

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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



9th December 2018

SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

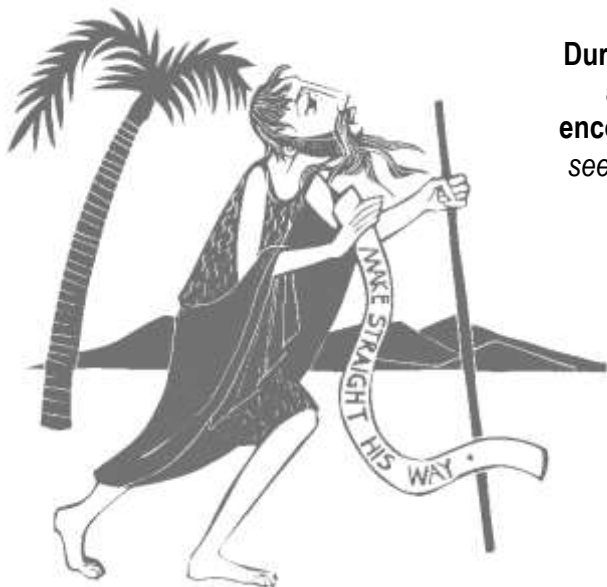
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

2nd Sunday of Advent	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
Monday Advent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Advent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday Our Lady of Guadalupe	NO MASS	
Thursday St Lucy	6.00pm	Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday St John of the Cross	9.00am	Mass
Saturday Advent Feria	9.30am	Mass– Int. Mary Kelly, RIP, (anni.)
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 16 th Dec. 3rd Sunday of Advent – Gaudete	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Gaudete	10.00am	Mass – Int. Bert Mendis, RIP

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.



CHRISTMAS 2018

The times of our Christmas Mass times and other liturgies celebrated in the churches across our Pastoral Area of South East Bucks are available in the porch. Please take a copy!

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In the Gospel, Luke places John the Baptist in time by giving the name of the ruling emperor, governor, and regional leader as well as the priests in the Temple. The Church, *Lumen gentium* notsm enters history but is not bound by it. The Second Vatican Council document states, "In order to extend to all regions of the earth, [the Church] enters into human history, though it transcends at once all time and all boundaries between peoples." (9).

Addressing the Philippians, Paul speaks of their "partnership for the gospel," of their growing in love, and discerning what is of value. Pope Francis echoes the Second Reading in *The Joy of the Gospel* as he notes the needed for new ways of relating to God and others and essential values. In the apostolic exhortation, the Holy Father states, "What is called for is an evangelisation capable of shedding light on these new ways of relating to God, to others, and to the world around us, and inspiring essential values. (74).

Paul kept the hope of eternal life before the Philippians as he spoke of the coming of Christ. Pope Benedict XVI's second encyclical *spe salvi* focuses of hope, stating in the first paragraph that the hope we have been given allows us to face the present. In faith, he states, we look ahead to the final judgement (41). However, he voices a concern that the communal aspect of faith is ignored. The Holy Father states, "In the modern era, the idea in the Least Judgment has faded into the background: Christian faith has been individualised and primarily oriented towards the salvation of the believer's own soul, while reflection on world history is largely dominated by the idea of progress. The fundamental content of awaiting a final Judgement, however, has not disappeared: it simply takes on a totally different form" (42).

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019. The '*I Belong*' books have arrived! There will be a meeting for parents and children after the 10am Mass next Sunday 16th December 2018 at 11.30am. This is an important meeting please do your best to attend.

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.

Walk with Me Prayer Booklets are available in the porch at a price of £1.00. They will lead us on a journey of prayer for Advent 2018.

HMYOI Aylesbury – Part time RC Chaplain Post To find out more and to apply type or click on the following: <https://justicejobs.tal.net/vx/lang-en-GB/mobile-0/appcentre-1/brand-2/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/3/opp/22830-22830-RC-Ordained-Priest-Deacon-Brother-Sister-Lay-Person/en-GB>

Embrace the Middle East, (formerly *BibleLands*, is based in Amersham) are looking for a **Trustee Treasurer** who shares their values and vision and have the skills, qualities and expertise to provide oversight of the charity's finances. *This is a voluntary role.* Full details about, and how to apply for, this role can be found at www.embraceme.org/vacancies or contact Lucy Insua HR Manager – Embrace the Middle East Direct: 01494 897934 Office: 01494 897950 Email: lucy.insua@embraceme.org **Embrace Middle East** Tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East by partnering with local Christians in education, healthcare and community development.

Lectionary for Mass

In today's First Readings (Baruch 5:1-9), the author addresses personified Jerusalem, who is grieving over her people in exile in Babylon. He attempts to console her, telling her to take off her mourning garments and wrap herself in the robes of God's justice. The diadem of God's glory that she receives is probably Aaron's priestly crown with its engraving, "Sacred to the Lord" (Exodus 28:37). In addition, she will receive a new name, "peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness." In other words, Jerusalem will become the priest of God's Temple, and she will rejoice as her people come back to her in pilgrimage. What an amazing image of God's care and protection!

The Gospel (Luke 3:1-6) describes a scene in which John the Baptist is called by God in the wilderness and responds by proclaiming a "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." This is not the Baptism that those becoming Christians seek. Rather, John is calling the people to commit themselves to an immersive experience of repentance. Yet God is a gracious God, and the reward will be great for those who accept the challenge. Quoting Isaiah, John says that the valleys will be filled and the mountains made low to make straight the way so all may know God's salvation.

The Second Reading (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11) echoes many of the same themes, especially joy at the recognition of God's care and protection and the call to be pure and blameless when at last we stand before God when Christ returns in glory.

Liturgy and Life

The First Reading tells of God leading "with mercy and justice for company." What roles so mercy and justice play in your life? (2) When have you told someone of the great things the Lord has done in your life? (3) During this Advent, how can you discern what is of value" so that you will be ready to meet Christ?

ANNUAL PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thank you to Agostino DiFalco for organising the Parish Christmas Dinner last evening. Thanks also to those who set the questions for the traditional festive quiz. And Congratulations to the winners!

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.

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £228.40

NEXT SUNDAY – SECOND COLLECTION – Christmas Flowers for Our Lady's Church

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.

The DECEMBER 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.