



# PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

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

## NEWSLETTER

28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020

**SOLEMNITY  
OF SAINTS  
PETER AND PAUL**

### TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

#### SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

10.00am

Monday **OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR** 9.30am

Tuesday *First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church* 9.30am

Wednesday *Feria*

Thursday *Feria*

Friday **ST THOMAS, Apostle**

Saturday *Feria*

**FOUTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** 10.00am

**MASS** – Int. Anna Grzeczowska, RIP, Anni

Mass – Int. Fr Ken Payne, Ordination Anni intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

#### NO MASS TODAY

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction

Mass – Int. Private intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

Mass – Int. Private intention

**MASS** – 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!

**Today's Saints** Peter, the rock, affirmed Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). He later denied Christ to protect himself and then wept bitterly. After the Resurrection, Peter affirmed his love for Christ, proclaiming him unto death. Saul persecuted the early Christians; yet Jesus appeared to him and empowered him to preach the Christ until he was martyred.

#### Scripture Insights

Today's Gospel reading emphasises the role of the Church, and of Peter, the rock of her foundation, as "gate-keepers" of the Kingdom of Heaven, entrusted with its keys. "The gates of the underworld can never hold out against it" The "underworld": in Greek, Hades; in Hebrew, Sheol, is the realm of the dead. Death shall not have power over the Kingdom of Heaven and those who belong to it.

Iron gates imprison Peter in his heavily guarded cell as the Church prays fervently for him. Luke recounts Peter's miraculous deliverance by the angel of the Lord. The chains fall from his wrists and the prison gates swing open.

Later in life, when both he and Paul were put to death under the Roman emperor Nero, it could seem that the gates of Death had prevailed. But note Paul's words in the Second Reading as the time of his "departure" approaches: "The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely" – through yet another set of gates – to his heavenly kingdom." This is the ultimate deliverance and true cause for praise and thanksgiving!

How strong is Paul's faith! How eager is his experience as his death draws near – knowing that the gates of the underworld will not prevail and anticipating what awaits him beyond

heaven's gates. At times, he desires it fervently. "I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better" (Philippians 1:23); "our citizenship is in heaven" (Philemon 3:20-21). What glory awaits us, too, beyond those gates!

#### Liturgy and Life

(1) Is there something that God is asking you to let go of? (2) A way you are being called to grow? (3) Listen, and you will be given the grace you need to carry the task through to completion.

#### Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In the prayers for Mass today, Peter and Paul are referred to as Apostles. Paul called himself an Apostle, though noting he was not like the others. He is known as the Apostle to the Gentiles. Nonetheless, he shares with Peter an unswerving faith in Jesus Christ and an untiring witness to the churches he founded by his preaching.

Every ministry in the life of the Church can be enriched by the example of Peter and Paul; they are worthy models of leadership and service. The Church continues to need their guidance.

#### 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](https://www.ourladyschurch-cheshambois.org)

**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.

**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!*

#### 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)

#### MONEY MATTERS

Many parishioners generously support the parish financially. 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.

#### REOPENING OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Bishop David Oakley has convened a meeting of the Diocesan Task Force to respond to the Government's recent announcement about the re-opening of churches for public worship. Diocesan departments are now working on a guidance document which will be sent out in due course.

The document will include marriages, baptisms, funerals as well as Masses.

We are reminded that the dispensation for not attending Sunday Mass, granted by the Bishops, is still in force, so there is no obligation to parishioners to attend a Sunday Mass. The diocese will be advocating a 'soft re-installation' programme to begin with, and it could be some time before we return to normal. The safety of his priests is of paramount importance to our Bishop, and he does not wish for them to be placed in a vulnerable position of any kind. In the mean time we will resist the desire to make public promises that we may not be able to keep. As a general point any public act of worship that can be deferred until the Autumn should be. Until further guidance is received from our diocese, the present opening regime for private prayer at Our Lady's Church will apply:

**Mondays: 2pm to 4pm and Thursdays: 10am to 12noon**

You are invited to come and spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. *If you are coming by car, please do not park in Our Lady's School, instead park responsibly in nearby roads, to allow for those with limited mobility to park in the limited space around the church building.* I am so grateful to those who have volunteered to act as stewards to ensure that we have a prayerful environment in the church and keep everyone safe by doing all we can to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Please follow the guidance of our stewards.

**MARY'S MEALS is a charity that Our Lady's parishioners have helped.** They have made a video to update us on their work during the Coronavirus. You may watch the video here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek0x5FbAypk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek0x5FbAypk)

**Our Lady's Church votive candle lights** with a representation of the stained glass window of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour are available. They will burn for up to 24 hours and a suggested donation is £2.00 (*donations may be made online*). They are the perfect accompaniment to light in your home while joining live stream Mass each day. Contact Fr Andy if you would like to place an order.

**CAFOD**, our Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. Coronavirus (Covid-19) has now spread worldwide, with confirmed cases in many countries where CAFOD works. In order to continue protecting and improving the lives of those in poor communities, your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever. While we are not able to hold collections in our church, you can donate at [cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal](https://cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal), in these challenging times, your gifts and prayers are needed as much as ever.

**For Parents and Teachers:** Last week, CAFOD launched a [National Assembly](https://cafod.org.uk/news-events/summer-hope-assembly) for schools. This amazing assembly can be used both in the school setting for collective worship, as well as at home. It is all about CAFOD's 'Summer of Hope' and informs, inspires and encourages children, at a time when children may really need it. It is led by passionate youths and is a real must-watch! <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Summer-hope-assembly>

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.*

**Congratulations** to **Fr Ken Payne**, Parish Priest of St Aidan's, Little Chalfont, who tomorrow celebrates 60 years of Priesthood. *Ad Multos Annos!*