



The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Registered Charity No. 234091

TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Third Sunday after Epiphany	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. Joseph Leonard, RIP, anni.
Monday St Thomas Aquinas	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday Feria	NO MASS	
Thursday St John Bosco	11.30am	Funeral Mass & Requiem – Margarita (Rita) Reece, RIP
	6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction of The Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday Feria	9.00am	Mass – Int. Thanksgiving (Paulina & Mónica)
Saturday THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	9.30am	Mass – Int. Donovan Horon, RIP, rec. Deceased.
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 3 rd Feb. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

During 10am Mass, we invite our younger children (approx. aged 3 to 7) to attend their own Liturgy of the Word in the Guild Room. **Parents are encouraged to join their children.** We welcome more help from those who seek to be leaders and support in this ministry to the children of our parish.

Our sympathies and condolences to the families of:
Margarite (Rita) Reece, latterly a resident of The Croft, died on 2nd January 2019. Her funeral will take place at **Our Lady's Church** at **11.30am on Thursday 31st January 2019.**
Mary Molan, of Chesham, who died on 1st January 2019. Her funeral will take place at **Our Lady's Church** at **2pm on Thursday 7th February 2019.** May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

At the 10am Mass today we **Welcome and Baptise Layla Sophia Baxter.** As the community of Faith we support, through our prayers and example, her parents, **Catherine and Jack** and her godparents, **Matthew and Lauren** in bringing her up in the ways of the Church. *Congratulations to them all!*



Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

Paul stresses community as he instructs the Corinthians that "in the one Spirit we were all baptised." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains that the community is essential to faith. The Catechism states: "Baptism is the sacrament of faith. But faith needs the community. . . It is only within the faith of the Church that each of the faithful can believe" (1253).

Through the discourse in the reading from Corinthians, Paul makes known the role of community. He relates that individual roles are not as important as the spirit of community that needs to permeate the Body of Christ. Pope John Paul II explains this concept further in *Christifidelis laici*, stating: "only from inside the Church's mystery of communion is the 'identity' of the lay faithful made known, and their fundamental dignity revealed. Only within the context of this dignity can their vocation and mission in the Church and in the world be defined" (8).

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019. The children will be presented to the parish at the 10am Mass next Sunday. The Gospel readings for the past two Sundays can be found on pages 6-7 and 85-87 of the I Belong books. Parents please collect a special envelope from Fr Andy after Mass today. You will need to bring the completed Promises to Mass next Sunday for the presentation.

Preparing for the rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary

Bringing England's Nazareth to Northampton. The Slipper Chapel statue of Our Lady of Walsingham will visit every English Diocese between 2018-2020. **The statue will visit our Cathedral in Northampton from 5pm Thursday 7th – noon Saturday 9th February 2019.** See: www.dowrytour.org.uk

Vocations Weekend for young women

Theme: Follow your Heart - Discernment and Vocation

Dates: 15 - 17 Feb 2019 Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). **There is nothing quite like religious life – it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

YOU CAT for Kids Sessions 2019

Following the publication of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the *Youth Catechism* (YOUCAT) a wonderful new resource aimed at younger children, **YOUCAT for Kids** is now available. This is a great new tool for catechists, and for parents and carers as they pass on the faith to children. **YOUCAT for Kids sessions** will take place on **Friday 1 February 2019, 7.30pm-9pm** at **St Aidan's Church Hall, Little Chalfont.** There is no charge for the event itself. Booking however is essential as capacity is limited. Please book early to secure your place. Booking forms are on church porch noticeboard.

World Day of Prayer – Praying for Slovenia – A Service for Everyone

Amersham Churches invite all singers to join our choir for year's World Day of Prayer service at 11.00am on Friday 1st March at St John's Methodist Church, Woodside Road, Amersham. Rehearsals are on Mondays 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th February at 2.00pm. Contact Helen on 07710 271324 if you have any questions

Lectionary for Mass

Today's Scripture readings invite us to hear God's Word spoken in our midst and respond with confidence despite fears or concerns, because it is Good News. In the First Reading (Nehemiah) 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10), the scribe Ezra, newly returned from exile in Babylon, proclaims the Torah, the laws of the covenant that God made with Moses at Mount Sinai, at the entrance of Jerusalem. As people begin to weep, Ezra and the others who had been instructing the people urge them to celebrate and be merry because this day is holy to God.

The Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15) fleshes out Ezra's words of praise for God's law with images that show that obedience to this covenant will bring reward. May the psalmist's prayer become ours – that our words and thoughts are acceptable to God, our rock in times of doubt and fear.

Today's Gospel (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21) offers a story about Jesus at the beginning of his ministry. Already, crowds are chasing after him. When he gets to his hometown, he attends the synagogue as he had done many times before and stands to read from the prophet Isaiah. All await his words: "This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen." What does he mean? Jesus is telling his listeners that he is the fulfilment of the prophecy made to Israel that God would bring Good News to the afflicted (Isaiah 61:1-2; 58:6).

Liturgy and Life

(1) How do you prepare yourself to listen to the readings during Mass? (2) How do your fellow parishioners show that they realise that they are to have the same concern for all members of the Body of Christ, suffering and rejoicing when they suffer and rejoice? (3) How do you see your role as a Christian to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, and release of those imprisoned in some way? God's glory and are led to believe in him?



#SIGNIFICANCE: On **Saturday, 2nd March 2019** thousands of young people from all over the country will travel to **The SSE Arena in Wembley** for this year's **FLAME Congress**, entitled "Significance." We are in a world where it's easy to feel constrained, to measure self-esteem in Twitter and Instagram "likes", responses to Facebook status updates and Snapchat conversations. FLAME 2019 offers a fresh perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God. **Book your place online now at stjosephs.org.uk/Flame** Open to those aged 12-18. Cost is £10 plus your train fare.

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £243.75

PAX CHRISTI APPEAL – £140.68

Thank you for your generosity

If you would like to support the parish through Offertory Envelopes or directly from your bank, speak to Fr Andy.

The JANUARY 2019 edition of The Vine

The Diocese of Northampton newspaper is now available. It's free of charge!

Are you new to the parish?

If so, you are very welcome! Do introduce yourself to Father Andy after Mass, and please complete a parish registration form.



Tea, coffee and cold drinks are served in The Guild Room after both of our Sunday Masses.
All are welcome!

Infant Baptism and Marriage. By appointment with Fr Andy after completing the necessary preparation. **The Church requires** notice of at least six months prior to the Sacrament of Matrimony being celebrated.