

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



25th February 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

2nd Sunday of Lent	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	10.00am	Mass – Int. Kieran Neary, RIP
Monday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass – Int. Bob Kenderdine, RIP
Wednesday Lent Feria	NO MASS	
Thursday ST DAVID, Patron of Wales	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Lent Feria –	9.00am	Mass
WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	5.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
Sunday 4 th Mar. 3rd Sunday of Lent	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRD 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.

LENT DEVOTIONS – STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5pm on Fridays during Lent

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

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

Money Matters

Last Week's Offertory Collection – £226.50

SECOND COLLECTION – TODAY
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.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

At the Ascension, Peter, James, and John would be directed to spread the Gospel, but first they had the chance to see Jesus transfigured, an event that left them changed. In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis explains that those who spread the Good News should show by their lives that they have been changed by an encounter of God. Pope Francis states, "Jesus wants evangelizers who proclaim the good news not only with words, but above all by a life transfigured by God's presence" (259).

Through the liturgy, Pope Benedict XVI explains that Christ continues to encounter and change us. In *Sacramentum caritatis*, he states: "The substantial conversion of bread and wine into his body and blood introduces within creation the principle of radical change, a sort of 'nuclear fission,' to use an image familiar to us today, which penetrates to the heart of all beings, a change meant to set off a process which transforms the entire world, to the point where God will be all in all (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:28)" (11).

There will be an **evening of reflection, Exposition and contemplative music** at St Columba's Church on Thursday 1st March at 8-9pm. The Reflections for Lent will be from the Monks of Caldey Abbey. All are very welcome to attend.

A **special Lent evening** at **Our Lady's School**, Chesham Bois entitled "Life to the Full" where David Payne, Director of CaFE (Catholic faith Exploration) will be speaking. Friday 16th March at 8:15pm, finishing around 9:30/9:45pm

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.

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. Last Friday we were asked to 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 take your Fast Day envelope from the porch church and give generously.

Lectionary for Mass

On first view, today's First Reading and Gospel appear to have little in common: Abraham nearly sacrifices his son, and Jesus is transfigured before two of his disciples. When we dig deeper, however, we discover in both readings a profound message about God's mercy and faithfulness in times of trouble.

The First Reading comes from a story that our Jewish friends call the *Akedah*, the binding of Isaac. It is referred to in the prayers of Rosh Hashanah, the first day of the Jewish calendar year. On this day Jews all over the world pray that God will overlook human sinfulness and remember the compassion that he had for Abraham in sparing his son, because Abraham was willing to fully obey God. Ultimately, the story reminds us of our need to depend fully and with without question on the tender mercies of God.

In addition to some superficial similarities between the sacrifice of Isaac and Transfiguration (both are set on a mountain, and in both a voice from the heavens speaks) they both teach about God's restorative love and mercy. To recognise this in the Transfiguration story we need to remember that in Mark's Gospel the Transfiguration episode comes directly after Jesus tells his disciples that he must be killed before he returns in the Father's glory. The transfigured Jesus on the mountain prefigures this return, evidence of God's faithfulness to Jesus and to anyone who is fully obedient to God's will.

The Second Reading reinforces the teaching of the other two readings: Paul speaks with wonderment about the greatness of God's love for us – so great that he would sacrifice his son for our salvation.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) When have you felt dependent on God's mercy? (2) When do you consider Christ as interceding for you?
- (3) How does the Eucharist continue to change you?

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

11am Friday 2nd March 2018 – All Welcome!

Followed by tea and coffee