



# TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Lent Feria	<b>8.30am*</b>	Mass
Wednesday Lent Feria	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Thursday Lent Feria	6.00pm	Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Lent Feria	9.00am	Mass
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
<b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish



## Happy Mothering Sunday to all our Mothers!

The **Spring 2017** edition of **Mission Today** magazines from Missio are in the porch for Red Box holders. Please take your copy.

### 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.

### Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection - £299.71

**NEXT SUNDAY – 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION FOR  
Easter Flowers for Our Lady's Church**

**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.

**MARCH 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.

### Lent 2017 - Mary's Meals Backpack Project

The charity **Mary's Meals** provides one good meal to some of the world's poorest children every school day, attracting them to the classroom and giving hope for a brighter future free from poverty. We are a global grassroots movement with fundraising groups springing up in countless countries, all working together to feed the next child in 13 nations around the world!

**As a Parish project during this season of Lent we here at Our Lady's Church have decided to join Mary's Meals Backpack Project. We invite you to join us in this endeavour.**

The Backpack Project compliments the school feeding project by providing children with items that help to support their education. We fill a backpack with basic educational and hygiene items, for sending to students who receive Mary's Meals. The difference these gifts make is phenomenal. Good quality, second-hand items are ideal.

Mary's Meals has a simple mission: a fruit of prayer and a work of love. 'By feeding the world's poorest children, we allow them to experience God's Mercy, too. The meals draw them into the classroom where they gain an education that can set them free from poverty.'

**So far, we have filled 16 backpacks. Thank you to those who have taken time to gather and pack what is needed. Please continue to bring your backpack to church during Lent. We have also received cash donations which we will use to provide more backpacks.**

Take home a leaflet or visit [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) to see the list of items needed for every Mary's Meals backpack.

### Lent Retreat Day

A parish in the Archdiocese of Westminster (Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint George, Enfield) are holding a Lent Retreat Day in the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Great Missenden (HP16 9AA) on **next Saturday, 1st April** and cordially invite you to join them! A programme of liturgies, etc. will run between 10:00am and 4:15pm; you are to welcome to come for the whole day or just part of this time! MASS at 12:00noon. There will also be an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (two Priests will be available). Tea and coffee will be served at 10:00am, during lunch and around 3:45pm. Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch. All welcome! At all the liturgies we will have the use of a sign language interpreter. Further details are available from Fr Wayne Coughlin: (01494) 862049 / [info@parishfamily.org.uk](mailto:info@parishfamily.org.uk)

**True Survivor: Beyond the Wild** is a spiritual survival course for young men aged 13 – 18. NYMO will join together with True Survivor and Jimmy Mitchell, a Catholic speaker and musician, to take young men from the Northampton Diocese on a 3-day programme on 6th - 8th April 2017. We are only able to offer 20 places at this event! The cost of the trip is £105pp including coach transport from within the Diocese. The group will travel to an area of woodland called Dyer's Copse, near Poole in Dorset. The course blends practical elements of wilderness survival training with a Catholic retreat: The group will learn to find and purify water, to make fire by friction, to build a survival shelter, to track, trap and prepare animals and to navigate using the sun and stars. The young men will also learn to develop their prayer life, about the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, how the Eucharist nourishes us, why we need the Church and how to discern God's calling in life. See poster / information sheets and consent forms on noticeboard.

**St Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery in Slough** are looking for a **new Head Teacher**. The School is a Good school and currently growing to a 3 class intake from Reception to Year 6. We have recently formed a Multi Academy Trust with two other local Catholic Schools so the role offers plenty of opportunity for someone to develop both themselves and the School! *The Job Advert is on the noticeboard.* For more information contact Fidelma Gough, Director, St Peter Catholic Academy Trust at [director@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk](mailto:director@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk) or the School Business Manager, Mrs MacKenzie, on 01753 645828.

### Lectionary for Mass

**First Reading:** The selection and anointing of David as the king of the Israelites initiates a new era in the history of the people of God. It is clear from the account that God is the one who makes the decision, a choice that is not based on the normal criteria. Once again, the ways of the Lord are not the ways of human beings. Despite his humble beginnings the spirit of the Lord will guide David and he will establish a great nation. The house of David will be renowned; in a future generation another shepherd will spring from the Root of Jesse, of the family of David.

**Responsorial Psalm 23:** The "Good Shepherd" psalm is surely one of the most beloved passages of the Bible. The psalmist uses the very familiar image and role of shepherd to identify the Lord and to describe the intimate relationship that the lord has with his people, the sheep of his flock. Like the shepherd, the Lord is protector, provider, and nurturer. The tender care that the Lord provides the whole flock and even a single one of them becomes the mark of Jesus; own ministry generations later.

**Second Reading:** The contrast of darkness and light is one of several such contrasts that occur in the Lenten Scriptures. Others include temptation and transformation; thirst and overflowing water; fasting, feasting; blindness and sight; death and new life. Paul reminds the Ephesians that they once lived in darkness, a spiritual state before their faith in Jesus Christ, but now they live in the light. The Easter imagery here is obvious and it serves to prepare both the elect and the baptised to hurry toward the celebration of Christ, the Light of the world.

**The Gospel:** The contrast of darkness and light underscores both the healing of the blind man and the teaching of Jesus about who can truly see. The encounter between Jesus and the man born blind confronts the religious thinking of the crowds and the religious leaders. It becomes a vehicle for Jesus to expose them to the intervention of God in human affairs and to see if their faith is ready to accept him. When the man regains his sight he professes his belief in the "Son of Man"; like the Samaritan woman he becomes the bearer of Good News, if only the others can see it.

**DURING LENT:** We have the **traditional devotions of Stations of the Cross** on **Fridays during Lent at 7.00pm.**

To help nourish us during this holy season there are prayer / reflection booklets for sale in the porch.

**A Lenten Celebration of Reconciliation** takes place on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** in **St Joseph's Church**, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter. Pope Francis has called us to link our Lenten reconciliation with time spent in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and we are responding to that call with "12 Hours for the Lord."

**The Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed following the 9am Mass and Stations of the Cross. A priest will be in church to hear individual **Confessions** from **10am – 12noon, 2pm – 4pm and 7:30- 9:30pm.** The day will end with Benediction.