

# PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



21<sup>st</sup> August 2016

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST

## TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Vigil)	6.00pm	Mass – Int. People of the Parish
Sunday 14 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass
Monday The Queenship of Mary	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday St Rose of Lima	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday ST BARTHOLOMEW	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Thursday Feria	6.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Feria	9.00am	Mass
Saturday St Monica	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11am	Confessions
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Vigil)	6.00pm	Mass – Int. People of the parish
15 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass

## LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

Is taking a break for the next few Sundays. It will resume on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

**Congratulations** to Victoria Richardson and Samuel Bugden who were married in Our Lady's Church yesterday (20<sup>th</sup> August). May God bless their union and new life together.

At 10am Mass today we Welcome and Baptise **William Benedict Thomas Leonard Culham**. May his parents and godparents inspire him to live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ and his Church.

Please keep them all in your prayers.



## About Liturgy

**Eucharist and salvation:** Sunday Mass is as much a part of our week as eating and sleeping. This is not to say we take it for granted; most of us take our Sunday celebrations quite seriously and know they nourish and strengthen us for our weekly journey in discipleship. At the same time, few of us probably think of the direct relationship between Sunday Mass and salvation, other than that we receive grace from a worthy celebration. This is very true, but we can say so much more.

The eucharistic prayers especially talk about how “we offer you [the Father] his Body and Blood, the sacrifice acceptable to you which brings salvation to the whole world” (Eucharistic Prayer IV). The prayers also specifically mention the chalice of salvation or saving chalice. It is too easy to think of this language as only referring to Christ and is sacrifice. At Mass we place ourselves on the altar with Christ in self-sacrifice; thus our own self-giving united with Christ's is part of bringing “salvation to the whole world.”

There is another way to look at Eucharist and salvation. When we come to the table and share in the Body and Blood of Christ, we are coming to the “table in the kingdom of God.” In other words, our sharing in the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Christ at Mass is already a sharing in the eternal banquet of everlasting salvation. Our eating and drinking at God's table already brings us to the end of our paschal journey to Jerusalem, even while we are still plodding along on the way!

## YEAR OF MERCY

As we come to the closing months of the Year of Mercy there is a simple leaflet about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. There is a relevant passage from *Misericordiae Vultus* where Pope Francis invites us to put them into practice. The spaces provided allow people to record how they have tried to meet the hope of the Holy Father to live out the mercy of God

## THE LAMPEDUSA CROSS – sending messages of hope

Thank you to all who took time after Mass last month to complete a message of hope. If you took a card away please return it with your message of hope for refugees. Forced out by war, poverty or persecution, millions of people live uncertain lives as migrants and refugees. But each of us, moved by faith and common humanity, can act in welcome, respect and love. Using cards provided, you are invited to write or draw a message of hope for refugees as a way of marking the Year of Mercy. For more information contact Monica Bratt or see noticeboard in porch.

## CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CCRS

The CCRS course has been running successfully for many years in our diocese, for catechists, teachers, anyone who is interested. Candidates can either attend and produce the essays for the certificate, or can attend for a reduced fee as an unregistered student which does not require completion of the essays. The course will run on Saturdays starting on 24 September 2016 with an induction day on 17 September from 10am until 2pm at St Louise Catholic Primary School in Aylesbury. See leaflets in porch or [www.nores.org.uk/adulteducation](http://www.nores.org.uk/adulteducation)

**Compass**, the new youth group, serving the parishes of Our Lady's Chesham Bois, St Aidan's Little Chalfont and St Columba's Chesham, is launching on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016. A leadership team of seven people drawn from all three parishes is working hard to get ready for September. To help us prepare, we'd like to hear from anyone aged 8 to 18 and also we'd like to hear from parents of young people aged 8 to 18. Could you take 3 minutes to complete our survey by visiting our website: [www.compassyouth.club](http://www.compassyouth.club). Please do pray for us. Thank you!

## Lectionary for Mass

**First Reading:** Isaiah's inclusive version of salvation for all nations pictures God gathering “nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory.” Some of God's chosen ones will be sent out to proclaim God's glory to every nation. They shall come to Jerusalem, God's holy mountain, and bring them as an offering to God all the scattered children of Israel. All will worship the Lord together with clean hands and vessels. God will even take some of the foreigners as priest and Levites, something exclusively reserved only to Israelites. Such radical inclusiveness breaks down all that separates humanity, bringing them all together to know and serve the Lord. Today, we still struggle with how to live out Isaiah's vision of radical inclusiveness.

**Responsorial Psalm 117:** The refrain to this psalm, the shortest in the Book of Psalms, captures well Isaiah's inclusive vision and mission that God's good news is to be messengers of that news to all. The psalm invites all nations to praise and glorify the Lord for God's faithful love is steadfast, faithful, enduring and everlasting. This marvellous good news is not restricted to only a few but encompasses all humanity, nations, and all creation. As disciples, we are all called to bring such good news to all. How do you go about proclaiming God's radical inclusiveness of all?

**Second Reading:** This reading encourages the struggling faith community to “endure your trials as ‘discipline’” from the Lord. Quoting Proverbs 3:11-12, the author counsels the community to learn from the Lord's discipline by keeping an eye on Christ. Just as Jesus learned from the struggles that he went through in fidelity to God, so too they are to learn from their faith-filled struggles, for such discipline will later bring, with it “the peaceful fruit of righteousness.” No one seeks out suffering, but when accepted in fidelity to the Lord and worked through, it can become an occasion for drawing closer to God and to one another. All things work unto good for those who love the Lord.

**Gospel:** Jesus, continuing his journey to Jerusalem, responds to an inquiry concerning how many will be saved. First Jesus indirectly responds with the image of the narrow gate, clearly implying the challenge that salvation presents to all. Jesus' parable concerning the master who refuses entrance to those who claimed special relationship with him, sends a clear message that no one should presume to enter God's banquet just because they claim a special, exclusive relationship with God. Entrance is based not on exclusionary privilege or status, but rather on fidelity to God's ways manifested by care and concern for all, along the lines of Isaiah's radical inclusiveness. Jesus warns that many foreigners and those faithful to God's ways will enter and recline at table in God's Kingdom while they will be shut out. The passage concludes with a typical reversal message, shattering all human ways of thinking, and operating, asserting that God's thoughts and ways are not like our thoughts.

## Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection - £ 229.70

**NEXT WEEK – Second Collection**  
– National Catholic Fund

**AUGUST 2016 edition of The Vine**

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper is still 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.