

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



22nd April 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

3RD SUNDAY AFTER
EASTER

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

3 rd Sunday of Easter	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday ST GEORGE, Martyr, Patron of England	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Easter Feria	NO MASS	
Wednesday ST MARK	NO MASS	
Thursday Easter Feria	NO MASS	
Friday Easter Feria	NO MASS	
Saturday St Anselm	9.30am	Mass
SUNDAY 29 th April 4 th Sunday after Easter	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	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.

At the 10am Mass today, three children will receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. Along with their families, they are been preparing for many weeks now, following the **I Belong** books. The whole of Our Lady's Parish, share their joy as **Sarah, Olivia** and **Alex** receive the very special gift of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion for the first of many times. **Congratulations to our children and their families on this wonderful occasion.** Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.



Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

Today's Gospel provides an image of the Lord laying down his life for his sheep. In Isaiah, God speaks of his people as a flock that he feeds and lambs that he gathers. John's account of the Gospel continues the metaphor with Jesus as the Good Shepherd and the Church as the flock. *Lumen gentium*, 6, explains that "The Church is . . . a flock of which God Himself foretold that He would shepherd, (Isaiah 40:11), and whose sheep, continuously led and nourished by Christ Himself, the Good Shepherd and Prince of shepherds (cf. John 10:11; 1 Pt 5:4), who gave His life for the sheep" cf. John 10:11-15).

The reading from Acts portrays an unrepentant Peter addressing the leaders and elders who were provoked by the Apostles' preaching and healing. Peter knew that the followers of Jesus were to continue to do as he had done and care for those who are in need. *Lumen gentium* describes the Church's way of life as reaching out to all who suffer. "The church encompasses with love all who are afflicted with human suffering and in the poor and afflicted sees the image of its poor and suffering Founder. It does all it can to relieve their need" (8).

CAFOD Thank you for your support to our Lent Fast Day appeal. Donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition - and with it we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. But we need the full amount of match funding to make it happen. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet! To donate please go to cafod.org.uk/lent or call 0303 303 3030.

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.

Pope Francis will be visiting Dublin, Ireland for the World Meeting of Families. The Northampton Diocese Youth Ministry Office, **NYMO** are inviting young adults aged 16-30yrs to be a part of this amazing opportunity. If you are interested and for more information, please email fiona@nymo.org or call 01582 720627.

APF/ MILL HILL RED BOX Greta Jeffreys will be collecting any Red Boxes that need emptying. Please bring them to church.

Rosary on the Coast – Sunday 29th April 2018. This wonderful initiative is growing fast, as groups from all over the country are organising to come together to pray the Rosary at 3pm on 29th April 2018 at the coast, or by a river, or indeed wherever is convenient. The object is very simple: to give public witness as we pray for our country at this moment in time, for peace and God's blessing and the protection of Our Lady. Please see the website for further details and your local meeting point: www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk or see poster in porch or contact **Michelle Di Falco** tel. (01494) 433835 email: amdf@hotmail.co.uk



Do take away some Easter Water to bless your homes during this Holy Season
(There are water bottles for sale if you need them)

Lectionary for Mass

Today's readings crackle with the Apostles' excitement over the new understandings they were experiencing after the resurrection and with their work of creating a new way of life, a community of the resurrected Christ – living and life-giving. In the light of resurrection, Jesus' words in the gospel, spoken before the passion, take on new meaning.

The First Reading is part of a lengthy story that began with Peter healing a crippled man near the Jerusalem Temple and then addressing the people who stood around him, amazed at what he had done. As the crowds continued to grow, Peter and John were arrested, and his accusers demanded to know, by whose authority they did such a thing. Peter is answering that question in today's First Reading (Acts 4:8-12). His sense of urgency and conviction ring out as he testifies that "there is no salvation through anyone else." He is, after all, "filled with the Holy Spirit."

Likewise, in the Second Reading (1 John 3:1-2) we can hear a deep sense of community identity. Thanks to the loving gift of the Father, which is his Son, we have become "children of God" both now and in the future, when God (or Christ) is fully revealed and we become like him.

In today's Gospel (John 10:11-18), John uses the image of the Good Shepherd to explain what it means to be a faith community. It is about our shared trust in Christ, who put his life on the line to take care of his flock and keep them secure. It is about a flock that can be open and welcoming to others without fear for its safety, because the one who laid down his life for them.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) What place does giving thanks have in your prayer life?
- (2) Through what merciful acts does your parish help others come to know God?
- (3) Do you reserve quiet time for God so that you will know his voice?

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.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Bishop Peter will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Joseph's Church in Chalfont St Peter on Sunday 1st July 2018 for 48 candidates of our Pastoral Area. Singers and musicians from our churches are invited to consider taking part in a joint choir. If you would like to take part in this choir speak with Fr Andy.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – 24 - 31 August 2018

Lourdes theme for 2018: "Do whatever He tells you"

See poster, brochures and booking forms in the porch. For up to date pilgrimage information, please visit: www.catholicassociation.co.uk or www.tangney-tours.com/CA Alternatively, please call: 01732 886 666 or 0800 917 357

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £297.37

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY – PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND

Thank you for your generosity

If you would like to support the parish through Offertory Envelopes or directly from your bank, speak to Fr Andy.

APRIL 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.