

# 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> January 2018

THIRD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY

## TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday <i>St Vincent</i>	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Thursday <b>CONVERSION OF ST PAUL</b>	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday <b>SS TIMOTHY &amp; TITUS</b>	9.00am	Mass
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. <i>Pauline Bryan, RIP (Recently Died)</i>
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan. Septuagesima</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish

## 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.

**Five children are preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of RECONCILIATION and HOLY COMMUNION for the first time this year.** We will enrol the children at 10am Mass on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018.** Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

## LIVERPOOL 2018 – ADOREMUS – NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE & CONGRESS

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE – 7 - 9 September 2018

Friday 7th venue: The ACC Liverpool – Theological Symposium and workshops cost £40pp  
Saturday 8th venue: The Echo Arena – Keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron, cost £40pp  
Sunday 9th venue: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral – Solemn Holy Mass; Outdoor Eucharistic Procession, Benediction. For more details, see [catholicnews.org.uk/adoremus2018](http://catholicnews.org.uk/adoremus2018) or email: [northampton.adoremus@gmail.com](mailto:northampton.adoremus@gmail.com) or speak with Fr Andy.



## Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection – £141.80

PAX CHRISTI – £152.28

**THIS SUNDAY – SECOND COLLECTION – SPUC – WHITE FLOWER APPEAL**

*Thank you for your generosity*

**JANUARY 2018 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.

## Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

By grace Jonah kept God's favour, and by grace the people of Nineveh were given a chance to repent. By grace God comes into our lives and offers his presence to us. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that grace is God's favour, free and undeserved help that God gives us in our ordinary lives (1996). It also states that grace is our participation in the life of God (1997). Reflection on God's blessings is a guarantee that grace is at work in us.

## OFFICIAL FAMILY PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

God, our Father,  
We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son,  
One family, in the Spirit of your love.  
Bless us with the joy of love.  
Make us patient and kind,  
gentle and generous,  
welcoming to those in need.  
Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.  
Protect all families with your loving care,  
Especially those for whom we now pray:  
*[We pause and remember family members and others by name].*  
Increase our faith,  
Strengthen our hope,  
Keep us safe in your love,  
Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.  
This we ask, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Congress takes place in Dublin from 22 to 24 August 2018; The Festival of Families on Saturday 25 August and the final Mass on Sunday 26 August. *It would be wonderful for one, or more, families from our parish would attend this World Meeting of Families!* See [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie) or posters and leaflets in the porch.

## 18 – 25 JANUARY – WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Each year, Christians from many denominations observe a special week of prayer for Christian Unity. Coming together in a variety of ways, through joint prayer and meetings, we remember how much we share, and we look honestly at the issues that will keep us apart. It is a time to reflect on Christ's prayer the night before he died: "I have given you the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one that the world will realise that it was you who sent me and that I have loved them as you loved me" (John 17:22-23). For Catholics, the unity of all Christian believers is more than just one more dream; it is central to the Church's mission. **Today we have a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Peter Doyle, on the theme of Christian Unity.**

## WHITE FLOWER APPEAL – THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

Are holding its annual appeal this weekend. SPUC is currently campaigning to stop the decriminalisation of abortion, which means taking abortion outside the law. This is the most dangerous threat to unborn children and their mothers in decades. Please be as you can to help us defeat this latest attack on unborn babies and their mothers, and to stop abortion getting even worse in this country by decriminalisation.

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – AMERSHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

Planning is going ahead for your local Women's Day of Prayer to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018. If anyone would like to join me in representing Our Lady's Church please ring Elizabeth Beckwith on 01494 433363. We are particularly looking for younger women.

## Lectionary for Mass

Today's readings invite us to reflect on the quality of our response to Jesus' invitation to walk in the spirit of Christ in our daily lives. Will our response be half-hearted, or are we willing to allow ourselves to be radically changed by our calling?

The First Reading tells a parable of repentance to the people of Nineveh in ancient Assyria. The city was so big that Jonah walked for three days to get across it. Immediately on hearing Jonah's words every person in Nineveh believed God and repeated. But some verses of Jonah's story are missing from this reading. In them we see that Jonah was a self-righteous prophet. When God first called him to go to Nineveh, he ran the other way! And when he finally warned the Ninevites and God forgave them, Jonah became furious because he wanted God to destroy Nineveh, not treat them with compassion and mercy. Guess who needed to experience conversion of heart!

Today's Gospel story also focuses on conversion of heart. Jesus appears on the scene at the beginning of his public ministry proclaiming God's Gospel – that God's reign is already on the doorstep – and shouting, "Repent and believe in the gospel." The energy and immediacy of the story is palpable. Thus, when Jesus calls his disciples, they respond immediately, leaving their old lives behind and following Jesus.

In today's Second Reading, Paul describes the radical conversion of heart required of those who would follow Christ. Everything they would normally be expected to do should be done in entirely new ways in the light of the coming reign of God.

## Liturgy and Life

- (1) How has another, through word or deed, helped you to recognise and turn from a sinful pattern?
- (2) How could you make time in your prayer life to listen to God call you to the path you are to follow?
- (3) How is God calling you to believe more fully in the Gospel?

## Sister Jacinta Davenport, IBVM, emails us again...

Many thanks to you and your Parishioners for their generous offering of £117.64 for Albania. Kind regards, *Jacinta Davenport IBVM.*

**In the past year your donations to the Albania Project raised a total £713.40. Thank you for your generosity!**

## CAFOD Supporters' event – all welcome

Come and hear about CAFOD's work in Zimbabwe, our Lent focus country. Deborah Purfield, CAFOD coordinator, will also share her amazing experience from her recent visit to El Salvador. **Saturday 27 January** – St Teresa's Hall, 40 Warwick Road, Beaconsfield, HP9 2PL

**Saturday 3 February** – St Mary's Hall, Aspley Hill, Woburn Sands MK17 8NN **10:15am – 2.30pm** (coffee/tea from 10am with shared lunch from 1:30pm). Please book a place - 01844 274724 or [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk).