



TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

25th Sunday after Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday <i>St Josaphat of Polotsk</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Thursday <i>St Albert the Great</i>	NO MASS	
Friday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS	
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 18 th Nov. 26th Sunday after Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	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.



THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST COLUMBAN

Today we welcome Fr Tom Ryan, SSC, who is making an appeal on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Columban. The Columban Fathers were founded in Ireland in 1916. Their first mission opened in China. From the earliest years the Society has had a strong presence in Britain in terms of Missionary Vocations and material support. The Columban Sisters were founded in 1924 and have missionaries in many of the countries where the Columban Fathers are present. Lay Missionaries have ministered alongside the Priests and Sisters throughout the World. The Columbans have missions in China, Chile, Fiji, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Peru, Pakistan, the Philippines and Taiwan, where they evangelise with outreach to the poor, and marginalised peoples, building bridges between faiths and cultures and supporting local churches. Please support their work by being a generous as you can.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

Side by side in today's Gospel reading is an account of how the scribes both take advantage of the widow and pray. Jesus says, "They devour the houses of widows and, as a pretext recite lengthy prayers." However, as Jesus points out in the Gospel, and as Pope Benedict XVI notes in *Deus caritas est*, love of neighbour and God are linked. The pope states, "here we consider the various meanings of the word 'love' as it relates to both God and neighbour. How important it is for us to understand that love of God and neighbour is truly one great command of Jesus" (3, 10-11, 16-17).

The Responsorial Psalm relates the message of the First Reading and the Gospel as it proclaims that the Lord secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry and sets captives free. Our Christian lives are to follow each of those actions of the Lord. In *Gaudium et spes*, the Council Fathers note our union with others and the mandate to care for those in need. "Here we find a mandate for the Church and society to care for the needy and the poor as human resources increase. The work of charity calls for a pastoral sense of "who is my neighbour" in the universal Catholic Church, and "who are my brothers and sisters" in the human family" (GS, 9).

THE HOLY SOULS

DO TAKE AN ENVELOPE TO PLACE INSIDE THE LIST OF THOSE LOVED ONES YOU WISH TO BE REMEMBERED AT THE ALTAR DURING NOVEMBER.

Registration for the **Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019 has now closed.** We will soon order the books we will use to help our children to prepare for these important Sacraments. When they arrive, we will have a parents' meeting. *In the meantime please continue to bring your children to Sunday Mass here at Our Lady's Church each week and help them to reflect on the Bible readings we have all heard at Mass.*

ADVENT – The Perfect Prep! – Saturday 24th November

10.30am – 3.30pm 'DAY WITH ST JOSEPH' led by Canon John Udris at St Joseph's, Gerrards Cross, SL9 8RY. It will provide time for listening, prayer & reflection. Come and be prepared for Advent & Christmas. Booking essential via NORES office admin@nores.org.uk or ring 01582 723312 or contact the parish office. Cost of the day £15 with drinks available, but bring a packed lunch.

Lectionary for Mass

"The widow's mite" would be a suitable headline for today's readings. True generosity is portrayed through the lives of two widows, the most vulnerable people in society. In the first reading (1 Kings 17:10-16), widow, in the middle of a great famine, shares the last of her resources with the prophet Elijah. Elijah's trust and encouragement ("Do not be afraid.") strengthen her trust in God and her generosity in sharing her last meal with Elijah is rewarded with a supply of food that lasts throughout the famine.

Today's Gospel reading (Mark 12:38-44) opens with Jesus; remarks about the scribes, and these provide the context for what follows. He is criticizing the Jewish scribes, the legal experts, for being more interested in receiving honour from people than serving them. Jesus singles out the way "they swallow the property of widows" – a devastating criticism! In contrast to their selfishness, Jesus observed a widow in the Temple who provides an authentic example of sacrificial giving. Jesus draws attention to her putting "two small coins, the equivalent of a penny" into one of the thirteen collection boxes. Sadly, this translation has lost the beauty of a long English tradition! Literally, the translation should read: "a poor widow came and threw in two mites that make up half a farthing!" The coin referred to here as "a mite" (Greek lepton) is the lowest denomination of a coin that has ever been struck in history! And yet she is giving to the treasury what she could not afford.

Both readings illustrate the genuine self-sacrificing nature of giving. The widows gave to the extent of hurting! These acts of self-sacrifice by the poorest and most vulnerable offer a beautiful foreshadowing of the genuine self-sacrifice of Jesus whereby he gave his very life for our salvation.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) How could the widow in the New Testament reading give the little food she had to a stranger?
- (2) When have you given, perhaps with time or emotional support, more than you thought possible?
- (3) Does your parish need to do more to help parishioners realise who their neighbour?

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £281.29

BISHOP'S MAINTENANCE FUND - £132.91

2nd Collection TODAY – APPEAL FROM THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST COLUMBAN NEXT WEEK – FOR SICK & RETIRED CLERGY FUND

Thank you for your generosity

The NOVEMBER 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!

SAVE THE DATE! Youth Walk London '18: Saturday 8th December, from 3.30pm to 10pm.

You're 13-18? Join the group going for a nice "London by night" walk. Discover London as you've never seen it, enjoy a nice time with friends, have dinner on the go, enjoy the Christmas lights and many other surprises. Finishing with a visit to **Nightfever in St Patrick's Church**. Moreover this event totally free. Limited availability. Booking opening soon.

Heritage House Special School are looking for learning support assistants to support our children in their learning and also midday supervisors to support pupils with personal care and dietary needs. Please email: office@heritagehouse.bucks.sch.uk / call 01494 771445

From Granny with Love by Nicky Hall

Peter Hall has kindly left some copies of Catechetical books authored by his late wife, Nicky. There are a series of three books. Peter will be shortly moving to Wiltshire and would like everyone in Our Lady's Parish, Chesham Bois, to have the opportunity to have a free copy of Nicky's books before he leaves. The books are available in the Guild Room. Please take a free copy. Peter may be contacted at 01442 833642.

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.

Save the Date! The annual Christmas dinner will be taking place this year on **Saturday 8th December** at the **Boot & Slipper in Amersham**. From this week, they'll be a menu choice form in the church porch for you to fill in.

LUX.Gold In February 2019 **NYMO** are hosting another LUX weekend. These weekends are a mixture of teaching and fun activities. Some people find believing in God easy. Most of us do not! For all of us it will only grow if we work at it. At **LUX.Gold**, will explore ways to prepare for a life of faith. We will be receiving tips on how best to develop in our faith both individually and as a community. This event is open to anyone from Year 7 ad up aged 11-18 years old and costs £100.00 which includes accommodation and all meals over the weekend. Please contact Fiona on 01582 720627 or email fiona@nymo.org for more information.