

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

30, Amersham Road, Chesham Bois, Amersham, HP6 5PE
Tel: (01494) 727469 / 07722 229811 Parish Priest: Fr Andy Ollard
Email: info@ourladyschurch-cheshambois.org

The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Registered Charity No. 234091
Part of the Chilterns Pastoral Area, under the patronage of Venerable Mary Ward



10th May 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF
EASTER

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Monday <i>Easter feria</i>	10.00am	MASS – Int. Michael Conway, RIP, 100 th B'day intention
Tuesday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Wednesday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Thursday ST. MATTHIAS	9.30am*	Mass – Int. Private intention
	6.30pm	Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Private intention
Friday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.00am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Saturday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am	MASS – Int. People of the parish

All of these Liturgies will be Live Streamed online. Join us on Facebook Live ([facebook.com/OurLadyChurchCB](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyChurchCB))



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

Worksheet activities for this Sunday's readings may be downloaded from our parish website: www.ourladyschurch-cheshambois.org

Our Lady's School website, has links to resources provided by Ten-Ten Theatre to support parents' prayer life and help them with Sunday Liturgy while we are unable to gather in groups for worship:

www.olschesham.co.uk/ten-ten-theatre-prayer-and-sunday-liturgy

We are praying for our children who are preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time this year: **Lucinda, Thor, Nuala, Seth and Alice**, as we have had to postpone the originally planned date. We will reschedule, once we are able to gather again for public worship in our Church. *Do keep these children, and their families, in your prayers this week.*

Giving Tuesday –

Telephone Donations to Support Our Parish

Some parishioners may prefer to **donate by telephone** instead of using online donation facilities. Therefore, in addition to the online facilities each Tuesday between 10:00am and 4:00pm, parishioners will be able to call **01604 712065**, and donate to our parish. All they will require is their debit or credit card to hand when they call. A one-off donation may be made to cover their missed Sunday offerings or call each week knowing their offering is going to the parish they wish. As only one person is answering the phone line it may be busy when you call, please leave your contact details on the answering service and you will be called back or phone back a little later.

THE LATEST EDITION OF THE VINE

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper may be viewed online:

<https://www.churchpaper.co.uk/Catholic-newspapers.asp?PublicationID=8&PubDate=1187>

The latest Diocesan News may be found here:
www.northamptondiocese.org/news

Infant Baptism and Marriage are currently being postponed until the restrictions in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic end and things return to normal. **The Church requires** notice of at least six months prior to the Sacrament of Matrimony being celebrated.

An Act of Contrition My God I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

The Reading from Acts describes Stephen as “a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit.” The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* relates faith to love. “Faith bears its fruit in love: it means keeping the word and the commandments of Jesus, it means abiding with him in the Father who, in him, so loves us that he abides with us” (2614).

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the Apostles they should look to him for what is essential. “You have faith in God: have faith also in me,” he says. Pope Benedict XVI explains in his encyclical on hope that people come to know themselves through Christ. He states: “[Christ] tells us who man truly is. . . . He shows us the way, and this way is the truth. He himself is both the way and the truth, and therefore he is also the life which all of us are seeking” (*Spe salvi [Saved in Hope]*, 6).

OUR CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHIES

to all those who have lost loved ones in recent days.

Mrs Joan Porter, died 29th April 2020, her graveside funeral will take place at **Stanley Hill Cemetery on 18th May 2020**.

We pray for all those who have died, and their families, during Mass each day. **May the Lord enfold them in his mercy. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.**

We have a fresh supply of church **votive candle lights** with a representation of the stained glass window of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. They burn for 24 hours and suggested donation is £2. (*Payment may be made online – see Money Matters*) The perfect accompaniment to prayer at Mass. Contact Fr Andy if you would like to place an order. He will ensure they are delivered to your home. If you have any **special intentions for Mass** on any day, please contact Fr Andy by email, SMS text or phone.

Thank you to all those who sent Easter greetings, generous Easter Offerings, and supportive messages, delicious treats for me to eat. I am so grateful for your support and encouragement during this extraordinary time. Thank you too for your messages and emoji during the Live Streaming of Masses *It is always good to know that you are there as part of the congregation even if I cannot see you!*

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE:

To keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, Our Lady's Church building remains closed until further notice. Sunday and daily Mass will be streamed live (see below) so that parishioners may join in the prayers and readings of the Mass from home. **Sunday and Daily Mass** is being live streamed online via **Facebook Live** on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OurLadyChurchCB **Liturgies are also live streamed from Northampton Cathedral:** www.northamptondiocese.org/live

We are now a Virtual Parish! We now have our own **Facebook page** which enables us to Live-stream our Sunday and daily Masses during the Coronavirus pandemic. The **Facebook page** can be accessed: www.facebook.com/OurLadyChurchCB

Scripture Insights

Today we hear the theme of God's universal salvation offered to all people who profess faith in the Resurrection of Christ.

The Second Reading is once again taken from 1 Peter. Today we find images such as “precious keystone,” “chosen race,” “royal priesthood,” and “consecrated nation,” which are traditionally attributed to Israel (see Exodus 19:6; Isaiah 28:16; 43:20-21), but now they are appropriated by Peter as just after this passage, Peter says, “once you were ‘no people’ / but now you are God's people.” With the death and Resurrection of Jesus, Peter is now able to understand this. God's raising of Jesus from the dead extends the invitation of salvation beyond Israel to include all people.

The Gospel reading is an excerpt from Jesus' farewell discourse in John 13:1-17:26. This reading contains another “I am” saying from the Gospel according to John. Today, Jesus says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” Of all the “I am” sayings of Jesus in John (seven in total: 6:35; 8:12; 10:7, 11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1), this may be the most significant, since it summarizes John's understanding of the essence of Jesus' identity as the Word Incarnate. The saying also points to the importance John places on *believing*. One must *believe* that Jesus is the way to the Father because “no one [neither Jew nor Gentile] can come to the Father except through me.”

God generously offers his gift of salvation to all people who profess faith in the resurrected Christ, as “the way, the truth, and the Life” (John 14:6).

Liturgy and Life (1) Does hearing that you are a part of “a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation” affect how you regard yourself as a Christian? (2) Is there a place in your life where you need to request God's mercy? (3) What anxieties do you need to turn over to God?

DISPENSATION FROM EASTER DUTIES

As it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

The Bishops have asked that all should make a perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that he continually shows us.

Our new bishop, **Bishop David Oakley** has written letters to those **waiting to receive the Sacraments**. The letters may be read here: www.northamptondiocese.org/those-waiting-to-receive-the-sacraments.

We have postponed all Baptisms, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Marriages until we are able to reopen our church doors.