



The Sacred Heart

www.sacredheartnorthampton.org.uk



Diocesan Shrine,
Our Lady of
Perpetual Succour
& St Anselm

www.ourladyandstanselm.org



Priest in Charge: Fr Jerry Manomey
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Admin Assistant & Parish Safeguarding
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www.facebook.co.uk/
SacredHeartNorthampton

Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of
Northampton, Reg'd Charity No: 234091

Sacred Heart Mass Times:

Saturday: 5.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am
Weekdays: 9.30am followed
by Rosary
Holy Days: 9.30am

Our Lady Mass Times:

Sunday: 9.15am

St Anselm Mass Times:

Sunday: 8.00am

Weekdays
and Holy Days: as advertised

Sacred Heart Diary:

Adoration: Mon 10am-5pm
Sat 10am-2pm
Confession: Sat 4.30pm – 5.15pm
Children's Liturgy: Sunday during
10.30am Mass
Charismatic Prayer Group:
1st & 3rd Weds every month

Our Lady & St Anselm Diary:

Our Lady:
Prayer at The Shrine &
Stations of the Cross: Weds 2pm
Novena: Thurs 1-2pm
Exposition: Sat 10.30am-12pm
St Anselm:
Stations of the Cross &
silent prayer: Tues 7pm

21st/22nd March 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

As per the instruction from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, there will be no public acts of worship in our churches. **There will not be any Masses on any day of the week.** Churches are to remain open to anyone and you are welcome to visit. The Sacred Heart church will be open every weekday morning. The parish office will be open as usual from 9am-midday and the church will be open for those hours. On weekends, the church will be open on Saturdays and Sundays between 10am - 4pm, however the times could change if Fr Jerry is called away or has to visit a parishioner, etc.

As Fr Jerry will be saying his own private Mass daily, he will still be accepting Mass intentions. Please contact the parish office with your Mass intentions.

Saturday	Eddie Owens R.I.P.; Bridget O'Leary R.I.P.
Sunday 22 nd March	Eileen Weston R.I.P.; Michael Smith R.I.P.; Eileen Dunne R.I.P.
Monday	Fr Calnan R.I.P. and Fr Damien R.I.P.
Tuesday	Priests Intentions
Wednesday	Mary Dorothy R.I.P.
Thursday	Kate Billson R.I.P. Funeral of Mary Clarke R.I.P.
Friday	Bernard Thompson (sick)
Saturday	Audrey Glover R.I.P.
Sunday 29 th March	Kathleen Fuller R.I.P.; Michael Connors R.I.P. Kay Mill's intentions

Feastdays: Wednesday – The Annunciation of the Lord.

Anniversaries: Margaret Hawkesworth, Nellie Kennedy, John O'Leary, Isabella McArthur, Charles Ruddick, Fr Edward Byron, Mary Casey, Susan Maynard, Margaret Warrington, Thomas Brassil, Marjorie Whiteside, Ruby Forde, Joseph Catalano. R.I.P.

Please pray for all our sick.

Pope Francis' Special Intention. March: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Next Week's Liturgy of the Word: Ezekiel 37:12-14, Ps 129.Rv7, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:3-7.17.20-27.33-45.

Last week's collection: **Sacred Heart:** £334.96 (and £475 from standing orders)
Our Lady's: £213.70 **St Anselm:** £152 (and £85 from standing orders)

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day collection for Sacred Heart: £1,053.40. Thank you all very much.

Michael Connors R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Connors who died on 13th March. Please keep Michael, his wife Ann and their family in your prayers.

Pam Boshell R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pam Boshell who died on Monday. Please keep Pam and her family in your prayers.

Patricia Smith R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patricia Smith who died recently. Her funeral will take place at the Cathedral on Wednesday 1st April at 10.30am.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Until further notice, all catechism classes and the sacraments are cancelled and parents will be contacted when there is more information available.

New Collection Envelopes. The collection envelopes for the next 12 months would have been available from this weekend. Once normal service resumes, the boxes will be available from the first Sunday Mass, however if you wish to continue to give in the absence of Sunday Masses, please contact the parish office for further details.

Bingo at Sacred Heart hall. Bingo has been cancelled until further notice.

**We wish all our mothers a very happy and peaceful day.
We thank them for all that they have done and all that they do for us throughout the year.
May God bless them all and all those without their mothers.**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: Theme: *Jesus' encounter with the man born blind.*

Our faith journey through this life is often associated with fears, doubts and dilemmas. It's easy to become anxious and worrisome. Many of us are concerned about our loved ones, friends with compromised immune systems, jobs, and food. There is a real fear of the unknown right now. How can we deal with this? Do we choose anxiety, or do we choose to trust? Today's gospel reminds us that Jesus Christ, our Shepherd-King, cures a man born blind. The cure of the blind man offers us insights into the need for us to be cured of our 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 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 Pharisee was 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 on Jesus as the Messiah in order to discredit him, 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 realize that it was the Pharisees who were blind for their refusal to believe in Jesus Christ. They still remained in darkness. The catechesis teaches that Christ is the light of humanity so whenever the Gospel is proclaimed to every creature, it brings to all men that light of Christ which shines out visibly from the Church. (CCC#748)
Let us come to Jesus Christ, the light, to heal us of all forms of blindness.

Parish Finances. From the diocese:

"Following the direction by the Bishops' Conference that Mass is to be celebrated without congregations until further notice, we need to recognise that this will significantly reduce offertory. Many parishes derive most of their income through offertory on the plate and, with people being unable to attend Mass, offertory on the plate will reduce. We would ask that all parishes consider carefully their expenditure and reduce their spending where possible. No non urgent or unnecessary works should be undertaken or planned at this time. Recently approved building work projects that have not yet started may need to be delayed until we are clear about our future financial situation but we will deal with this on a project by project basis. It is easy to think that our own parish finances are not significant. They are! With 69 parishes offertory plate income is normally £250,000 per month. Any reduction on this will put pressure on parishes and on the Diocese as a whole so it is important that all parishes look at 'the big picture' particularly when considering expenditure and are as prudent as possible. As a means of mitigating this loss we would like to encourage those parishioners who do not currently give by Standing Order to donate online. This can be done via the Diocesan website which can be found at <https://northamptondiocese.org/> Scroll down to find the 'Donate' button and follow the instructions on the Catholic Diocese of Northampton Virgin money giving page. Please ensure the parish name and area i.e. St Joseph's, Luton that the donation is intended for is indicated in the notes section of the donate page. I am sure that you will all be as generous as possible and support your parish in these difficult times."

From Brother Richard, of the Capuchin Franciscans. Lockdown.

Yes, there is fear.
Yes, there is isolation.
Yes, there is panic buying.
Yes, there is sickness.
Yes, there is even death.
But,
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet the sky
is no longer thick with fumes But blue and grey and clear.
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other
across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open
so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland is offering free meals
and delivery to the housebound.
Today a young woman I know
is busy spreading fliers with her number through the
neighbourhood So that the elderly may have someone to call on.
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are
preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way.
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality to how big
we really are.

To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.
So we pray and we remember that
Yes, there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes, there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes, there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.
Yes, there is sickness.
But there does not have to be disease of the soul.
Yes, there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic.
The birds are singing again, the sky is clearing, Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing.