



Diocesan Shrine & Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St. Anselm

Sacred Heart Parish, Pyramid Close, Weston Favell, Northampton NN3 8DP

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MASSES THIS WEEK

St Anselm	Sunday	26 March	8.00pm	Eileen Weston (Foundation Mass)
Our Lady	Sunday	26 March	9.15am	Pat McNevin RIP; Special Intentions – F. Harrison
Our Lady	Monday	27 March	7.00pm	All souls; Maria Bell RIP
Our Lady	Wednesday	29 March	6.00pm	For the sick
Our Lady	Saturday	1 April	10.00am	Patricia McTigue RIP; Special Intentions – F. Harrison followed by Exposition
St Anselm	Sunday	2 April	8.00am	For the parish
Our Lady	Sunday	2 April	9.15am	Mary Longhurst (Foundation Mass)

OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

Our Lady	Tuesday	28 March	1.00pm	Parish Prayer Time and Stations of the Cross
St Anselm	Tuesday	28 March	7.00pm	Prayer Group and Exposition and Stations of the Cross
St Anselm	Saturday	18 March	11.00am	Confessions

Prayer Advocates' Intention to pray for all mothers, living and dead.

Next Week's Liturgy of the Word. Ezekiel 37:12-14, Psalm 129. R.v7, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:3-7.17.20-27.33-45.

Last week's collections. Our Lady: £225.34 St. Anselm: £193.00 in addition to £102 from standing orders. Thank you for your continued generosity!

From the desk of Fr Jerry. FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Man with all his shrewdness is as stupid about understanding by himself the mysteries of God, as an ass is incapable of understanding musical harmony." - John Calvin

As we journey through this life, we are often assailed with fears, doubts and dilemmas. These are some of the causes of our spiritual blindness. Jesus Christ, our Shepherd-King cures our blindness and lights up the way for us.

The cure of the blind man offers us insights into the need for us to be cured of our spiritual blindness in order to make fresh commitments to Jesus Christ. Jesus did not agree with his disciples that it was somebody's sin, which caused the man's physical blindness. His answer was: "he was blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him". God permitted the man to be born blind.

The Pharisees were upset that Jesus had cured on the Sabbath. For them, Jesus was a sinner. Others did not agree: "how could a sinner produce signs like this?" While the Pharisees were hard at it to discredit Jesus as the Messiah, the man born blind saw him as a prophet, a man of God or someone from God: "if this man were not from God, he could not do a thing". At the end of the story, we realise that it was the Pharisees who were seriously blind. This was because they refused to believe in Jesus Christ.

Let us come to Jesus Christ to heal us of all forms of blindness

May our spiritual blindness cause by the challenges of the world give way to bright light of the gospel of Christ.

Lent and Easter dates: The following are dates and activities of Lent and Easter which require active, conscious and full participation:

Stations of the Cross	Every week during Lent	Fridays 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Tuesdays 1.00pm at Our Lady's Fridays 6.00pm Our Lady's Tuesdays 7.00pm at St Anselm's	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
Palm Sunday	9 April	Normal Sunday Mass times	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Maundy Thursday	13 April	7.30pm at Sacred Heart 7.00pm at Our Lady's with Watching before the Altar of Repose (Adoration) after Mass	Thursday of the Lord's Supper. Renewal of commitments of Eucharistic Ministers
Good Friday	14 April	9.30am at St Anselm's	Ecumenical Walk of Witness followed by service at the Baptist Chapel
		3.00pm at Sacred Heart 3.00pm at Our Lady's	Friday of the Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	15 April	8.00pm at Sacred Heart	Blessing of Fire and Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	16 April	Normal Sunday Mass times	Mass and Renewal of Baptismal vows.

Update on Tree Removal. Thank you all for your patience whilst the work has been ongoing. The church will need to be inaccessible for safety reasons next Thursday only.

Confessions. During the season of Lent, Fr Jerry will be available for the sacrament of Reconciliation and confessions at St. Anselm at 11am on the following Saturdays: 1 and 14 April.

Hymn Books and Mass Sheets. Because of the congestion in the porch at the end of the 9.15am Mass at Our Lady's please leave your hymn book and Mass sheet at the end of pew where you have been sitting and these will be collected up when the church has emptied.

St Anselm's – Tea/Coffee following Mass. We will be having an informal get together in the church after the 8am Mass on Palm Sunday for those who would like to stay behind for a chat after Mass.

Cemetery Spring Tidy Up. The Parish Team would appreciate your help for the cemetery tidy up on Friday 7 April from 1pm. The gardening is extremely light work and you only need bring a pair of shears and a trowel. We have moved the date to a Friday in an effort to encourage the help of more parishioners. If 30 people turned out we could tidy up all the graves in two hours. Please show us your support. The cemetery is behind St Andrew's C of E Church in Great Billing.

Monday Evening Mass. Please note that Monday evening Mass will return to 7pm from 27 March.

Vocations Weekend. The Diocese of Northampton will be holding a vocations weekend for men who would like to explore a vocation to the Priesthood. The weekend will be held here at the Cathedral from the 7-9 April. Accommodation will be provided. For more details please contact Fr Mark at the Cathedral on 01604 714556. Please remember our students and those attending the weekend in your prayers.

Lenten Thoughts. "Let us be generous with our time in going to meet The Lord in Adoration. May all Adoration never cease" (Pope John Paul II).

Every week, and especially during Lent, there are many opportunities to spend time with our Lord:

Every Tuesday: 1pm-2pm at Our Lady's. There will be Stations of the Cross and prayers to the Holy Spirit for our world and our families.

Every Saturday: 10am-1pm at Our Lady's. There will be Holy Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

A precious time to "be silent, be still, alone, empty, before your God. Let your God love you."

A day of creativity and reflection at Turvey Monastery. Saturday 1 April 9.30am-5pm. Lead by Br John Mayhead and Br Herbert. We will be using clay in the morning to inspire our inner creativity. You may then choose to continue after lunch with the clay, draw, paint, write, sew or just relax embraced by the peace of Turvey Monastery. Experience as an artist not necessary. Clay and some basic art materials supplied. Lovely lunch, tea and coffee included, cost £35 full payment goes to support the Monastery. Please bring an apron or wear clothes you don't mind getting messy. For more information or to book contact Johan 07900864674 email barberjohan@gmail.com

Holy Week with Billing Covenanted Churches Together. As with previous years, there will be the opportunity for shared worship during Holy Week. Monday 10 April at the Methodist Chapel, Tuesday 11 April for Station of the Cross, here at Our Lady's, and Wednesday 12 at St Andrews Church. All services will be at 7.30pm.

NYMO Summer Camp. 6-10 August. Minimum donation of £185. Awesome outdoor activities such as archery, bike riding, climbing, raft building and much more alongside Mass, Reconciliation, Adoration, teachings and a full day at Alton Towers. The Camp will be staying at Alton Castle and transport to and from the castle is included in the cost. Please contact Fr Jerry or Lorraine in the parish office if you are interested in attending. For more information, visit <http://www.nymo.org>