



TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

3rd Sunday after Epiphany	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday St Vincent	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday St Francis de Sales	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	NO MASS	
Thursday Ss Timothy and Titus	6.00pm	Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday St Angela Merici	9.00am	Mass
Saturday St Thomas Aquinas	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
4th Sunday after Epiphany	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. Joseph Leonard, RIP, anni.

Vacancy – Diocesan Representative for The Medaille Trust – 16 hours per week

The Medaille Trust was founded in 2006 by a number of religious congregations and exists to raise awareness of the plight of trafficked men, women and children, to provide relief to these victims through safe housing, opportunities for physical and psychological healing and rehabilitation. They are now looking for a Diocesan Representative for the Northampton Diocese with sympathy for such a charity who has good people skills, the ability to make presentations in schools and churches, help raise awareness and achieve sustainable funding. For a full Job Description and an application pack please visit their website, www.medaille-trust.org.uk or email recruitment@medaille-trust.org.uk. Closing date is 30th January 2017.



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

During 10am Mass, we invite our younger children (approx. aged 3 to 7) to attend their own Liturgy of the Word in the Guild Room. **Parents are encouraged to join their children.** We welcome more help from those who seek to be leaders and support in this ministry to the children of our parish.

About Liturgy

Ordinary Time, second reading, and repentance: During Ordinary Time of Year A the second reading from the apostolic writings are taken from 1 Corinthians, Romans, Philippians, and 1 Thessalonians. Since these readings are assigned in a semi-continuous way (but with verses omitted because there is more Scripture than could be fit into the number of Sundays in Ordinary Time), we ought not to expect that these second readings will exactly correspond to the gospel as they do during festal seasons.

However, since the thrust of Ordinary Time is to walk with Jesus through a Synoptic Gospel to Jerusalem and during this journey find out the meaning of discipleship and the cost of Christian self-sacrifice, the second readings in a generic way can help us to know what living the gospel means. Often they spell out concrete Christian behaviours (or warn against what should be avoided) that enable a practical interpretation of the gospel.

These second readings, then, help us to instruct ourselves so that we can repent and follow Jesus the Light as light ourselves who bring others joy and well-being. Although the second readings aren't the focus of our attention and preaching on any Sunday in Ordinary Time, they are not unimportant. They are still God's word addressed to us in the here and now.

NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN DIRECTORY – 2017
are available in the porch for a price of £6.00

Our **condolences, sympathies and prayers** to the family of **Brian Farrelly**, who died on Monday 9th January 2017, following illness. Brian and his widow Mary, moved into George V Road, Amersham, in 2015. His funeral has been arranged at 1.15pm on Wednesday 25th January 2017 at St Aidan's Church. Please keep Brian and his family in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on him.

Lectionary for Mass

First Reading: Isaiah recalls Israel's history when the northern tribes were conquered by the Assyrians and placed in exile. Their situation is described as "darkness" and their living conditions being "in the land of deep shadow." Their eventual freedom is attributed to the intervention of God who came to them as a light. The result of this freedom was "greater gladness" and "increased joy." The prophet compares their jubilation to the joy that happens when the spoils of the harvest are shared, and when those in slavery are given their freedom.

Responsorial Psalm 26: The first verse is a declaration of praise of the Lord. The second is a petition to dwell with the Lord and the third is an affirmation of confidence in the Lord. The Lord is addressed with three metaphors: light, first verse is a declaration of praise of the Lord. The second is a petition to dwell with the Lord and the third is an affirmation of confidence in the Lord. The Lord is addressed with three metaphors: light, salvation, and refuge. Each ascribes to the Lord both the desire and the power to take care of the psalmist and, by inference, all those who know the Lord. The petition to "dwell in the house of the Lord" could be understood to dwell in the embrace of the Lord.

Second Reading: On more than one occasion Paul takes the Church in Corinth to task for the divisions that arise among them. Today's text is one example. Although Paul considers them brothers and sisters in the Lord, he still takes responsibility for their spiritual welfare and for the harmony that should be among them. He dismisses their bickering over whom they should follow by reminding them that it is Christ Jesus who has saved them. The Gospel he preaches is that of Christ; and that is what they are to follow.

The Gospel: Today's reading is Matthew's account of the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. One of Matthew's themes is the connection between Jesus' mission and that foretold by the prophets. He does this by quoting the passage from Isaiah passage that was the first reading. Jesus is presented as the light for the nations. Now that John the Baptist has been arrested, Jesus takes up his ministry and calls the first four apostles. The immediate response of the four fishermen has become an example for every disciple who intends to follow the Lord. The last lines of the Gospel announce the nature and scope of Jesus' mission.

CAFOD SUPPORTERS' MEETING – ALL WELCOME

Join us at our Supporters' Meeting on: **Sat 4 Feb** - St Martin de Porres, 366 Leagrave High Street, **Luton LU4 0NG** or **Sat 18 Feb** - St Joseph – Austenwood Common, **Chalfont St Peter SL9 8RY**

Both days are from **10am – 1.30pm** followed by **shared lunch**. There will be a message from Bishop Peter and our Lenten focus will be on our project in Zambia. Please book a place in advance via 01844 274724 or northampton@cafod.org.uk

Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection - £188.26

Second Collection – Pax Christi - £64.10

Thank you for your generosity

If you would like to begin contributing to our parish through the Gift Aid through numbered envelope or by Standing Order through your bank, please speak with Fr Andy.

JANUARY 2017 edition of The Vine

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper is 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.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017 Preparations are now being made for our local inter-denominational event which will be on 3rd March 2017 at St John's Methodist Church in Amersham. The service has been prepared by Christian women of the Philippines. It usually lasts for one hour starting at 11am and is followed by a shared lunch which is optional. If you would like to take part as a reader, singer, or advisor, please let Elizabeth Beckwith know. Tel. 01494 4333363.

The Art of Dying Well is a new website that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying. Based on the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the journey through death to eternal life it will launch in November – the traditional month of remembering and praying for the dead. www.artofdyingwell.org

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR YOUNG WOMEN (20S AND 30S)
Discerning God's Call – 27th - 29th January 2017 - New Cross, London

The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life, and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org