



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 13TH SEPTEMBER 2020 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Saturday (12 th September)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (24 th Sunday in OT) – Int. Private intention
(Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost)	8.00am	MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	MASS – Int. People of the parish
Monday THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Tuesday Our Lady of Sorrows	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Wednesday SS Cornelius & Cyprian	NO MASS TODAY	
Thursday Feria	6.00pm	Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Private intention
Friday Feria	9.00am	Mass – Int. Private intention
Saturday Feria	9.30am	Mass – Int. Edna Welch, special intention
	10.30am – 11.30 am	CONFESSIONS (Outside in garden behind Church)
(Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (25 th Sunday in OT) – Int. Private intention
TWENTY-FIFTH 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

Earlier in the Gospel according to Matthew, when Jesus taught the Our Father, he emphasized forgiveness, saying “If you forgive others their failings, your heavenly Father will forgive you your; but if you do not forgive others, your Father will not forgive your failings either” (Matthew 6:15). These are strong words, which imply that our own forgiveness is dependant on our willingness to forgive others.

Today’s parable of the unmerciful servant illustrates this point with a story of someone who refused to forgive, and his forgiveness was taken away. Clearly this is an analogy in which the master represents God, and the servants represent people like us – with forgiveness. The First Reading puts it well: “If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?” God has forgiven us of so much, and God is willing to keep on forgiving us – but if we will not forgive others we are throwing God’s gift of forgiveness back in his face. The refusal to forgive is itself a sin that need forgiveness. When we refuse to forgive, we cut ourselves off from God’s forgiveness.

When we are hurt by someone, we may need a little time to take stock of our feelings, but ultimately it is most helpful to take a position of humility – a position that refuses to judge, refuses to

adopt a self-righteous attitude, and refuses to hold a grudge. A grudge is like toxic waste; it only hurts the one who holds it. So how many times should we forgive the person who wrongs us? When Jesus says seventy-seven times, he really means stop counting. Forgive as many times as it takes.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

Paul tells the Romans, “The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die,

Liturgy and Life

Why is Jesus’ command to forgive seventy-seven times difficult for you? (2) Where does compassion fit in your practice of Christianity? (3) Can you accept that you must pardon others in order for God to pardon you?

we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord.” Christians are called to live just lives. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, explains, “Justice is the moral virtue that consists in the constant and firm will to give their due to God and neighbour” (1807). In the Gospel, Jesus tells his followers that they will be led off to the tortures “unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.” The Catechism, 1823, explains that followers of Christ are to love as he does. “By loving one another, the disciples imitate the love of Jesus which they themselves receive.”

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.northamptondioocese.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.northamptondioocese.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. You can join via computer/tablet/smart phone, and the meeting will last between an hour and an hour and a half. **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.