



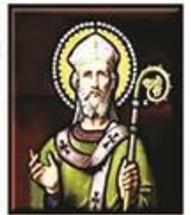
The Sacred Heart

www.sacredheartnorthampton.org.uk



Diocesan Shrine, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Anselm

www.ourladyandstanselm.org



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

Parish donations:
Account name: RCDN Sacred Heart
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Payment Reference: Parish Name and
Area. If the donation is for the Easter
offering for the priest, please also state
'priest's Easter Offering'.

Please note the times of the Holy Week
Masses and Services. These are the
times Fr Jerry will be celebrating his
private Masses/Services. Parishioners
can also pray at these times knowing that
they will be joining Fr Jerry in prayer.

4th/5th April 2020

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

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.

Saturday	In thanksgiving
Palm Sunday 5 th April	Mollie Elizabeth Padbury (Foundation Mass); Annie Bennett R.I.P.
Monday	Tom Brassil R.I.P. (Foundation Mass) Sisters Margaret & Josepha; Mary Longhurst (Foundation Mass)
Tuesday	Alan Watts R.I.P. (Anniversary);
Wednesday	Pam Boshell R.I.P.; Nollaig Donegan R.I.P.
Holy Thursday 7pm	Evening Mass of the Last Supper; Rudi Gumbs R.I.P.
Good Friday	2pm – Stations of the Cross 3pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday 7pm	Easter Vigil; Ellen & Bill Travill R.I.P.; Pat & Leslie Chapman (Foundation)
Sunday 12 th April	Tony Teevan R.I.P. (Anniversary) Eric & Annie Clements (Foundation Mass)

Anniversaries: Timothy Lehane, Bridget Teague, Danny McFadden, Tom Brassil, Sarah Leavy, Edwin Welford, Alan Watts, Clifford Newman, Ben Rigley, Joseph Sagnella, Vernon Martyr, Peter Barrett, Fr Jim Boyd, Ellen Travill. R.I.P.

Please pray for all our sick.

Pope Francis' Special Intention. April: We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Next Week's Liturgy of the Word: Isaiah 50:4-7, Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 r. 2, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66.

Nollaig Donegan R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nollaig Donegan who died on Tuesday morning. She travelled back to Ireland a few weeks prior to her death so that she could be with her family. Please keep Nollaig and her family in your prayers.

Children's Liturgy. CAFOD are offering virtual children's liturgy on their website at 10am on Sundays: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>. There are prayers and resources available as well.

Holy Week. As all Masses, Services and Liturgies are not public, you may all appreciate some guidance on where to find appropriate prayers and resources for Holy Week.

CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Holy-week-prayers>

Loyola Press <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/holy-week>

EWTN Catholic Channel on Skybox channel 588 or www.ewtn.com/tv/weekly-grid

We have also added more links and prayer resources on both parish websites.

Parish offertory. Alternative ways to contribute to the financial support of the parish. There are two ways:

Online Donation. The diocese has an online donation facility on the main Diocesan website <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.

Standing Order via donor's own bank. You can set up a standing order for donations to your parish using your online bank account. Please see the bank details on the left. Any donations to the parishes are very gratefully received.

Palm Sunday reflections from Fr Jerry: Theme: *"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord..."*

The journey from the wilderness on the first day of lent to the triumphant entry into Jerusalem by Jesus Christ is almost complete. It is with the celebration of that entry on Palm Sunday that the church's liturgy solemnly opens Holy Week. (CCC#560)

All four evangelists relate the narrative of Christ's passion with little differences. What are the particularities of this account? We Mark presenting a shocking account of the passion and the gospel of Luke focuses on the innocence and goodness of the character of Jesus. Meanwhile, John's gospel will underline a glorious almost a royal Messiah. Matthew's gospel is the one who presents a more catechetical account. It is more interested in what is happening to the disciples. For instance, we have the Gethsemane episode, where the disciples failed in the hour of trial, they were unable to hold out. They were asleep.

After the Gethsemane episode, we have the trial and the failure of Peter and Judas. There is the disciple who understands his faults and repents and the disciple who remains obstinate to the point of taking his own life. Note the contrast between Judas and Jesus. Judas thinks Jesus' death is a waste but eventually, he is the one who wastes his life. Jesus' death is of value. Judas' death is useless.

The next contrast is that between the pagan Pilate and the Jews. Who is really guilty? Matthew is laying the blame squarely on the Jews. The death of Christ is not the fault of the Romans. It is the Jews, according to Matthew's gospel. We see Pilate washed his hands in innocence. The Jews invited the guilt upon themselves.

Another disciple coming from Cyrene, Simon by name, is enlisted to carry his cross. Simon is the image of the disciple contrasted to Peter who follows his master to the cross even if it appeared to be under compulsion. There is also another contrast between the pagan centurion who confesses that Jesus is the Son of God and the High priests who mocked him to come down from the cross if he was the Son of God.

Matthew ends with another interesting gossip in which the chief Priests are the ones who give us first-hand news of Jesus' resurrection. This confirms the truth of how the projects of men are constantly frustrated while the plan of God will definitely prevail.

Pope emeritus Benedict XVI describes the Palm Sunday of the Lord as a moving experience as he raises practical questions; whenever we join this Palm Sunday procession with the throng which went up with Jesus to Jerusalem and hailed him as King of Israel, what are we really doing? Does it have anything to do with the reality of our life and our world? Together with Jesus, are setting out on pilgrimage along the high road that leads to the living God. (The CTS New Daily Missal#228)

We are in this lockdown together. Stay home. Stay safe and save the NHS.

Vacancies at St Gregory's and St Mary's schools.

St Gregory's: Teacher (Maternity Cover) – Reception/Y1. Required from September (Maternity cover - FTC). M1 – M6 (dependent on experience).

St Mary's: Teacher – KS2. September 2020 M1 – M6 (dependent on experience) Part Time (0.6 WTE).

St Mary's: Teaching Assistant (SEN support). September 2020. £17,711 - £18,065 (FTE) - Grade C (actual salary will be pro rata the Full Time Equivalent salary- FTE). Fixed Term Contract. Part Time (32.5 hours per week)/Term Time only (Potential Job Share).

St Mary's and St Gregory's: Learning Mentor. September 2020. £18,065 - £18,426 (FTE) - Grade D(actual salary will be pro rata the Full Time Equivalent salary- FTE). Part Time (27.5 hours per week – 9.00am – 3.00pm). Term Time only.

If you would like a candidate pack and application form, contact Mrs Jo Brake-Oakes, Trust HR Lead either by telephoning 07725 067647 or email: TrustHR@olicatschools.org; or you can download the pack from the school websites. All completed applications should be sent to the Trust HR Lead by no later than 12 noon on Monday 20th April 2020 at TrustHR@olicatschools.org. For more detailed job descriptions and further information about the schools, please visit the school websites: www.stgregoryscatholicprimaryschool.org.uk and www.stmaryscatholicprimary.northants.sch.uk

Care and Call Scheme. Many of the most vulnerable members of our community will be confined to their homes for weeks if not months and are in danger of becoming really isolated, or even worse, becoming neglected. The scheme brings together volunteers with those needing some contact or practical help. 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.

Prayers. When you are praying, especially during Holy Week, please include in your prayers all those key workers (NHS staff, police, fire brigade, shop workers, delivery drivers, postal workers and many others) who are working to help keep society functioning. Also, a special mention to teachers, teaching staff and school support staff, particularly those at St Gregory's and Thomas Becket schools, who are teaching and nurturing the children of key workers so that they can continue to do their jobs. Without these wonderful people, our day to day lives would be very different.

Holy Week and Easter. The Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020. Easter Duties are: to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. The Code of Canon Law (CIC 920) says each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year. The requirement for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from the need to be in a state of grace to receive Holy Communion (CIC 916). As it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, these obligations have been removed.

The Bishops have asked that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that he continually shows us. This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for his children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again.

An Act of Contrition: My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

Reflections for Holy Week:

The Triduum of Easter

"In the sacred Triduum, the Church solemnly celebrates the greatest mysteries of our redemption." (The CTS New Daily Missal#270) This year, the holy week will be different, but I believe that the impact of the graces to be received will be the same even as we observe lockdown of our churches because of this pandemic. This is a solemn time to explore intellectually the meaning of what we celebrate and to celebrate spiritually what to understand.

Thursday of the Lord's Supper

In the celebration of this night, the church teaches that Christ Jesus, in order to leave them a pledge of his love, in order never to depart from his own and to make them sharers in his Passover, he instituted the Eucharist. The Eucharist was instituted as the memorial of his death and resurrection and commanded his apostles to celebrate it until his return; thereby he constituted them priests of the New Testament." (CCC#1337) when will Jesus return? Does it mean a time will come when we cannot celebrate the eucharist?

In the gospel reading of Maundy Thursday, the focus is on the seven actions of Jesus;

Firstly, He rises

Secondly, He takes off the garment

Thirdly, He takes the towel

Fourthly, he ties it around his waist

Fifthly, he pours the water

Sixthly, he washes the feet

Seventhly, he dries them.

This action is perfect action. It is the full and complete action of love towards humanity. It is also pedagogical because it is meant to be done step by step so that it can be repeated! It can be taught and learned. Jesus is not teaching us how to serve but he teaches us HOW to love. This evening's celebration of love ends with the transfer of the Most Blessed Sacrament. This is a period of adoration in silence.

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

In this liturgy, we celebrate the radical love of Christ for the world on the cross without the Mass. According to (Pope Benedict XVI) the cross is the radical love which is the key that opens doors wide the gates of death. This is the love of the ONE who, though God, became man in order to die – this love has the power to open those doors of spiritual death in our lives. This Love is stronger than death. As we celebrate and think about the Good Friday liturgy and the readings for our meditation, let us pray for many healthcare workers who loved their career to be at the frontline at this time of the pandemic. They demonstrate to the world, the redeeming and the benevolent love of Christ that always united him to the Father. For this reason, Christ assumed a human nature in the state of our waywardness of sin, to the point that he could say in our name from the cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me"? (CCC#603) Even as we are lockdown in our homes, we still experience the blessings of the church within us. The Church, following the apostles, teaches that Christ died for all men without exception: "there is not, never has been, and never will be a single human being for whom Christ did not suffer. (CCC#605)

Holy Saturday Liturgy.

This is the mother of all vigils in the church's liturgical celebration. On this night, the church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting, meditating on his passion and death and on his descent into Hell. Hence, the Church awaits his resurrection. According to Father Raniero Cantalamessa, our present situation gives us a unique opportunity to remember that we are one family and "members of each other." A true captain leaves the ship only after all those for whom he is responsible has been rescued. On this solemn night, Christ Jesus becomes our spiritual captain. The focus of the Gospel reading is on the simple things of the women. It is by their faithfulness to the simple things of their life they are now going to become apostles to the apostles. This is the altruism shown by so many doctors and caregivers, but whose example was given to us above all by our Saviour who "offered himself to death for all of us."

Who is it that Jesus sends as a messenger of the Easter message? It is anyone who has kept faith with throughout this Lenten Journey; the one who in spite of the "earthquake" or challenges/lockdown did not abandon the journey of personal prayer. But not only that. It is also the one to whom the Lord entrusts the task of announcing his resurrection.

Pray for me, as your priest, as I pray for you!