities and meet with pupils and staff. There are also other events and Scholarship dates. For more information see leaflets and posters in the porch or www.thorntoncollege.com.