



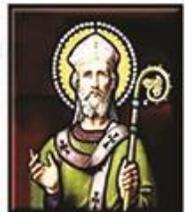
The Sacred Heart

www.sacredheartnorthampton.org.uk



Diocesan Shrine, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Anselm

www.ourladyandstanselm.org



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SacredHeartNorthampton

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

28th/29th March 2020 Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

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| Saturday | Audrey Glover R.I.P. |
| Sunday 29 th March | Kathleen Fuller R.I.P.; Michael Connors R.I.P. Kay Mill's Intentions |
| Monday | Priest's Intentions |
| Tuesday | Ita Griffiths (Foundation Mass) |
| Wednesday | John Dorothy (Foundation Mass) |
| Thursday | Fr Owen Wynne R.I.P. Funeral of Michael Connors |
| Friday | Harnek Masih R.I.P. (birthday); Ancestors of the Hoang family |
| Saturday | In thanksgiving |
| Sunday 5 th April Palm Sunday | Mollie Elizabeth Padbury (Foundation Mass); Annie Bennett R.I.P. |

Anniversaries: Joseph Catalano, Brady Robson, Albert Handy, Ita Griffiths, Michael Browne, Jason Stansfield, Loxie Villa, Fong Kiu Cheng, Fr Oen Wynne, Denise Williams. R.I.P.

Please pray for all our sick: Rachel Crane, Philomene Crizzle, Vicki Plant, Joan Kelly, Patricia Harris, Neal Peckham, Margaret Whitlock, Stan Everitt, Victor Stapleton, Sheryl Haynes, Edwina Julie, Isobel McArthur, Sarah Robinson, Leo Bell, Kath Scholtz, Mary Stanton, Jasmine Cross, Petra Barreau, Deirdre Donovan, Tony Bull, Teresa Brown, Laura Sheehy, Thomas Slaven, Fran Duffus, Dennis Ellerbeck, Maureen Smyth, James McCormack, Harry Brophy, Don Lennon, Sandra Smith, Nollaig Donegan and Kye Scholtz. Gillian Brockway, Mary Percival, Felicidade Hatcher, Betty Picknell, Dennis Williams, Bernard Johnson, baby Ellis, Angela Kingsley, Pat & Jerry Green, Tessa Toolaram, Mary Huntley, Anne-Marie Cox, Ann Kelk, Lisa O'Connor, Lucien Gadhie, William Tong and Augustine Jackson.

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: Isaiah 50:4-7, Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 r.2, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP). During this difficult time for all our parishioners and those in the community, we are here to help in whatever we can. Please text or ring our phone if we can help in any way. Sacred Heart SVP: 07504 465707 or Our Lady & St Anselm SVP: 07568 313234.

Please note that the Tabernacles at Our Lady's and St. Anselm's have been emptied of consecrated host by Fr Jerry, since the church will be closed indefinitely. All churches are completely closed. They are not open for parishioner's public or private prayer. We must comply with these measures as set out by the government, the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales, and the diocese. This is to stop people from congregating as it is possible to have the virus without any symptoms. People can spread the virus unwittingly without being aware that they have it.

Please keep yourselves safe during this period of restriction. Practice good hand and respiratory hygiene and do not mix with other households, even family members. This is extremely difficult, especially if you live alone, but it is essential if we are to stop the spread of the virus. Go for a walk once a day but stay 2 metres away from people you pass and if you can, join in with daily Mass and services. We live in a world with an abundance of technology – please use it!

Masses available online. Mass and other services are available to join in with, live from the Cathedral. You can view it from the Sacred Heart parish website or at <https://northamptondiocese.org/live/>. Stations of the Cross, the rosary and the Angelus will all be broadcast throughout the week. Priests continued celebration of Mass means that parishioners can join in spiritual communion with the priests of the Church. There are also a number of resources and prayers available on the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/prayer-and-worship-2/> to encourage us to keep a pattern of prayer and praise in our day, especially when Mass is not publicly celebrated.

CAFOD are also offering Children's Liturgy live streamed from their website or viewed at a later date:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

There is a wealth of resources available to help us keep God at the centre of our lives.

An act of Spiritual Communion - Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Pope Francis called for all Christians to respond to the coronavirus pandemic "with the universality of prayer, of compassion, of tenderness", adding, "Let us remain united. Let us make our closeness felt toward those persons who are the most lonely and tried".

Speaking after the Angelus, the Holy Father called on all Christians to join together in prayer. "In these trying days, while humanity trembles due to the threat of the pandemic, I would like to propose to all Christians that together we lift our voices towards Heaven."

Pope Francis invites all the Christian faithful to participate in a special time of prayer led by him at Saint Peter Square on Friday, 27 March 2020. The ceremony will include readings from the Scriptures and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It will conclude with the Pope imparting the *Urbi et Orbi* blessing which is usually held only twice per year, at Christmas and Easter, from the balcony over the entrance of Saint Peter Basilica. The prayer and blessing will be live-streamed on the Vatican News website www.vaticannews.va at 5pm.

Parish offertory. We have been contacted by several parishioners who have asked for alternative ways to contribute to the financial support of the parish. There are two ways:

Online Donation. The diocese have an online donation facility on the main Diocesan website through Virgin Money giving: <https://northamptondiocese.org/>. If you use this option we ask that you please indicate in the notes section which parish, including the parish name and area or which priest, including his full name that you would like your donation to be attributed to. Please note that there is the facility to Gift Aid any donation to your parish but donations to individual priests are not eligible for Gift Aid. Please therefore do not complete the Gift Aid option for any donation to a priest.

Standing Order via donor's own bank. You can set up a standing order for donations to your parish using your online bank account. The information required to make the donation is as follows:

Account name: RCDN Sacred Heart Parish

Sort code: 60-06-11

Account number: 46714596

Account name: RCDN Our Lady's Catholic Church

Sort code: 60-06-11

Account number: 46714464

Payment Reference: The Parish Name and Area. If the donation is for the Easter offering for the priest, please also state 'priest's Easter Offering'.

Any donations to the parishes are very gratefully received.

The Hope Centre. These are extra-ordinary times which are affecting everyone in our community. But amongst that number, the people the Northampton Hope Centre serves are some of the most vulnerable in our society. We do however, face major challenges ahead with a huge drop in income and loss of volunteers. We have already seen the impact of the crisis on donations, the closure of our shop and Hope Catering and in the future the cancellation of many events. It is now, more than ever that we need your help. By donating just £10 you will enable us to get 10 cooked meals out to those without food. By donating £50 you can pay for the van to deliver items out the poorest regions of Northampton during this crisis. We will continue to supply food to those in need for as long as is possible but we need your help to be able to do this.

Please visit www.justgiving.com/campaign/helphope

Day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse. This year, a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse will be marked on 3rd April. By participating in this day, we demonstrate our own personal commitment as members of the Church to any survivors in our parishes, we raise awareness of the need to support survivors and we provide an opportunity for our parishioners to pray the following prayer for and express concern for their brothers and sisters:

Praise to you Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all consolation and hope.

Be the refuge and guardian of all who suffer from abuse and violence.

Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of the body, soul and spirit.

Help us all and make us one with you in your love for justice as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life.

Giver of peace, make us one in celebrating your praise, both now and forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sacred Heart Lourdes Pilgrimage. Please note that the organisers have taken the decision to cancel this year's trip. They are already planning ahead for next year!

From Fr Jerry: Fifth Sunday of Lent Theme: "I am the resurrection and the life"

In a time of emotional and physical death, the church stills want to remind us about the message of Jesus, the One who has authority over life and death. Jesus stands before us in this season of Lent, as the resurrection and the life. The question before us is the same as that posed to Martha before the resurrection of Lazarus: Do you believe this?

Our daily encounter with Jesus through the Word of God and the Sacraments bring us into a deeper knowledge of him as the Resurrection and Life, the one who comes to bring a new and different life to the world. As Jesus raises Lazarus to new mortal life, only to die again, he reveals that he has come so that he can bring a greater life- one which never ends- to all who come to believe in him.

Our faith in the resurrection is always challenged in the face of the apparent physical death of loved ones and separation.

The Catechism teaches that faith in Jesus is closely linked with his own person: "I am the Resurrection and the life"

(CCC#994) It is Jesus himself who on the last day will raise up those who have believed in him. It is Jesus himself who will raise up those have eaten his body and drunk his blood. Therefore, to be a friend to Christ in these challenging days is to be a "witness to his Resurrection". That is to have eaten and drunk with him after he rose from the dead. Every encounter with the risen Christ demonstrates the Christian hope of resurrection. We shall rise like Christ, with him and through him.

(CCC#995)

Do you believe this? Indeed, This is not just a question to be answered but a spiritual life to be explored by everyone who shows care and compassion to the sick, elderly and the homeless in the society. Stay safe, stay home, save the NHS.

Please note. The parish office itself is closed. You can still contact Fr Jerry on the usual parish telephone number but Lorraine is working from home. For all none urgent contact, please use the parish email address and Lorraine will reply as soon as possible.