



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

28TH MARCH 2021

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

(Palm Sunday)	8.00am – MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	10.00am MASS – Int. People of the parish
Monday of Holy Week	9.30am Mass – Int. Private intention
Tuesday of Holy Week	9.30am Mass – Int. Thanksgiving intention
Wednesday of Holy Week	NO MASS
Maundy Thursday	7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper – Int. Private intention
Good Friday	11.00am Stations of the Cross
	3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	10.30am to 11.30am CONFESSIONS (In the Sacristy)
	8.00pm Vigil of the Resurrection – Int. Private intention
(Easter Sunday)	8.00am – MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
EASTER SUNDAY	10.00am MASS of Easter Day – Int. People of the parish

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!

Our church building is able to open for public worship under Covid-secure conditions. Please wear a face covering when entering, use hand sanitiser and observe 2-metre social distancing for the safety and protection of all our church users.
We are also open for private prayer: Monday 2pm– 4pm of Holy Week only.

Scripture Insights

Today begins the first day of Holy Week, Palm Sunday commemorates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, where he is proclaimed king.

Our first reading, from the book of Isaiah, is one of four poems that are called “the Servant Songs.” Another of these poems will be heard on Good Friday. While these texts are believed to have originated during the exile, the Church sees these words as speaking to the identity of Jesus. The one who has given himself for the life of others.

The psalm refrain, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” will be heard in today’s Gospel reading from Mark. Since this line also appears in the Gospel of Matthew, Psalm 21 is perhaps one of the best known of the lamenet psalms.

Today’s text from Philippians is often referred to as the “Christ hymn.” Paul uses this poem of uncertain origin to speak of the humiliation and exaltation of Jesus. Similarities between this text and the reading from Isaiah are self-evident.

Since Mark’s passion account is lengthy, involving multiple scenarios, it can be difficult to follow the details of the Gospel. The text opens with the religious authorities plotting to arrest Jesus and put him to death and is followed by a meal in Bethany

where Jesus was anointed, by preparation for the Passover meal and the meal itself, by Jesus’ foretelling of Peter’s denial, Jesus’ prayer in the garden, Judas’ denial, Jesus’ arrest and trial, and, finally, his death and burial.

Connections to the Church Teaching and Tradition

In the reading from Isaiah, we hear that the servant has put himself in the hands of the Lord God. This servant submits to God, speaking to the weary and listening rather than rebelling. No matter the persecution endured, the servant looks to the Lord for help and support. In our day, we see how Jesus emptied himself, fulfilling the role of the servant. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, “The Servant Songs . . . proclaim the meaning of the Passion and show how he [Jesus] will pour out the Holy Spirit to give life to the many: not as an outsider, but by embracing our ‘form as a slave’” (713).

The first man, Adam, turned his back on God when he sinned. Jesus shows humankind who they are destined to be when he acts with humility and is obedient, as the reading from Philippians states, “even to accepting death.” *Gaudium et spes* notes, “In reality it is only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of humanity truly becomes clear. For Adam . . . was a type of him who was to come, Christ the Lord. Christ the new Adam, in the very revelation of the mystery of the Father and of his love, fully reveals humanity to itself and brings to light its high calling” (22).

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

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 or priest 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.

Your EASTER Offerings are your gift to the parish clergy

REOPENING OF OUR LADY’S CHURCH FOR MASS

Our Lady’s Church has now reopened for public worship, private prayer and funerals. 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. The safety of everyone is of paramount importance. 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 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. **We are now required to wear face coverings when inside places of worship.** We do need more volunteers as stewards to cover the times the church is open for private prayer.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** or **Penance** or **Confession** will be celebrated in the Sacristy on Saturdays between 10.30am and 11.30am.

Online Marriage Support

Is your marriage under stress? **SmartLoving BreakThrough** can help! Identify your conflict triggers, learn strategies to de-escalate an argument and find constructive ways to re-establish connection. Available anywhere, anytime through our online platform, the course is completely private and doesn’t require your spouse to participate. Restore hope for your relationship now. Visit: www.smartloving.org/bto-uk

LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT: For parishioners who may be job hunting or going self-employed due to the pandemic, Sacred Heart Parish, Luton has set up a free online career coaching

programme <https://www.vitaeopus.co.uk> providing a wealth of information, tools, practical advice and activities to help anyone wanting to find new employment opportunities, especially if they are not receiving any outplacement or other back to work support.

THE SEASON OF EASTER 2021

Copies of **Walk with Me: A journey of Easter Prayer for 2021** are now available in the porch for £1.00. Ask Fr Andy if you would like a copy to be sent to your home.

Job Vacancy: Parish Secretary St Aidan’s Little Chalfont

We are currently recruiting for a Parish Secretary for the parish of St Aidan’s Little Chalfont. The role will be for 12 hours per week, working pattern to be agreed. This is a great opportunity to work in a parish environment for someone with proven administration/secretarial experience. Full information for the position and an application form can be found by visiting northamptondioocese.org/jobs/ or via email hadmin@northamptondioocese.com Applications should include an Application Form, CV and covering Letter. The closing date for applications will be Thursday 1st April 2021 and interviews will take place via Zoom during week commencing 5th April 2021.

The **Passage’s** mission and work is developing to cope with more people becoming homeless it is raising funds through the Big Give until Wed 31st March to support **No Night Out** a new initiative to take newly homeless people off the street straight away. Further details of the work is at www.passage.org.uk. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921886 andrew.h@passage.org.uk Donate at <https://tinyurl.com/NoNightOut>

On **Tuesday 30th March** the NYMO team will be joined by the delightful **Sarah Rae LaValla** from the **NET Ministry Team** in Scotland. Sarah Rae is a missionary all the way from Minnesota and she will be sharing on the theme **The Face of Christ** (in the time of zoom). With the usual mix of fun, worship, insight, reflection and prayer this retreat night will be a great way to spend the Tuesday of Holy Week. The evening will take place from **8pm-9.30pm** is open to all aged 18-30. This is a great chance to join other young adults from around the diocese and discover how Jesus wants to encounter us this Easter. To register simply email hello@nymo.org. The evening will take place on zoom and the link will be sent to you on the morning of Tuesday 30th.

CHRISM MASS from **NORTHAMPTON CATHEDRAL** will be live streamed on **MAUNDAY THURSDAY** 11am click on www.northamptoncathedral.org/live