



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

11TH APRIL 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

(Low Sunday	8.00am – MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY	10.00am MASS – Int. People of the parish
Monday of Easter	NO MASS
Tuesday of Easter	NO MASS
Wednesday of Easter	NO MASS
Thursday of Easter	NO MASS
Friday of Easter	NO MASS
Saturday of Easter	9.30am Mass – Int. private intention
	10.30am to 11.30am CONFESSIONS (In the Sacristy)
	6.00pm Vigil Mass of 3 rd Sunday of Easter – Int. Private intention
(Second Sunday after Easter	8.00am – MASS in Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin))
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00am MASS – 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. Sadly, the Church will NOT be open for private prayer on Monday nor Thursday this week.

Scripture Insights

On this Second Sunday of Easter, the Liturgy of the Word begins with a most beautiful and idealistic text from Acts. Of special significance is the description that the Jerusalem community "was of one heart and mind," with "everything in common." How many of us struggle daily to live for the common good!

Appropriately, today's responsorial psalm is one of thanksgiving. With emphasis placed on God's everlasting love. While this love is celebrated throughout the liturgical year, it is uniquely emphasised during the Easter season, when we remember the paschal mystery most intensely.

The reading from the First Letter of John, like our responsorial psalm, invites us to reflect on the incomprehensible love of God. God's commandments are not intended to be a burden for us; rather, they have been given to us as guides for living faith-filled lives.

While locked behind closed doors, Jesus appears to the disciples and offers them peace. Upon recognising Jesus, the disciples rejoice. Jesus extends peace to them a second time, then bestows the Holy Spirit on them. In yet another encounter behind locked doors Jesus appears again. This time, after

extending peace to the disciples, Jesus invites Thomas to touch him and to believe in him. This scene concludes with reference to other signs that Jesus performed so that we might have life in Jesus' name.

Connections to the Church Teaching and Tradition

When Jesus requests that Thomas touch the places where the nails went in his hand and the sword pierced his side, Jesus offers evidence of who he is. The Gospels record many instances where Jesus invited them "to verify his risen body... is the same body that had been tortured and crucified, for it still bears the traces of his passion" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 645).

Without touching Jesus wounds, Thomas makes a declaration of his belief when he calls Jesus "Lord." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains, "at the prompting of the Holy Spirit, 'Lord' expresses the recognition of the divine mystery of Jesus. In the encounter with the risen Jesus, this title becomes adoration: 'My Lord and my God!'" (448).



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.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 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.

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.

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

We offer the opportunity to reflect on the [Stations of the Resurrection](#) by Richard Q Greatrex. There are 16 stations so Joanna Hale and Christine Cornwell would run Zoom sessions on Monday-Thursday for weeks 3-6 of Easter, 19th April to 13th May, at 7.45 - 8.15 am and 10.30 - 11 am. [Click here](#) to request a book and / or register your interest in a group no later than Sunday 11th April.

On **Thursday 15th April** the NYMO team will be back **In the Studio** for our online event for young people! With the usual mix of fun, worship, silliness and prayer, this night is not to be missed! With our usual segments like Grill the Priest and NYMO's online Quiz we will also have inspiring talks and moving times of prayer! The evening will premiere on our YouTube channel from 8pm-9pm is open to all aged 11-18. So come along and chat with others in the comments, be inspired by our guests and see just what God wants to say to you this Easter season! To watch along simply make sure you are on our YouTube channel 'luxnymo' at 8pm on Thursday - we can't wait to see you there!

Liturgy and Life

How do you let others know that you are a believer? Where do you see God's mercy revealed? Where do you find assurance when you have doubts?

*Happy Easter Season to you all!
May the Hope and Joy of Jesus
Christ risen from the tomb be
yours.
Christ is Risen! Alleluia!*