

# PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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7<sup>th</sup> April 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF LENT

PASSION SUNDAY



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

## TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

<b>Passion Sunday</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. Peter Deighan, RIP
Monday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday Lent Feria	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Thursday Lent Feria	6.00pm	Adoration & Benediction of The Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Lent Feria	9.00am	Mass
	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Saturday Lent Feria	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 14 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Passion Sunday</b>	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish

## LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

*There will be no Children's Liturgy TODAY as leader, Tasha, is away.*

Holy Week and Easter Mass and Liturgy Times for Our Lady's Church and other Catholic Churches in the Chiltern Pastoral Area are available now please take a copy!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday at 5pm.

**Carrying the Cross of Persecution** – throughout the world today Christians are experiencing many forms of persecution. Wherever they are, **Aid to the Church in Need** is there also, ensuring practical & spiritual support. There will be an opportunity to find out more about their mission and how you can share in it at Mass today.



## Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £249.73

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**  
DEC/CAFOD CYCLONE IDAI APPEAL – £390.54

**TODAY – AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED**

*Thank you for your generosity*

**The APRIL 2019 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.

## Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

We hear in today's reading from Philippians of how St Paul sought to be conformed to Christ's death so that he might share in the resurrection from the dead. Since this was Paul's focus, the "loss of all things" was unimportant to him. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that those who die in Christ will live in Christ. "For those who die in Christ's grace it is a participation in the death of the Lord so that they may also share in his Resurrection" (1006).

In today's Gospel, Jesus comes to the aid of the woman caught in adultery. We may not encounter a person about to be stoned; however, mercy can be shown in so many other ways. We can mirror God's boundless mercy through the Spiritual and Corporal Works of mercy. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes the works of mercy as "charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities" (2447).

## Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne for young Adults (20s and 30s)

*from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019*

A time to walk along part of St. Cuthbert's way, reflect and pray with other young adults and spend time on the beautiful island of Lindisfarne. Accommodation is in a basic bunkhouse near St Cuthbert's cave. Cost - £85 to cover food and accommodation. For more information email [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com) or find us on facebook (FCJ Young Adult Network)

## Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 30<sup>th</sup> May - 6<sup>th</sup> June

Includes return flights from Heathrow, 7 nights in 4\* Hotel Grace, breakfast & dinner daily, full religious programme, local guide, spiritual director. Price from **£569.00**. Book online @ [aglowpilgrimages.com](http://aglowpilgrimages.com) or call Jonathan on **0800 6894792** for more info.

*For spiritual formation in this holy season* **CATHOLIC BASICS COURSE**  
**Part Two: Church – 11 April 2019; Part Three: The Moral Life – 16 May 2019; Part Four: Prayer – 13 June 2019.** After a very successful launch, join us for another day of engaging teaching with opportunities for interaction and discussion. Cost: £25 per person per day (£10 for the unwaged). Price includes a full lunch. No qualifications needed – just interest, good will and a sense of humour! **Part Two: CHURCH – 11 April 2019, 10am–3pm** (arrive 9.30am for refreshments). **NORES Centre, Holy Ghost Parish, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD.** To book, contact [admin@nores.org.uk](mailto:admin@nores.org.uk) or phone Jackie on 01582 723312.

**Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019.** The children celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the First Week of Lent. At their Parish Enrolment, **Harrison, Sebastian, Mylee, Aiden, Abigail, Arianna, Sage and Elsie**, all made promises, together with their families, that they will work hard to prepare well for these great gifts from God. We their parish family, promised that we would support and encourage them with our prayers and good example. *Please keep them all in your prayers as they prepare for they prepare to receive Holy Communion for the first time.*

## Summer Camp 2019 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Summer Camp is five days of fun and activities where young Catholics gain formation and friendships. Included in the price is Accommodation in the castle, all food, daily Mass and Reconciliation, all activities including a day at Alton Towers Theme park, biking, trekking, climbing, archery, camp fires, messy games and much more. Cost £205 discounted minimum donation – £295 actual cost. We ask people to pay what they can reasonably afford. Alton Castle, Staffordshire. Coach travel is provided in the cost with stops in Slough and Northampton. Book online [www.nymo.org](http://www.nymo.org) or email [fiona@nymo.org](mailto:fiona@nymo.org) or call 01582 720627

## Lectionary for Mass

It's hard to imagine how the Pharisees portrayed in today's Gospel (John 8:1-11) caught the woman "committing adultery." Nonetheless, they have brought her before Jesus, "as a test, looking for something to use against him." The Law of Moses demands that such a woman be stoned to death. What does Jesus have to say about it? The First Reading (Isaiah 43:16-21) gives us a hint of the direction Jesus will take. "No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See I am doing a new deed." The Second Reading (Philippians 3:8-14) offers this input: "forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead." These two readings set us up for the story of the woman taken in adultery. What do you say? How will you judge this woman? Mercy and life or legality and death?

Jesus knows that the query was intended to put him in a difficult place. If he sides with the legalists, he may gain their respect but lose that of his disciples, who see him as merciful. If he suggests that forgiveness should be extended, the scribes and Pharisees can claim that Jesus disregards matters of the law. Jesus cleverly sidesteps the question and offers a challenge to his questioners, forcing them to choose. Once those who recognised their sinfulness walked away, Jesus could clearly state his position on this matter without incurring the wrath of his questioners. "Neither do I condemn you...go away, and don't sin anymore." Once again, mercy trumps judgement until we recognise the sin within ourselves. Only then can we offer what we desire for ourselves: forgiveness, compassion, and understanding. 'The Golden Rule is applicable here. When confronted with such a situation, we must treat others as we want to be treated because this is what Jesus would do. As Pope Francis has repeatedly reminded, God never tires of forgiving us. Dare we do any less? Notice that Jesus doesn't do anything to enforce admonition to the "don't sin anymore." He trusts the woman to make her choices, praying that she'll walk in virtue. Jesus respects the individual conscience, so he sent her away with few words.

## Liturgy and Life

- (1) Are you open to God doing something new in your life?
- (2) How do you make room for Christ Jesus in your life? (3) How have you felt the mercy of God?

## Vacancy Parish Youth Minister – Bedford – Full Time

We are delighted to advertise the role of Catholic Parish Youth Minister in the parishes of Ss Philip and James and Holy Cross, Bedford. This is a rare and exciting opportunity for a practising Catholic, with the right skills and experiences, to support and develop local young people in their faith and relationship with their parish. Full details of the role can be found by visiting [www.northamptondiocese.org/vacancies](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/vacancies) or calling the diocesan HR Advisor on 01604 714840. The closing date for applications will be 03/05/2019.