

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



28th May 2017

THE ASCENSION
OF THE LORD

SUNDAY
AFTER ASCENSION

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Sunday after Ascension	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday Easter Feria	9.30am	Mass – Int. Thanksgiving intention
Tuesday Easter Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday VISITATION OF THE BVM	NO MASS	
Thursday St Justin	6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Easter Feria	9.00am	Mass
Saturday St Charles Lwanga and Companions	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
PENTECOST	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish

Today is **Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord** is also **World Communications Day**. It reflects his mandate that we should “Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good news”. On this day, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in the field of Communications. A particular intention for prayer is for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country through the Catholic Communications Network (CCN). The CCN is the media office of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales and seeks to support the Bishops in their role as teachers both of the Catholic community and the wider world. The office is the central point for media enquiries and is a key resource for national and international media professionals. It also plays an important role in developing the public profile of the Church through word and image, online and offline. In addition to this, CCN work on carefully selected proactive campaigns to promote the Catholic Faith in public life such as the www.artofdyingwell.org. Please help us continue this work through contributing generously to the collection on the day. There is also the possibility of donating online at www.catholicnews.org.uk/donate-wcd Please take a Prayer Card.



Money Matters

Last Week’s Offertory Collection - £252.29

**TODAY – SECOND COLLECTION FOR
THE CHURCH’S WORK USING THE MEDIA**

Thank you for your generosity

New Offertory Envelope Boxes are available in the porch. Please take the box with your name printed on the label. If you would like to begin supporting the parish through envelopes please speak with Fr Andy.

MAY 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.



Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. ‘You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.’ Acts 1,2 We’re supporting this initiative with a Pentecost Novena, Prayer of the Faithful and an encouragement for Catholics to pray, as we normally do, with the particular intention for our loved ones to come to faith in Jesus Christ.

The Catholic Worker Farm OPEN DAY - 3rd JUNE - 3PM till Late

Snacks 3pm – International Buffet 6pm - Live Music

This is an opportunity for us to Thank You in a small way for all your support of and interest in us and our work. Meet us, chat and learn about our work with homeless women and children. Enjoy live music and food from around the world, a huge bonfire, face painting, badminton and trampolines! **Lvnsters Farm. Old Uxbridge Rd. Rickmansworth. WD3 9XJ – Tel. 07983 477819**

About Liturgy

Blessing and sprinkling on Sundays: The blessing and sprinkling of water is one of the options for the introductory rites, but the fact that General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) reserves this to Sunday’s, especially during the Easter season (no. 51), suggests that this rite has special meaning. During the Easter season we are still celebrating with the neophytes (the newly baptised) their new Life in the risen Christ and initiation into the Christian community, and so it is natural to recall our own baptism as well. Further, since all of us renewed our baptismal promises at Easter, and since Easter extends for the full fifty days until Pentecost, it is also fitting that we continue this rite to unify all the Sundays.

INVITATION TO CATHOLIC WOMEN: ‘BEING APOSTLES’

A Day to Encourage and Strengthen us As Women in the Church with Tina Beattie, Saturday 17th June 2017 St Augustine’s Church, Milton Keynes 11am -3pm. Please bring a packed lunch. See poster on noticeboard.

THE GENERAL ELECTION 2017:

A Letter to Catholics in England and Wales from the Bishops

There are copies of this letter, issued in the name of the Archbishops of Westminster, Cardiff, Southwark, Birmingham and Liverpool, has the agreement of all members of the Bishops’ Conference. As we approach the General Election on 8th June, it is hoped that this leaflet will be of use to all members of our parish as we prepare to cast our vote, offering a framework for our own discernment of the issues at hand.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

On Sunday 18th June at St Aidan’s Church, Little Chalfont after the 11am Mass. To be led by the First Communicants. Gates to the church car park will be closed at 11.45am for the safety of all. Additional parking at the Gun Club further down Finch Lane on the left.

WE NEED MORE HELP!

We **urgently** need more **helpers** to **clean** the Church on Friday mornings (or at another time, if that is more convenient to you). Could you spare just one hour once a month?

We also need a **least two new teams** of two unrelated people to help count the offertory collection once a month after Sunday Mass, this takes approximately 40 minutes.

Do you think you are able to help? If so, please speak with Fr Andy

Lectionary for Mass

About Today’s Solemnity: The distinct celebration of the Ascension of the Lord was unknown in the first three and a half centuries. The chronology of dating the Ascension to forty after Easter exists only in the Acts of the Apostles. In the Gospel according to Luke, the Ascension appears to have taken place much earlier, even on Easter Day. The original ending to Mark’s account of the Gospel is not include the Ascension at all, and it can only be inferred from Matthew’s conclusion. When fourth-century Egeria mentions a celebration forty days after Easter in Bethlehem, it may have been for the Holy Innocents. But by the fifth century the observance seems to be universally accepted.

First Reading: As we read from the beginning of the Acts of Apostles, we hear what took place after the Resurrection: Jesus appeared to the disciples, instructed them through the Holy Spirit, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God. It seems some still held misguided notions about the kingdom, based on the question posted about restoring the kingdom to Israel. It is not for disciples to know the times and seasons, but rather to witness to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm 46: This enthronement psalm, originally a song of praise as the ark of the covenant was processed into the temple was processed into the Temple, will be heard in our proclamation as a canticle of praise for Christ who ascended into heaven. Christ is our king, who reigns over the nations and will return in the same way as he was seen going into heaven. Therefore we cry out with shouts of joy and gladness.

Second Reading: This two-part reading begins with a prayer for a spirit of wisdom and revelations, resulting in knowledge of Christ, and enlightened hearts, resulting in knowledge of the hope that belongs to believers. The prayer is followed by a statement of faith: Christ has been raised from the dead and sits above all who have earthly power, with all things under his feet. He is the head of the Church which is his body, and is “the fullness of the one who fills the whole creation.”

The Gospel At the end of Matthew’s account of the Gospel, Jesus comes to the mountain in Galilee where he has told the disciples to meet him. Note that the audience of primarily Jewish Christians whom the Gospel writer addressed would likely have needed encouragement to share the Gospel with all the nations (not only Jews). The baptismal formula, familiar to the original audience, is familiar to us as well. The Gospel ends with the assurance of Christ’s enduring presence.

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

On Saturday 3rd June at 7.30pm, the Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society will be performing Elgar’s ‘The Dream of Gerontius’ at St Mary’s Church, Old Amersham. Tickets £15, from 07702 608314 or www.wegotickets.com.