

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

30, Amersham Road, Chesham Bois, Amersham, HP6 5PE
Tel: (01494) 727469 / 07722 229811 Parish Priest: Fr Andy Ollard
Email: info@ourladyschurch-cheshambois.org



18th February 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

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

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

1st Sunday of Lent	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	10.00am	Mass – Int. Conor O'Donnell, RIP 1 st anni.
Monday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Lent Feria	9.00am*	Mass
Wednesday Lent Feria	NO MASS	
Thursday ST PETER'S CHAIR	11.30am	Funeral Mass – Mrs Gillian Lear, RIP
	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday St Polycarp – CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY	9.00am	Mass
	5.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass – Eileen Cullen, RIP
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
Sunday 25 th Feb. 2nd Sunday of Lent	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	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.

Rhys, Rio, Sarah, Olivia and Alex, are preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of RECONCILIATION and HOLY COMMUNION for the first time this year.
Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

Passover Supper at St Aidan's on Friday 23rd February, at 7pm in the parish hall at St Aidan's. It is a wonderful way of understanding the background to the Mass, as well as being a very enjoyable social event. Families with young people are especially welcome, with a much reduced price for children. The cost is £8 for adults and £3 for children, which includes a full meal and drinks, as well as a programme. Please email staidansinfo@yahoo.co.uk or call Fr Ken on 01494 763518 as soon as possible if you would like to book your place.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

The Second Reading presents how Christ's suffering, death, and Resurrection lead us to God. In *Sacramentum caritatis*, Pope Benedict XVI explains that through the liturgy the love of God in Christ continues to be evident. The pope writes that the liturgy is an expression of the Paschal Mystery in which Christ draws us to himself. "God's love in Christ encounters us, attracts us, and delights us, enabling us to emerge from ourselves and drawing us towards our true vocation, which is love" (35).

We hear in the Gospel that Jesus walked a lonely path in the desert, dependent on the ministry of the angels, and emerged to preach the Kingdom of God. The Church walks the same path, preaching the Good News in humble service. We read in *Ad gentes*: "Since this mission continues and, in the course of history, unfolds the mission of Christ, who was sent to evangelise the poor, the church, urged on by the Spirit of Christ, must walk the road Christ himself walked, a way of poverty from which he emerged victorious by his resurrection" (5). Just as the early Church looked at Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection and considered how they united them to the Father, in the liturgy, we continue to experience God's love. Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Dues caritas est* of how God's love is manifest in the liturgy. "In the Church's Liturgy, in her prayer, in the living community of believers, we experience the love of God, we perceive his presence and we thus learn to recognise that presence in our daily lives. He has loved us first and he continues to do so; we too, can respond with love" (17).

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES DUBLIN AUGUST 2018

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 or posters and leaflets in the porch.

LIVERPOOL 2018 – ADOREMUS NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE & CONGRESS

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

For more details, see the poster and leaflets in the porch, click on webpage: catholicnews.org.uk/adoremus2018 or speak with Fr Andy.

Lectionary for Mass

For the next several weeks the Church celebrates Lent. Lasting a symbolic forty days (*it doesn't count out to precisely forty days*), Lent reminds us of times of testing described in the Bible, such as the forty years the Jews wandered in the wilderness after the Exodus and many other stories we will hear about during Lent. It is a time of preparation for the great celebration of Easter.

Today's First reading recalls an important "forty" story – in which God grieved all the evil that had come into the world and decided to renew creation through a flood. For forty days it rained! When Noah and his family were finally able to return to dry land, God established a new, everlasting covenant with humanity that was signified by a rainbow in the clouds.

The Second Reading draws upon the Noah story to explain how Christ suffered for our sins but was brought to life in the Spirit. Biblical scholars do not know the identity of the "spirits in prison," but the phrase may refer to the spirits of the unrighteous who died in the flood. More importantly, the author suggests that the flood story was a prefiguring of Christian Baptism, in which we join ourselves to Christ's death so that we can come to new life with him.

The Gospel continues the theme of testing and preparation by recalling the story of Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness, where he was tested by Satan for forty days, and then appeared in public proclaiming the nearness of the reign of God and preaching the need for repentance.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) During Lent, Christians recall what their Baptism means. What does your Baptism have to do with how you live?
- (2) How does the spreading of the Gospel connect to the disciplines that you are adopting this Lent?

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Bishop Peter warmly invites you to the Diocesan Mass for Married Life at Holy Family Church, Langley, Slough, on Sat 3rd March, gathering from 11.30am followed by Mass at 12pm. Bishop Peter will give his pastoral blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones in their marriage i.e. 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 etc. If you are celebrating such a milestone, please contact Eamonn & Paola McMorro on 07412 151517 or at mfl@northamptondiocese.com. All are very welcome to attend and refreshments will be available after Mass.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

St John's Church, Amersham

Friday 2nd March 2018 – All Welcome!

We are looking for choir members. First practice: Monday 12th February 2pm at St John's. Please ring Brenda Liddiard if you can help. Tel. 727775.

Copies of **NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2018** are available in the porch – priced at £5 each

There are Lent prayer booklets on sale at various prices in the porch.

Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection – £198.05

The Medaille Trust - £255.97

**SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT SUNDAY –
CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY**

Thank you for your generosity

FEBRUARY 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.

The **Cathedral Development Campaign** received a boost recently with the news that work could begin as soon as July this year! Father Mark Floody, Dean of the Cathedral, announced the news at Mass last weekend. Having raised a magnificent £2.4 million, our diocese is confident to authorise the beginning of this building project. To see Fr Mark's presentation, please go to the Cathedral website northamptoncathedral.org/live/ and click on the recordings tab navigating to the homily of the Sunday Mass on 4th February recording; or to donate and/or find out more, please call Angela Madge on 01604 712065 or email cathedralcampaign@northamptondiocese.com

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Friday 23 February

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23 February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity? With malnutrition still skilling almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat.

And this Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this week and give generously.