

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



3rd April 2016

SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

LOW SUNDAY

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 3RD APRIL (EASTER VIGIL)	8.00pm (Sat.)	Mass – Int. People of the parish
	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	10.00am	Mass – Int. Frances and Bert Mendis, RIP
Monday ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD*	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday <i>Easter Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>Easter Feria</i>	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00am	Mass
Saturday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
(Saturday Vigil for Sunday)	6.00pm	Mass – Int. People of the parish
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am	Mass

*Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord (usually celebrated on 25th March), has this year, been transferred to Monday 4th April 2016.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Just before the season of Lent began, we enrolled our candidates for preparing First Holy Communion to be celebrated during this Easter Season: **Charlotte, Imogen, and William.** As a parish community we promised to support and encourage these children with our prayers, example and personal witness. *Please remember these children and their families, in your prayers.*

A Happy Easter Season to you all! The Easter Season lasts for 50 Days! May the Joy of the Resurrection be yours!

Thanks to all who worked so hard to ensure our Holy Week and Easter Octave Liturgies went so smoothly. Thank you to those who cleaned, arranged the liturgical environment, served, welcomed, read, and ministered at the Altar, and guarded the Easter Fire for the Vigil. Thank you also to those you sent personal Easter cards and gifts. I am so grateful.



Money Matters

The Good Friday Retiring Collection for the Holy Places - £87.75

Many thanks for your generosity.

Easter Offering was your gift to the clergy.

Gift Aid Declarations Forms and Offertory Envelopes are now available.

APRIL 2016 edition of The Vine

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper is now available. It's Free of charge!

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.

Fr Andy

NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN DIRECTORY – YEAR OF MERCY 2016

For Sale – Packed with Useful Information about our diocese! Price £5.00 each.

FATHER PATRICK BAILEY

Fr Bailey, parish priest of St Columba, Chesham had a serious fall at the beginning of March, fracturing his hip and breaking his arm. He is now in Wycombe Hospital recovering from surgery on his elbow. He is in good spirits and appreciates all our prayers for this recovery which is likely to be a long process. In the meantime, **Father Alessandro Reno**, a visiting priest from Italy, is helping with **Sunday Masses**, and the **Holy Triduum Liturgies at St Columba**. Father Andy is continuing to assist with the pastoral and sacramental needs of the parish during Fr Bailey's absence.

Vocations Weekend at Northampton Cathedral 8th – 10th April 2016

Is the Lord calling you to the Priesthood? For more information on Vocations to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Northampton please call the Diocesan Vocation Directors: Fr Mark Floody on 01604 714556 or Fr Andrew Richardson on 01628 695764 or contact your Parish Priest.

BLESSING OF HOMES DURING EASTERTIME

The Leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:

Lord,

**we rejoice in the victory of your Son over death:
by rising from the tomb to new life
he gives us new hope and promise.**

**Bless all the members of this household
and surround them with your protection,
that they may find comfort and peace
in Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.**

The Leader may sprinkle those present and the home with holy water brought from the church. During the sprinkling the leader may say:

Let this water call to mind our Baptism in Christ, who by his death and Resurrection has redeemed us.

Compass, the new youth group, serving primarily the parishes of Our Lady's Chesham Bois, St Aidan's Little Chalfont and St Columba's Chesham, will be launched in September 2016. It will operate from Our Lady's School from 6 until 9pm on Thursday evenings during term time.

Compass will be open to young people from Year 4 up to Year 13 and will meet in two sessions: 6pm until 7:30pm for Years 4, 5 and 6 and 7:30pm until 9pm for Years 7 to 13.

This is a call for those of you who are prepared to take on a leadership role for the first twelve months working together as part of the leadership group drawn from all the parishes.

Please contact Gerard Felix at felixfamily@ntlworld.com for further information, a copy of the proposal document, or just for a chat. An initial meeting of the leadership group is planned for 14 April at 7:30 at Our Lady's School. Training for the leaders will be provided by NYMO (Northampton Youth Ministry Office) in May/June.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO PREPARE OUR CHURCH FOR MASS

We are looking for volunteers of individuals or families to join a rota to help set up for Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10am Masses. It will require arriving at least 20 minutes before the start of Mass. Full training will be provided. If four or five people/families volunteer it would mean each group setting up

Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: As the Apostles continue to cure in the name of the Lord, their reputation grows and more numbers are added to the Christian community. Their actions make it clear that the power of Jesus Christ, given in the Holy Spirit, is still with his Church.

Responsorial Psalm 118 is a thanksgiving liturgy of the Temple. The whole community is addressed in verses 2 – 4, and the psalmist's salvation is assigned to the just as well. This act can only be attributed to the providence of God, and celebration is in order. God's purpose is fulfilled and we REJOICE.

Second Reading: The portion of the apocalyptic vision of John evokes the seven churches (lampstands) with Christ in their midst. Swept up in ecstasy, John writes what God tells him to write: That he is the resurrected Lord and that he is now exalted. Having the keys is an indication of mastery.

Gospel: This rich description of the appearance of Jesus to the disciples in the midst of their fear begins with words of comfort: "Peace be with you." Like Luke, John emphasises that they are not encountering an apparition. Thomas speaks across the ages for all who struggle to grasp this powerful moment in which Jesus appears in his resurrected body. John's account is written in a period of the life of the Church where many if not most believers had never met Jesus in his human life.

ABOUT LITURGY

First Reading from Acts and the Easter Lectionary: During these eight Sunday's of Easter the first reading deviates from the norm: rather than selected from Old Testament books, it is always taken from the Acts of the Apostles. This first book of the New Testament after the four Gospels records for us the reception of Easter faith in the early Christian community. Although these first readings don't accord with the gospels for these Sunday's in the usual way – either by parallel theme or account, a promise fulfilment motif, or a contrast – they do in one once sense accord with the gospels.

The Easter Lectionary presents eight gospels that form a marvellous progression and whole: the first three Sundays of Easter all present appearance accounts of the risen Jesus; the Fourth Sunday of Easter is Good Shepherd Sunday when we are assured of Jesus' continued care and love; the fifth to seventh Sundays of Easter prepare us to be disciples of Jesus; the eighth Sunday is Pentecost when we celebrate the giving and receiving of the Holy Spirit. We move in these eight gospels from celebrating the risen Lord to being given the (the Holy Spirit) to continue the works of Jesus.

The selection from the Acts of the Apostles simply record for us how those first Christians received the Spirit and carried forward Jesus' mission. We see in this "mini history" how the new Life of Jesus' resurrection re-created these people. These accounts from Acts, then, make concrete what the gospels promise and help us see how we make risen Life real in our own lives.