



# 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	21 January	8.00am	For the parish
Our Lady	Sunday	21 January	9.15am	Leon Martindale RIP; Jimmy Flannery RIP; Janina Dmochowska RIP
Our Lady	Monday	22 January	6.00pm	<b>No Mass today</b>
Our Lady	Wednesday	24 January	6.00pm	Valerie Fitzgerald (Foundation Mass); For the sick
Our Lady	Saturday	27 January	10.00am	Edith Alexander (Foundation Mass) & Exposition
St Anselm	Sunday	28 January	8.00am	For the parish
Our Lady	Sunday	28 January	9.15am	De Bless Family (Foundation Mass)
Our Lady	Sunday	28 January	11.00am	Baptism of Marcell Luke Vargese.

## OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

Our Lady	Tuesday	23 January	1.00pm	Parish Prayer Time and Exposition
St Anselm	Tuesday	23 January	7.00pm	Prayer Group and Exposition
Our Lady	Wednesday	24 January	2.00pm	Prayer at the Shrine
Our Lady	Thursday	25 January	1.00pm	Holy Hour with Chaplet and Novena

**Prayer Advocates' Intention** to pray for Christian unity.

**Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation 2018:** January's Prayer Intention: We pray together for Christian Unity and celebrate the great joy of our shared baptism.

**Pope Francis' Special Intention:** In January his prayer is for Religious Minorities in Asia - that Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

**Next Week's Liturgy of the Word.** Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R.v9, Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28.

**Last week's collections.** Our Lady: £279.73 St. Anselm: £213.70 in addition to £85 from standing orders. £182.93 for Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Thank you!

**Please pray for our sick and elderly.** Gillian Brockway, Bernard Weston, Mary Percival, Felicidade Hatcher, Pat Landergan, Betty Picknell, Sonia Borucki, Ian Smith.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. Theme: EXCEPTS FROM PASTORAL LETTER ON CHRISTIAN UNITY

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

During this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and in this Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation, I want to urge you to pray for the unity of all who believe in Jesus Christ and to respond to the prayer of Jesus that "all may be one. (John 17:21)" The Church teaches in the Vatican II Decree on Ecumenism that "men and women who believe in Christ and have been truly baptised are in communion with the Catholic Church even though the communion is imperfect. (Unitatis Redintegratio 3)" It is because of our common baptism and because of the scandal of our separation that we must pray and work for Christian Unity.

In a talk to the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in November 2016, Pope Francis spoke of "Unity" as a journey, not a destination. He said, "Unity is not the fruit of our human efforts, but a gift that comes from on high." "We are not able to achieve unity by ourselves," the Pope continued, "Nor can we decide its forms and timing .... Our task is that of receiving the gift of Unity on our journey (of faith) .... It requires patient waiting, effort and commitment."

Because the journey to Christian Unity can seem profoundly slow, some people have given up the effort and commitment Pope Francis speaks of. Others have taken matters into their own hands and decided that differences do not matter.

Both of those attitudes are wrong. Christian Unity is an essential requirement of our faith. It is a requirement that springs from our relationship with Jesus. So, we cannot set aside Christ's will for unity. The Spirit of hope must sustain us.

In today's Gospel, Jesus begins his public ministry with a challenge - "The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News. (Mark 1:15)" For all of us who are baptised, there is the constant call to conversion, to turn away from sin and live the commandments of love. That includes praying and working together with our Christian brothers and sisters and being honest with one another about the truths of the faith we hold as the Church.

In the readings at Mass, there is a note of urgency. Jonah urges the people of Nineveh to repent. Paul speaks of our time growing short, and the fishermen respond "at once" to Christ's call to follow him. May that urgent spirit of God's Word prompt us in our parishes and schools to pray and to work together for Christian Unity.

**#Copied from Pastoral Letter by Bishop Peter Doyle. (Received on 11th Jan. 2018)**

**Requiem Mass for the father of Fr Jerry.** Fr Jerry would like to invite all friends, parishioners and sympathizers to the requiem Mass for his father at 7pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Sacred Heart Church.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.** The annual Billing Churches Covenanted Together service will be held today, 21 January at 3pm at Andrews in Great Billing. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

**Provisions for burials in the Catholic Cemetery, Great Billing.** Over the last few months the Parish Team have been putting together a set of provisions or regulations for the cemetery as it is important that the standards required for a place of burial are met and adhered to. Should you wish to have a copy of these regulations please contact Lorraine at the Parish Office and she will email or post you a copy. If you have any comments on this document then these should be made to Lorraine initially.

**Lux.be.** It's only 2 weeks away! We are into the final 2 weeks of preparation of our residential weekend 'Lux'. The excitement is happening between 2nd-4th February at the Kings Park Centre in Northampton. As the deadline approaches we need your help to spread the word to as many young people as people aged 11-18yrs. If you know anyone who is interested in this amazing experience please encourage them to contact Fiona at [fiona@nymo.org](mailto:fiona@nymo.org) as soon as possible. There are also some spaces for youth leaders left- so please encourage anyone interested in youth ministry to get in touch.

**Bible Study:** There will be a shared Bible Study next Wednesday evening at St Alban's Church on Broadmead Avenue, starting at 7.15pm and ending at 9pm. It follows a theme proposed by the churches in the Caribbean, and will consider the biblical implications of these issues: 1. Welcoming the stranger, 2. Upholding human dignity, 3. Pursuing economic justice, 4. God acts for the powerless. These events have always been appreciated. The Bible is something that all Christians share, and through getting to know the Scriptures together, we can grow together.