



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 27TH SEPTEMBER 2020 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Saturday (26 th September)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (26 th Sunday in OT) – Int. People of the parish
(Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost)	8.00am	MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	MASS – Int. Seamus O' Malley, RIP of the parish
Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Camillus and Chutte, spec. intention
Tuesday SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL	9.30am	Mass – Int. Private intention in thanksgiving
Wednesday <i>St Jerome</i>	NO MASS TODAY	
Thursday <i>St Teresa of the Child Jesus</i>	6.00pm	Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass – Int. Private intention
Friday <i>Holy Guardian Angels</i>	9.00am	Mass – Int. Seamus O'Malley, RIP
Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Mass – Int. Edna Welch, special intention
	10.30am – 11.30 am	CONFESSIONS (Outside in garden behind Church)
(Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost)	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (27 th Sunday in OT) – Int. John & Sheila Setright.
TWENTY-SEVENTH 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

Today's parable from Matthew is part of Jesus' response to the religious establishment's question about authority. In many ways, the parable repeats a consistent emphasis throughout Matthew.

The difference between the two sons in the parable is that one fails to do what he says, the other ends up doing what he fails to say. What matters is not what you hear and say, but what you do (see Matthew 7:21, 24). Note also how Matthew's Jesus ends

this parable with not only a mention of how prostitutes and tax collectors will enter the kingdom before the religious establishment but also multiple references to belief. Belief for Matthew is not something merely in one's head; a change of mind must involve a change in actions.

We find this emphasis on doing right not only in the mouth of Matthew's Jesus but also in the actions of Christ, as indicated in the well-known hymn in Philippians. Christ is praised for his coming in human form and dying on the cross, but the significance of these is set in the context of his deference to God and his generosity towards humanity – or what we do with and for others (see Matthew 25:31-46). This hymn's emphasis on humility is also seen in Psam 25; to be able to take instructions to change, one has to

be humble and teachable. This is also what the religious leaders lack; hence, they accept the authority of neither John nor Jesus. Ezekiel 18 is an affirmation of God's justice and a call to responsibility, repentance, and right actions towards others. With a humble and teachable mind, one is not limited by the past but can change interactions with others and one's relationship with God.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In the Second Reading, Paul tells the Philippians, "to humbly regard others as more important than yourselves. Pope Benedict XVI explains in *Dues caritas* that charitable giving begins with sharing the self. That is humble service, he said. "This proper way of serving others also leads to humility. The one who serves does not consider himself superior to the one served, however miserable his situation at the moment may be. Christ took the lowest place in the world – the Cross – and by this radical humility he redeemed us and constantly comes to our aid" (25). Paul presents Jesus, "who did not regard equality with God," as a model of humility for

Christians to follow. The Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola direct us to humbly put God first. "The first manner of humility is necessary for eternal salvation; namely, that I so lower and so humble myself. . . that in everything I obey the law of God."

Liturgy and Life

Why is it hard to look out for others' interests as well as your own? (2) What can you do to change your attitude to humbly regard others as more important than yourself? (3) How can your yes to spending time with God become unwavering?

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 or use the QR code with the NHS app, 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, Danielle and Matt.**

Missio's Autumn Mission Today is now available online. It may be downloaded at www.missio.org.uk/mission-today Printed copies have been posted out to those we hold details. There are a few printed copies available in the porch. 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'.

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. **Tomorrow, 28 September** the speaker is the excellent **Brendan Thompson from Catholic Voices**, talking about how to share our faith in strange times, on Monday night at 7.30. 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.*

OUR CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHIES *to all those who have lost loved ones in recent weeks.* We pray for all those who have died, and their families, during daily Mass. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

On **10/11 October** our parish is marking **CAFOD's Family Fast Day** to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected. You can donate: **online** at cafod.org.uk/give, using one of the **envelopes** or **Text CAFOD to 70085** to donate £10. Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text CAFODNOINFO to 70085.