

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



11th March 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

4th Sunday of Lent Laetare	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Laetare	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday Lent Feria	NO MASS	
Thursday Lent Feria	6.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Lent Feria	9.00am	Mass
	5.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday ST PATRICK	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confessions
Sunday 18 th Mar. Passion Sunday	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FIFTH 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 receive 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 – £168.45

SECOND COLLECTION – TODAY:
Easter Flowers for Our Lady's Church
Thank you for your generosity

MARCH 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.



Maundy Thursday 29th March 11am Chrism Mass at Northampton Cathedral

Clergy and people of the Northampton Diocese are invited to join Bishop Peter Doyle at the Mass of the Holy Chrism, during which the Holy Oils of the Sick and Catechumens are blessed and the Oil of Chrism is consecrated. The Mass is followed by a buffet lunch to which everyone is invited. It is hoped that a coach will be arranged to travel from our local area. If you wish to reserve a place on the coach, please let Fr Andy know before Monday 12th March.

Rosary on the Coast This initiative follows on from similar well-publicized and highly successful national events in Poland and Ireland. Sunday, 29th April at 3pm has been chosen as launch date for Rosary on the Coast in the British Isles. **More details on** www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk **or see poster in porch or contact Michelle Di Falco** tel. (01494) 433835 email: amdf@hotmail.co.uk



Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In a conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus explains that God loved Humankind so much that he sent his Son to be the light so that they might believe. Pope Benedict XVI explains Christ coming to the world as our chance to encounter him. In *Deus caritas est*, the pope states: "we have come to believe in God's love: in these words the Christian can express the fundamental decision of his life. Being Christian is . . . the result of . . . an encounter with an event, a person . . . Saint John's Gospel describes that event in these words: 'God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should have eternal life' (John 3:16)" (1). God not only came to show us the way to the Father but became one of us, entering the world as a perfect man, *Gaudium et spes* states. "The Word of God, through whom all things were made, became man and dwelt among us . . . He reveals to us that 'God is love' (1 John 4:8)" (38).

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.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT Saturday 17th March 7:30 – 11.30pm at Our Lady's School, Chesham Bois. Tickets on sale now. Please contact Federica via federicaali20@gmail.com or text/call 07821 907 993

HELPING OUR PARISHES PASS ON THE FAITH

A Day Exploring Resources for Evangelisation and Catechesis
Led by David Will – 17 March 2018 10am – 4pm

St Teresa's RC Church Hall 40 Warwick Road Beaconsfield HP9 2PL
Book your place 01582 7233312 (ext6) or admin@nores.org.uk

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

This is Laetare Sunday. *Laetare* means "rejoice" and comes from the Introit, or entrance verse, for this Sunday, taken from Isaiah 66:10: "Rejoice, O Jerusalem."

The beginning of today's First Reading, however, gives little cause for rejoicing. It describes how the leaders and people of Judah (under the evil influence of King Zedekiah) "added infidelity to infidelity" against God and so suffered defeat at the hands of the Babylonians. The Temple was destroyed, and many people were carried off to exile in Babylon. But, of course, God is always faithful to his covenant people and eventually will arrange for them to return to Jerusalem by dictate of Cyrus, the king of Persia.

The Second Reading and the Gospel continue this theme of human infidelity and divine faithfulness. The author of the Letter to the Ephesians praises God, who brought us out of the death of sin through his loving mercy and raised us up in glory with Christ not through our own merit but as a gift from God. In other words, we are saved by grace (the Greek word is *charis* meaning "favour" or "kindness").

The Gospel recalls a scene from Numbers 21:4-9, which describes God's punishment of the Israelites for their infidelity during the Exodus. He sent "fiery" serpents into the desert to attack people. But when they repented, God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. He is to be "lifted up" in crucifixion, because God loved the world so much that he was willing to give up his only Son. Truly this is a cause for rejoicing.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) How will you take time this week to rejoice?
- (2) How do you view yourself as God's handiwork?
- (3) Do you consider your good works as done through God, or do you seek credit for them?

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Bishop Peter warmly invites you to the Diocesan Mass for Married Life at Holy Family Church, Langley, Slough, on **postponed to Saturday 14th April**, gathering from 11.30am followed by Mass at 12noon. 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 McMorrow on 07412 151517 or at mfl@northamptondiocese.com. All are very welcome to attend and refreshments will be available after Mass.

APF-MILL HILL

The Spring 2018 edition of the Missio magazine, **Mission TODAY** is now available in the porch. *Please take a copy of Mission TODAY if you would like one.*

The collection of the Mission Red Boxes will take place after Easter.