

# PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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31<sup>st</sup> May 2020

SOLEMNITY OF  
PENTECOST



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

<b>SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST</b>	10.00am	<b>MASS</b> – Int. People of the parish
Monday BVM, Mother of the Church	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Tuesday Feria	9.30am	Mass – Int. Ann and Jan Masat, 30 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anni.
Wednesday SS Charles Lwanga and companions	<b>9.30am*</b>	<b>Mass</b> – Int. Private intention
Thursday OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST	6.30pm	Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Private intention
Friday St Boniface	9.00am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Saturday Feria	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b>	10.00am	<b>MASS</b> – Int. People of the parish

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



## 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](http://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](http://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.*

## Money Matters – Online & Telephone 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 [www.northamptondiocese.org/donate](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/donate) Please include 'Our Lady's Chesham Bois – Offertory' in the comments box to ensure the parish is allocated your donation. Some parishioners may prefer to **donate by telephone** instead. Each Tuesday between 10:00am and 4:00pm, parishioners will be able to call **01604 712065**, to 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.

Take part in the **Friends of Westminster Cathedral Lockdown Online Quiz** on **Tuesday 2 June at 6.30pm** on the **Friends of Westminster Cathedral Facebook Page**. The quiz is free to enter but we are asking if you might make a £5 per head donation. All monies raised will help to support Westminster Cathedral. Parish virtual teams are welcome and may communicate using Zoom, Microsoft Teams, What's App etc. For more details, and to enter, email [christinawhite@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:christinawhite@rcdow.org.uk) (You will need join the page in advance to take part in the quiz.)

## 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](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/news)

**All Baptisms, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Marriages are currently being postponed** have been postponed during the Coronavirus Pandemic restrictions are relaxed and we are able to reopen our church churches for public worship. **The Catholic Church requires** notice of at least six months prior to the Sacrament of Matrimony being celebrated.

## Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

During the Second Reading, we hear St Paul tell the Corinthians, "No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit." Paul is explaining that the Spirit has a part in what occurs through Jesus. Later in the reading, Paul relates the formation of the Body of Christ, "In the one Spirit we were all baptised" into one Body. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that the Son and the Spirit are sent together. "When the Father sends his Word, he always sends his Breath. In their joint mission, the Son and the Holy Spirit are distinct but inseparable. To be sure, it is the Christ who is seen, the visible image of the invisible God, but it is the Spirit who reveals him" (689).

In the Reading from Acts, the Apostles testified to their faith while speaking in many tongues, Evangelisation, though occurs in ordinary ways at quiet moments. Pope Paul VI pointed out in *Evangelii nuntiandi* that evangelisation is simply telling people of the love of God. The apostolic exhortation states, "To evangelise is first of all to bear witness, in a simple and direct way, to God revealed by Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, to bear witness that in his Son God has loved the world – that in his Incarnate Word he has given being to all things and has called [all people] to eternal life" (26).

**OUR CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHIES** to all those who have lost loved ones in recent days: **Mrs Anne Marie Archer**, died on 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Thank you** to all those who leave greetings, messages, and delicious treats for on The Presbytery steps. I am so grateful for your support and encouragement during this unique time. Thank you too for your messages and emoji during the Live Streaming of Masses. *It is 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 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 need 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.

Our new bishop, **Bishop David Oakley** has written letters to those **waiting to receive the Sacraments**:  
[www.northamptondiocese.org/to-those-waiting-to-receive-the-sacraments](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/to-those-waiting-to-receive-the-sacraments)

## Scripture Insights

Pentecost Sunday celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. The faith and unity present in our Christian communities today is made possible by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The First Reading, from Acts, narrates the initial events associated with the descent of the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles. Luke foreshadowed this with the words of John the Baptist: "I am baptising you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. . . He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Luke 3:16). The association of the image of fire with the Holy Spirit is significant. In the Old Testament, fire symbolises God's presence in the covenant at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:18). In the New Testament, fire symbolises the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. As the fire came to rest on the Apostles, "they were all filled with the Holy Spirit," transforming them and enabling them to proclaim the resurrected Christ to the large crowds gathered in Jerusalem.

We hear in the Second Reading, from Paul, how the presence of the Holy Spirit and unity to the newborn Church. Paul tells the Christian community in Corinth that no one professes in faith that "Jesus is Lord" without the Holy Spirit. It is this common profession of faith that unites and benefits the community: "The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose." In the Gospel reading from John, we hear how Jesus, before Pentecost Sunday, gave the disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit. The resurrected Christ "came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you." Then Jesus breathed on them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit." From the beginning, the peace of the community was linked to the presence of the Holy Spirit.

**Liturgy and Life** (1) When has the gathering of many types of people been a witness to the work of the Spirit? (2) How have you used your spiritual gifts to build up the Church? (3) Who may be awaiting your offer of peace?

## 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.