



TIMES OF MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

13th Sunday after Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish
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 John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor	9.00am	Mass
Saturday EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	9.15am*	Mass
SUNDAY 15th Sept. – 14th Sunday after Pentecost	8.00am	Mass in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.00am	Mass – Int. People of the parish



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN

During the 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.

A PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Lord God,
 Your Spirit of wisdom fills the earth
 And teaches us your ways.
 Look upon these students
 Let them enjoy their learning
 And take delight in new discoveries.
 Help them to persevere in their studies
 And give them the desire to learn all things well.
 Look upon these teachers.
 Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience
 And endeavour always to bring the truth to eager minds.
 Grant that students and teachers alike may follow Jesus Christ,
 the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.



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.

Connections to Church Teaching and Tradition

The discipleship that Jesus describes in the Gospel calls for an honest appraisal of regard for others and ourselves in light of our love for God. Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical *Deus caritas est* notes that love calls for reaching outside of oneself to find the true self and God. "love is . . . an ongoing exodus out of the closed inward-looking self towards its liberation through self-giving, and thus towards authentic self-discovery and indeed the discovery of God: 'Whoever seeks to gain his life will lose it . . .'. In these words, Jesus portrays his own path, which leads through the Cross to the Resurrection" (t6). Jesus shows a way to the Kingdom of God that would be difficult for anyone, since all of us can easily focus our desires on people and things more than God. In telling the crowds that they needed to hate their own lives and carry their cross, he was saying that trust needed to be in God. *Evangelii nuntiandi* explains that disciples need to undergo a change of heart. "This kingdom and this salvation . . . are available to every human being as grace and mercy, and yet at the same time each individual must gain them by force . . ., through toil and suffering, . . . through abnegation and the cross, through a total interior renewal, . . . a radical conversion, a profound change of mind and heart" (10).

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion for children in school Year 3 or above on 1st September 2019. If you have a child whom you think may be ready, after the necessary preparation, to receive communion, please sign up by filling in a registration form (available now in the porch). Applications close **30th September 2019.**

Our sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of **Francis Arthur Roderick (Rod) de Paula Hanika** sadly passed away on 14th August. His funeral will be held on the **10th September at St Columba's Church, Chesham at 11.30am. May he rest in peace.**

We are looking for two volunteers to be **faith-sharers** to the young people (aged 13-14 years) who will be preparing for the **Sacrament of Confirmation** in 2020. The preparation course is likely to run from Advent 2019 through to May 2020. You are not required to attend every session. No experience is needed, only a wish to pass on the faith to a new generation. Training is available as well as mentoring. This is an exciting opportunity and participation in the course as a catechists would be very rewarding.

On Saturday 28th September, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed as there was a large increase in the number of abortions in this country last year. For details of our live saving work see www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

Next week we celebrate **Home Mission Sunday.** We are invited to find ourselves in the Gospel story as we accompany the characters who call out, 'Rejoice with me!' These words express the joy of finding something, or someone they had lost. Imagine the joy in your own heart when you see someone you love coming home to Church, because they are seeking, or have found Christ. Occasionally this happens by direct divine intervention, but more often we are called to be the face of Christ, praying for, inviting and welcoming those we love into a relationship with Him.

Thankfully we are not alone in this task. The Home Mission Office is a national organisation that helps the local Church engage in the vital mission of Evangelisation. Next weekend, they ask for our prayers and our financial support through the second collection. Our prayers help them to be attentive to the Holy Spirit who directs their work, and our donations to the second collection will enable them to help the local Church share the joy of the Gospel throughout England and Wales. In short, the second collection helps them to help us. For more information about the Home Mission Office or to donate online please visit www.homemission.org.uk

Lectionary for Mass

The cost of being a follower of Jesus is demanding. The Second Reading illustrates this in the request Paul makes of his close friend Philemon. Paul, in prison, asks Philemon to receive back a slave, Onesimus, who had run away. Paul had converted Onesimus to Christ and so asks Philemon to receive him back "not a slave anymore, . . . a dear brother." Paul asks Philemon to extend forgiveness. Today's First Reading, from the Book of Wisdom, reminds us that we do not have answers to everything. Even more so, we must recognise that we cannot understand God's mind. Only through the gift of wisdom and the Holy Spirit can we "know the intentions of God." The Gospel continues the theme of the cost of discipleship. Jesus offers a series of sayings that require a depth of commitment – for example, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." Jesus is being provocative and demanding. His unsettling language causes us to sit up and pay attention. When he says we should "hate" our family members, Jesus obviously is not to be taken literally. What we hate is what is opposed to our relationship with him. The full meaning of the first Communion to love God above all things is fleshed out in the examples Jesus gives: neither family members or possessions, nor even one's life can be placed above love and commitment to God. Priority must be given to our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Liturgy and Life

(1) Why is there wisdom in abandoning a desire to determine what God intends? (2) What do you need to give up to become a better disciple? (3) Which of your possessions distract you from God?

NURSE VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are a locally based (HCPT) pilgrimage group, offering annual adult pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes. Our pilgrims are mostly local, some being ill or disabled. Our current group nurse is retiring from nursing. Do you know of, or are you, a registered nurse, who could travel with us this year from 20th to 27th September? We have a wider group of loyal helpers, our current nurse will be there for guidance, and although your medical skillset is critical, the nursing duties are minimal. We will pay all your travel and full board accommodation costs. So if you would be able to help, or would like to know more, please contact Mike Drake (phone number 07919991737, email mikeandil04@talktalk.net), or John Wolff, (phone number 01494-785496, email jpawolff@talktalk.net).

Pastoral Area Reflection Day – Saturday 14th September

Thank you to those who attended our parish Reflection evening last Tuesday. There were a small number of people . . .but it is quality not quantity that is important! We will bring the fruits of our reflections and thinking to the Pastoral Area Day on Saturday to further the vision of local parishes and schools to prepare for our local mission for the future. We hope we can recruit some parishioners to help us fulfil our ambitions.

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Offertory Collection - £270.50

**NEXT SUNDAY – SECOND COLLECTION
 HOME MISSION SUNDAY**

Thank you for your generosity

The September 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.