



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 6TH SEPTEMBER 2020 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Saturday (5 th September)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (23 rd Sunday in OT) – Int. Maureen Kudsee, RIP
(Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost)	8.00am	MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	MASS – Int. Allum Family intentions
Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Tuesday NATIVITY OF THE BVM	9.00am*	Mass – Int. Private intention
Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	NO MASS TODAY	
Thursday <i>Feria</i>	6.00pm	Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Private intention
Friday <i>Feria</i>	9.00am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Edna Welch, special intention
	10.30am – 11.30 am	CONFESSIONS (Outside in garden behind Church)
(Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (24 th Sunday in OT) – Int. Private intention
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.00am	MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
	10.00am	MASS – Int. People of the parish

Our 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

Ezekiel 22 presents God's people as sentinels: they have responsibilities to guard Israel's safety by sharing God's words so others will have a chance to make their own decisions. Psalm 95 pleads that God's people would not harden their hearts and repeat their ancestors' mistakes in Meribah and Massah (see Exodus 17 and Numbers 20), where they complained about not having water during their wilderness wandering and, as a result, missed their entry into Canaan.

Matthew 18 is known as Jesus' "community discourse," where Jesus teaches how his followers should treat each other. Matthew's Christianity is not individualistic; it requires patience and understanding towards those who have committed an offense or sin against a person. Matthew suggests multiple attempts be made to address grievances within the Church. He also expresses great faith in the Christ-following community, which is blessed with Christ's presence and spirit.

Paul's focus after Romans 12:1-2 is also relational. Note that when Paul cites the Old Testament commandments he does not cite those that concern our relationships with others. What fulfills "the law" for Paul is an excessive love or generosity towards one's neighbour. "Love does no evil to the neighbour," Paul writes, but Paul has given a more positive and demanding imperative in Romans 12:17-18: "Never pay back evil with evil. . . As much as possible, and to

the utmost of your ability, be at peace with everyone." Paul's "neighbour" is everyone, including those who have wronged the individual. His focus here is arguably broader than what is in Matthew 18. Love, as Jesus shows and as Paul argues, may make one vulnerable, but that is what we are called to be. The reasonable response to God's generosity is to love, share, and welcome others.

Liturgy and Life

When has your heart been hardened to what God has asked of you (2) How have you softened your heart to love your neighbour as yourself? (3) When gathered with others, do you recognise that Christ is with you?

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In the Second Reading, Paul urges the Romans to do what is right for all when he quotes Leviticus 18: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Christians are called to look after the common good of all. Each person is responsible for the good of all. Quoting from *Guadium et spes*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1912, notes that "the Common good is always oriented towards the progress of persons: "The order of things must be subordinate to the order

of persons, and not the other way around" (26). Paul's instruction to the Romans, "You will love your neighbour as yourself," follows what Jesus says in John 13:34. The Catechism quotes from John, stating that the Father's "commandment is 'that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.'" (2822).

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

Thank you to all those who leave messages, and treats for me on The Presbytery steps. 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 DIOCESE NEWS

The latest Diocesan News may be found on the website: 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 10am and 4pm, parishioners will be able to call **01604 712065**, to donate to our parish.

REOPENING OF OUR LADY'S CHURCH FOR MASS

Our Lady's Church is now open for Mass and public worship. 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. 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. Outside of public liturgies advertised, you are invited to come and spend time in private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament:

Mondays: 2pm – 4pm and Thursdays: 10am to 12noon. 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 register your name and phone number for contact tracing, and follow the guidance of our stewards. *Please observe social distancing of 2 metres whenever possible.* **We are now required to wear face coverings when inside places of worship.** *We do need more volunteers as stewards for both the 6pm Saturday and 10am Sunday Masses.*

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** or **Penance** or **Confession** is now being celebrated outside in the garden behind Our Lady's Church. In a gazebo, for the safe celebration of the sacrament, either by a traditional screen or face-to-face. Please observe social distancing, and be respectful of others' privacy by waiting on the garden seat or inside the church. **Saturdays 10.30am – 11.30am.**

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.

We are **praying for our children** who are **preparing to receive Holy Communion** for the first time: **Lucinda, Thor, Nuala, Seth and Alice.** 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.*

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

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

You are invited to **Missio's** next online **Mission Animation**, which will be a chance to meet and hear from missionaries you are supporting throughout the world. 1 September - 4 October is the 'Season of Creation' and we will be marking the 5th anniversary of the publication of Pope Francis' encyclical **Laudato Si'**, on 'Care of Our Common Home'. The meeting will be on Zoom and run twice. You can join via computer/tablet/smart phone, and the meeting will last between an hour and an hour and a half. **Saturday, 12 September from 11am Tuesday, 15 September from 6pm.** Please register in advance by clicking below. Feel free to invite Promoters, Treasurers and other supporters. *Prior to the meeting we will send clear instructions about how to join the session.* Here is a link: <https://missio.org.uk/event-laudato-si-and-mission/>

This year marks the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, **Laudato si'** In 2019, the Vatican asked Catholic communities and pastors everywhere to join ecumenical communities around the world in celebrating the **Season of Creation** from **until 4th October**, a season dedicated to prayer, reflection and celebration of God as Creator.

On 5th August, **Pope Francis called on the Church to reflect on our current situation.** In response, the diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office is hosting a series of online webinars on Monday evenings through the autumn. We begin on **21 September** with Bishop David reflecting on the last six months, and posing some key questions as we go forward. Other topics include reaching out to the needy, building community, prayer and spirituality, and catechesis. The webinars are free to attend, but you will need to register to receive the web link. *For more information and to register, please go to* postlockdownchurch.eventbrite.co.uk.