

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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24th May 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



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

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Monday *St Bede the Venerable*

Tuesday *St Philip Neri*

Wednesday ST AUGUSTINE, APOSTLE OF ENGLAND

Thursday *Easter Feria*

Friday *Easter feria*

Saturday *Easter feria*

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

All these Liturgies will be **live streamed online**. Join us on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/OurLadyChurchCB)
You DO NOT require a Facebook account to access our Facebook page!

10.00am

9.30am

9.30am

9.30am*

6.30pm

7.00pm

9.00am

9.30am

7.00pm*

10.00am

MASS – Int. Allum Family Intentions

Mass – Int. Edna Welch, Birthday intentions

Mass – Int. Private intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

Mass – Int. Private intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

Extended Vigil & Mass – Int. Private intention

MASS – Int. People of the parish



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

Worksheet activities for this Sunday's readings may be downloaded from
our parish website: www.ourladychurch-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: **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 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.

Money Matters –

Online Donations to Support Our Parish

Many parishioners generously support the parish financially by
bank standing orders, others make their offerings through the
collection baskets at Sunday Mass. Your generosity is
appreciated and encourage you to continue supporting the parish
through online donations at Diocesan website
(www.northamptondiocese.org/donate). Please include 'Our
Lady's Chesham Bois – Offertory' in the comments box to
ensure the parish is allocated your donation. If you wish to Gift Aid
your donation please state that in the information box too. *Thank
you for supporting the parish in this way.*

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](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.

Our new bishop, **Bishop David Oakley** has written letters to those **waiting to receive the
Sacraments**. They may be read here: [www.northamptondiocese.org/to-those-waiting-to-
receive-the-sacraments](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/to-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 for public worship.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In the Gospel account of Jesus at prayer, we hear of the union of the
Father and the Son. "In this prayer Jesus reveals and gives to us the
'knowledge,' inseparably one, of the Father and of the Son which is the
very mystery of the life of prayer" (CCC, 2751).

The Gospel portrays Jesus as praying for the people God gave him.
This prayer acknowledges that everything is from God and belongs to
God. The Catechism notes that prayer takes into account that we are
God's, and he is ours. "This is Christian prayer: to be wholly God's,
because he is wholly ours (2617).

OUR CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHIES to all those who have lost
loved ones in recent days. 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!*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR REOPENING OF CHURCH

We are starting to prepare to reopen the doors of our church building
for private prayer. We do not yet know a date when this might be
allowed but it could be only a few weeks away so we need to be
prepared. Reopening must, of course, happen in a safe manner, and
is likely to take place in stages. If we are to be able to reopen, at first
it will be for private prayer only. We must follow the directions and
guidelines set out by the Diocese. Bishop David Oakley will only
authorise the re-opening of churches where it is safe and practical to
do so. This means that we have to create a safe environment for prayer
but also have a sufficient number of volunteers to act as stewards. We
are advised that there is a minimum of two stewards at any one time.
Guidelines for stewards will be issued in due course.

We a number of volunteer stewards to ensure for the Church to be
open at specific times. Volunteers need to be healthy individuals and
not part of the group of people who are being 'shielded' from
coronavirus. Are you able to help? Please contact Fr Andy if you are
willing to help as a steward to cover set periods when the building is open.

Scripture Insights

The readings for the Seventh Sunday of Easter focus on
prayer: the prayer of the earliest Christians and the prayer of
Jesus.

In the First Reading, from Acts, we learn from Luke that after
the Ascension, the eleven Apostles gathered in the upper
room in Jerusalem at the place where they were staying.
Joining the Apostles were women, along with Mary, and the
brothers of Jesus. Luke tells us that they prayed together.
The otherwise anonymous women in the upper room likely
included the women who accompanied Jesus during his
Galilean ministry (Luke 8:1-3), and who were also present at
his Crucifixion (Luke 23:49). Luke's reference to "his
bothers" gathering with the Apostles and the women is a
curiosity. Unlike the other Gospel writers, Luke downplays
Jesus' family members (see Mark 6:3 and Matthew 13:55
with Luke 4:22). Perhaps in this mention of Jesus' brothers,
Luke received, and simply preserved, the tradition of the
original community at Jerusalem which included the women
and Jesus' family members along with the Apostles.

The Gospel readings for the last three Sundays have been
taken from Jesus' farewell discourse in the Gospel according
to John (13:1-17:26). Today's Gospel reading is an excerpt
from Jesus' final prayer in the farewell discourse. He prays
for both himself and his disciples. In each prayer, the
intimacy between Jesus, the Son, and God, and the Father
is prominent. As he draws his farewell discourse to a close,
Jesus is mindful that "his hour has come" (John 12:23). In
John's account, Jesus makes numerous references to his
"coming hours" (John 2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23). In the farewell
discourse, it now becomes clear that the "hour" points to his
glorious death and Resurrection, when the eternal Word
made flesh returns to his Father.

Liturgy and Life (1) What place does prayer have in your life?
(2) When have you recognised the Lord as your refuge? (3)
How does your life as a Christian bring you to rejoice?

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.

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.