



TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Sexagesima	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. Eileen Cullen, RIP (Anni.)
Monday Feria	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday Feria	9.30am	Mass
Wednesday Feria	NO MASS	
Thursday Feria	6.00pm	Adoration and Benediction of The Blessed Sacrament
	7.00pm	Mass
Friday ST DAVID	9.00am	Mass – Int. Laura Pérez, RIP (Recently Deceased)
Saturday Feria	9.30am	Mass
	10.15am – 11.00am	Confession
SUNDAY 3rd March Quinquagesima	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. Special Intention (Isabelle)

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.

Lent begins on Wednesday 6th March. To help us through the holy season of Lent there are two different books with readings and prayerful guides available in the porch both priced at £1 each.

We are now collecting last year's palm crosses and branches, the remains will be used for our Ash Wednesday liturgies (6th March). We will burn the palms after the 10am Mass next Sunday. **Please place your used palms in the basket in the porch.**

2019 NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN DIRECTORY is available in the porch – price: £5 each

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019. On Sunday 3rd February, our children were presented to the parish as they formally began their preparation for these Sacraments: **Harrison, Sebastian, Mylee, Aidan, Abigail, Arianna, Sage and Elsie,** all made promises together with their families that they will work hard to prepare well for these great gifts from God. We their parish family, promised that we would support and encourage them with our prayers and good example.

EMBRACE Middle East are looking to recruit a **Supporter Care Administrator** to provide a high-level of supporter care to our loyal and valued supporters on the phone, in writing and by email. This is a varied administrative role working in a busy, close-knit team. Suitable applicants will have experience of using and recording information on a central database (CRM) and excellent organisation and administration skills. **Full details about, and how to apply for,** this be found at www.embraceme.org/vacancies.



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.

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

This year's **World Day of Prayer service** at 11.00am **THIS Friday 1st March** at **St John's Methodist Church,** Woodside Road, Amersham. **All are welcome!** Contact Helen on 07710 271324 if you have any questions.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his listeners how to be his followers when he says, "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who hate you." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that our words and actions say who we are and that we exhibit the quality of our reverence for human dignity (1700) in these basic ways: persevering and cherishing the family as the original cell of social life (2207); protecting human life (2258); maintaining integrity in the powers of life and love planted in us (2338); respecting and protecting creation (2415); and living in truth and purity (2465, 2517, 2535).

Thank you for your Christmas Crib offerings of £55.66 Last year the crib offerings enabled **Friends of the Holy Land** to support around 200 ad hoc emergency requests for help with the cost of operations, medication, medical equipment and family support. With no NHS the cost of these is often prohibitive, putting families who are already struggling into a desperate situation.

The latest edition of the **Mission Today** magazines are available in the porch. Please take home a copy. If there are any **Red APF/Mill Hill boxes** which need to be collected, please bring them to church to be collected and emptied.

CATHOLIC BASICS COURSE:

- Part Two: Church – 11 April 2019**
- Part Three: The Moral Life – 16 May 2019**
- Part Four: Prayer – 13 June 2019**

After a very successful launch, join us for another day of engaging teaching with opportunities for interaction and discussion. Cost: £25 per person per day (£10 for the unwaged). Price includes a full lunch. No qualifications needed – just interest, good will and a sense of humour!

Part Two: CHURCH – 11 April 2019, 10am–3pm (arrive 9.30am for refreshments). **NORES Centre, Holy Ghost Parish, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD.** To book, contact admin@nores.org.uk or phone Jackie on 01582 723312.

Lectionary for Mass

Many consider mercy to be the same as pity and that being merciful can make one feel superior to the offender. Today's Scripture readings, though, invite us to a more nuanced understanding of mercy that we must aspire to, if our lives are to be holy.

In the First Reading, we hear a story about King Saul, who with his army was seeking to kill David because Saul was jealous of David's popularity among the people. In a strange turn of events, Saul and his commanders make camp very near where David and his troops are hiding. Thus, David and Abishai enter Saul's camp and even his tent in the middle of the night. Abishai suggests that they should kill Saul on the spot, but they choose not to do so because, as David says, Saul is God's anointed. Only God can raise a hand against him.

Today's Gospel, which is part of Luke's sermon on the plain, is a teaching on loving one's enemies. From a practical point of view, we are told that we should treat others as we would want to be treated. More importantly, from a God-centred point of view, we are told to be merciful like our heavenly Father, who is kind to everyone, even the ungrateful and the wicked. The Greek word translated here as "kind" is *chéstos* meaning "useful" or "kindly." Ironically, it was a common name for slaves in the ancient world.

Liturgy and Life

- (1) When have you shown mercy when it may have seem underserved?
- (2) Do you think of yourself as bearing the image of God?
- (3) "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Who does that statement demand that you love?"

Northampton Diocese will be hosting a weekend for those men considering the **Vocation to the Priesthood.** This will be held at the **Cathedral from Friday 22nd March – Sunday 24th March.** If you are interested please contact the Cathedral Parish Office on 01604 714556 or speak to the Vocations Director, Fr Mark Floody,



BOOK NOW FOR FLAME 2019: The biggest Catholic youth event in England and Wales is back! If you are aged 12-18 then come and join 10,000 young people at Wembley Area for a memorable day out **next Saturday, 2nd March 2019.** Hear from inspiring speakers, watch RISE Theatre, listen to some amazing music and join Cardinal Vincent Nichols for Adoration. Cost is just £10 plus your train fare. Please book as soon as possible via the parish website: www.ourlayschurch-cheshambois.org

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection – £221.76

Racial Justice Sunday – £116.39

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 **FEBRUARY 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.