



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

NEWSLETTER

5TH JULY 2020

FOURTEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

(Fifth Sunday After Pentecost)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 10.00am

Monday Feria

Tuesday Feria

Wednesday Feria

Thursday Feria

Friday Feria

Saturday ST BENEDICT, Abbot, Patron of Europe

(Sixth Sunday After Pentecost)

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 10.00am

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!

Scripture Insights

It must have been shocking for people in the first century to hear Jesus refer to God as “Father,” as he does in today’s Gospel. The word he used is *abba*, which could actually be translated as “papa.” In using this form of address, Jesus was emphasising that God is not a faraway deity, disinterested and detached from creation. God is personal, loving, and involved in our lives.

God is our Father, and the “little ones” are his children who are humble enough to see that God has revealed himself in Christ (Matthew 18:1-4). Perhaps the “wise and learned” (the Pharisees) were too proud and stubborn to have an open mind about the new things God was doing in Jesus. Or maybe God calls the humble so that there will be no question that it is the work of God, and not just the accomplishments of important people (1 Samuel 16:7). Whatever the reason, true wisdom seems to come to those who are humble.

Jesus himself embodies both wisdom and humility, and for those who will follow his example, he promises rest. But this kind of rest does not mean inactivity; it means refreshment, peace of mind, and renewed energy. The yoke was the harness that attached the cargo to the beast of burden. When Jesus says “shoulder my yoke,” he means “let’s trade yokes – let me take your burden from you” In the book of Ecclesiasticus, the yoke represents the Law (Ecclesiasticus 51:26-27). In Matthew 23:1-4 it is associated with the scribes’ and Pharisees’ interpretation of the Law. Jesus takes away our failure to carry the burden of the Law and replaces it with grace; that is, the love and forgiveness of the Father that comes to us through Christ.

Liturgy and Life

(1) Do you pray that you will be given strength to lead a life as one who lives in the Spirit? (2) When have you looked to the meek to understand how God works in the world? (3) What can you learn about God from people whose burdens are heavy?

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In today’s Gospel, Jesus praises God and tells of how he has revealed truths “to the little ones.” The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, “Jesus confesses the Father, acknowledges, and blesses him because he has hidden the mysteries of the Kingdom from those who think themselves learned and has revealed them to infants, the poor of the Beatitudes” (2603).

The reading from Matthew portrays Jesus as inviting those who are laboured and burdened to find rest in him. He explains that he is meek and humble of heart. This describes the meek king and Saviour, who rides a colt from the reading from Zechariah. Jesus’ invitation to the lowly inaugurates God’s Kingdom. As *Lumen gentium* notes, “To carry out the will of the Father, Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth and revealed his mystery to us” (3).

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 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 me on The Presbytery steps. I'm so touched and grateful for your support and encouragement during these past weeks of the pandemic. 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

MONEY MATTERS

Many parishioners generously support the parish financially. Your generosity is appreciated and you are encouraged to continue supporting the parish through online donations at 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.

THE REOPENING OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AND PUBLIC WORSHIP

From Sunday, 5th July 2020, Our Lady's Church will be open for Mass. You 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. As we open, Bishop David and 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 everyone is of paramount importance to our Bishop, and he does not wish for anyone to be placed in vulnerable position of any kind. As a general point any public act of worship that can be deferred until the autumn should be. Until further notice is received from our diocese, the present opening regime for private prayer at Our Lady's Church will also 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 in recent years. 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

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.

For Parents and Teachers: Last week, CAFOD launched a [National Assembly](https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Summer-hope-assembly) for schools. This assembly can be used both in the school setting, 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.*

Missio's Mission Today is now available online. It may be downloaded at www.missio.org.uk/mission-today. Missio also now have a simple online donation process. See missio.org.uk/RedBox

Mission Under the Shadow of COVID-19

Join us online to hear about how communities you support around the world are coping with COVID-19 we will hear from a Missio National Director who is coordinating the response locally and a Mill Hill Missionary speaking about the impact on the parish community in Kenya. Ask questions and share ideas on how we can keep in touch with Red Box holders and encourage their support at this time. This meeting will be on **Zoom** and, to enable as many to attend as possible, you can join via computer/tablet/smart phone, and the meeting will last between an hour and an hour and a half. **Saturday, 11 July from 11am and Tuesday, 14 July from 6pm** Please register in advance, here: https://us14.list-manage.com/survey?u=21674241bf803ffc7d5c45fd7&id=77bb19e541&mc_cid=60730469fd&mc_eid=25f2952cc5&e=25f2952cc5

We are praying for our engaged couples preparing for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage at Our Lady's over the coming months: **Anna and Charlie, Clare and Andre, Emma and Brian, Natalie and Joe, Helena and Daniel.**