

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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29th April 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

4th SUNDAY
AFTER EASTER



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

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

4th Sunday of Easter	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday Pope St Pius V	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday St Joseph the Worker	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday St Athanasius	NO MASS	
Thursday SS PHILIP & JAMES	6.00pm	Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday MARTYRS OF ENGLAND & WALES	9.00am	Mass
Saturday Easter Feria	9.30am	Mass
SUNDAY 6th May 5th Sunday after Easter	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish.

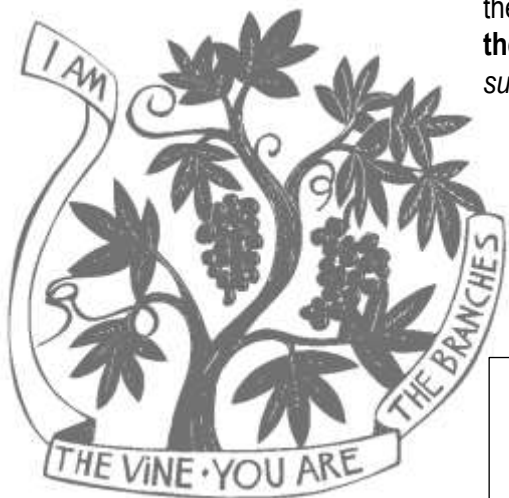
LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

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.

Congratulations to **Sarah, Olivia** and **Alex**, who, last Sunday, received the very special gift of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion for the first time. **They are now in communion with God and with every Catholic across the world!** Do remember these children and their families in your prayers this week.

ALL CREATION SHINES WITH THE GLORY OF GOD

A Day of Reflection for Catholic Women on the theme of Creation Spirituality
Led by Sr Gemma Corbett, Provincial Leader, Sisters of the Holy Family of Bordeaux
Saturday 12th May 2018 11am to 3pm (Coffee from 10.30am)
St John the Apostle, Sundon Park Road, Luton, LU3 3AL
Please bring a packed lunch.
National Board of Catholic Women - Contact Maura Potter (01628) 666278



Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

The reading from the First Letter of John recalls the Commandment that we are to love our neighbour as ourselves. *Guadium et spes* helps us to understand that the neighbour is everyone and that we should not discriminate in giving aid. The document from the Second Vatican Council states, "Today, there is an inescapable duty to make ourselves the neighbour of every individual, without exception, and to take positive steps to help a neighbour whom we encounter" (27). After encountering Jesus on the road to Damascus, Saul submitted to God's will and wasted no time in aligning himself with the Apostles and other disciples and preaching the Good News. He embraced the call of the disciple to bring others to the Lord. *Dei verbum* notes that the Apostles were left with the mandate to spread the word of Jesus' saving work. "Christ the Lord . . . commanded the apostles to preach [the Gospel] to everyone as the source of all saving truth and moral law, communicating God's gift to them." (7). Though Saul was blinded by the light that flashed when Jesus appeared, he still did as the Lord said, travelling to Damascus to do what he was told. The Lord's words lighted his path as stated in Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp for my feet, / a light for my path."



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.

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £238.28

Priests' Training Fund – £183.19

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.

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.

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 **today** 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 continue the previous Sunday's emphasis on the community of the resurrected Christ – living and life giving.
The First Reading (Acts 9:26-31) gives a thumbnail sketch of the illustrious teacher and missionary Paul, who began as Saul, a zealous Jew and persecutor of the Jesus followers, who experienced conversion, was persecuted by fellow Jews, and for some time was viewed warily by Jesus' disciples. Eventually he became the missionary to the Gentiles.
The reading from the First Letter of John (3:18-24) highlights the most important attribute that makes the Church truly alive and authentic – love. But this love is not simply a warm feeling or tender words. Rather, it is love "in deed and truth." If we stay grounded in God's command to believe in his Son and love one another, we remain in him and he remains in us.

In today's Gospel (John 15:1-8), John gives us another metaphor for understanding what it means to be Church – the vineyard, for wine was considered a necessity of life. First-century vineyards were constructed differently from today's vineyards. They were surrounded by a stone wall to keep animals from trampling the vines, which were allowed to spread along the ground. When the vines were pruned to increase production, the discarded branches were placed on the wall to dry so that they could later be used for fuel. Vineyards also had towers, where the owner and his workers kept watch during harvest time to protect their produce from thieves and marauders. This is the cultural context for understanding the metaphor of the vineyard.

Liturgy and Life

(1) When has the work of the Holy Spirit defied your expectations? (2) How does your parish help the community recognise that they are to love "in deed and truth" as today's reading from the First Letter of John states? (3) How does the fruit you bear glorify God?

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

APF/ MILL HILL RED BOX Greta Jeffreys is collecting any Red Boxes that need to be emptied. Bring them to church.

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