



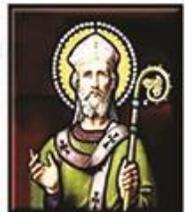
The Sacred Heart

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

Thank you so much for continuing with
standing orders and the donations you
have already made. It really does make a
difference to our parishes.

Parish donations:
Account name: RCDN Sacred Heart
Parish
Sort code: 60-06-11
Account number: 46714596

Account name: RCDN Our Lady's Catholic
Church
Parish Sort code: 60-06-11
Account number: 46714464

Payment Reference: Parish name and
area.

Giving Tuesday:
Each Tuesday, between 10am and 4pm,
you will be able to call the Finance Office
at Bishop's House (01604 712065), to
donate to your parish using your
credit/debit card over the phone.

Although public celebrations of Mass are
suspended, Mass intentions will continue
to be offered at private Masses celebrated
daily by Fr Jerry. This week's Intentions
are listed at the top of the page. If you
have a Mass intention, please email
Lorraine on
sacredheartchurch@btconnect.com

23rd/24th May 2020 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday	Sean Nestor
Sunday 24 th May	Jean Steadman R.I.P.
Monday	For the First Holy Communicants of our parishes
Tuesday	Bishop Francis Thomas R.I.P.
Wednesday	For the parishes
Thursday	James McCormack R.I.P.
Friday	Bishop Leo McCartie R.I.P.
Saturday	For NHS staff
Sunday 31 st May	Dolores Behan R.I.P.

Feast days and Holy days. Monday - St Bede the Venerable, Tuesday - St Philip Neri, Wednesday - St Augustine of Canterbury, Sunday - Pentecost

Anniversaries: George Gallard, Philip Bradley, Claire Smyth, Martyn Keegan, Kathleen Treacy, Alfred Jackson, Angelina Van Der Lehy, Myles Connors. R.I.P.

Please pray for all our sick.

Pope Francis' Special Intention. May: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Next Week's Liturgy of the Word: Acts 1:12-14, Ps 26:1, 4, 7-8 r. 13, 1 Peter 4:13-16, John 17:1-11.

James McCormack R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of James McCormack who died recently. Please keep James and his family in your prayers.

Pentecost. Next Sunday, 31 May, is Pentecost Sunday. This was the day when Jesus fulfilled the promise that both He and the Father would pour out the Holy Spirit upon the world. **The Pentecost Novena, which began on Thursday, continues through to Pentecost Sunday. The Novena can be found on our website and in last week's newsletter.** We can still open our hearts to the Holy Spirit by living lives of service by helping our communities and our families where possible.

SVP Care and Call Scheme. During this difficult time for all our parishioners and those in the community, we're here to help in whatever way we can. Many of the vulnerable members of our community have been confined to their homes for weeks are in danger of becoming really isolated or neglected. 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.

Daily Mass. You can join in with Mass from your own home. Mass is live-streamed from the Cathedral and can be viewed on their website: <http://northamptoncathedral.org/live/>. There is also live-streamed Mass from Walsingham, found on their website: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>. Pope Francis encourages us to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, so that we can unite ourselves spiritually to Jesus as we are currently unable to physically receive the Sacred Host. See below for a prayer that you can recite.

An act of Spiritual Communion. 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. Find a quiet time in your day, a quiet place in your house or garden and be still. Pause for a minute to undertake this act of faith, asking Jesus for His grace and strength, telling Him you wish to receive Him.

From Fr Jerry: Seventh Sunday of Easter. Theme: *I have glorified you on earth and finished the work...*

On Thursday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord as one of the key articles of Faith. We recall how after he had spoken to his disciples, the Lord Jesus ascended to heaven where he is seated at the right hand of the Father. Now that Christ has ascended into heaven, let us be there with Him in our minds and hearts.

On the 7th Sunday of Easter, the church invites us to pause awhile and prayerfully meditate on our mission on earth. Jesus offers his priestly prayer before his earthly journey to the Father. The focus of this prayer is the GLORY of GOD. This prayer raises a question on the meaning of this GLORY. Another theme of the prayer is, Jesus gives us the definition of the work that he did in the prayer. He says to God: "I have shown forth your name." He also prays not for the world but for those the Father has given him.

On the issue of GLORY. The term GLORY refers to something that is heavy or weighty. When the OT speaks of giving the glory of God, it refers to giving him his appropriate weight that is important. Jesus in his prayer, ask the father to give him the glory "which I had with you before the world was made." In Ph 2:6-11 we know that Christ emptied himself GLORY on becoming a man. For the church to achieve unity, she must do the same paradigm. As Jesus emptied himself of his GLORY so must his disciples and the Church emptied herself must do the same in order to achieve Unity. Ultimately, the Cross was the glory of Jesus because it was the completion of his work.

On the issue of the work of Jesus, he defines it as "I have shown forth your name." In the Old Testament NAME is used in a special way. It does not mean simply the name by which a person is called; it means the whole character of the person in so far as it can be known. We must know the character and nature of God in order to put our trust in him (Psalm9:10). So, when Jesus says: "I have shown forth your name" he is saying: I have enabled men to see what the real nature of God is like." In fact, he says that "He who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9) It is Jesus' supreme claim that in him men see the mind, the character, the heart of God. The Catechism teaches that Jesus' prayer expresses the accomplishment of the will of the Father; of his plan of salvation; and deliverance from evil (CCC#2750).

Also, it is Jesus' great claim that he showed to men and women the true nature and the true character of God; and that he brought him to close that the humblest Christian can take his unutterable name upon his lips. Jesus came into this world to speak to us about God's name; that name which is so sacred in the past can be spoken now because of what he has done. So Jesus says, I have brought the remote, invisible God so close that even the simplest people can speak to him and take his name upon their lips. Do we have reason to boast of any title that is higher than the NAME of Jesus?

In a nutshell, Jesus consecrates himself for his redemptive death and recommends his disciples to his Father. Until the outbreak of the pandemic of Covid-19, our world was used to see very busy people moving into every given space. They struggle to pause for a while for some quiet time to pray and also to reflect on their lives and the value and meaning of life. Jesus' prayer instructs us to look out for the ESSENTIALS in our lives. This prayer reflects an elaborated meditation on the thoughts and aspirations of Jesus Christ. Why are we on this earth? Can we say we have finished our work on this earth someday? May God grant us confidence so that we will accomplish in the body of the whole church what has already come to pass in Christ the Head.

CAFOD. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. Whilst we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate as individuals at:

www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal

Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally. 31 May, 9am-9pm. This is to be led in the form of a rosary relay rally where the dioceses designated in their rosary hour encourage the people across their diocese to pray the rosary either, individually, in families, as prayer groups, and where possible led online by their parish priests and bishop. It does not matter what time during the specified hour that the rosary is prayed. The prayer intentions of the national rosary rally: for faith, sanctity of life and peace to prevail in our nations, and for an end to the COVID-19 virus, the sickness it causes, and its effects that prevent us living life in abundance (CF JN 10:10)

9am – Arundel & Brighton, Northampton and HM Forces, **10am** – Birmingham, Nottingham and Ukrainian Eparchy, **11am** – Brentwood and Plymouth, **12 noon** – Cardiff, Portsmouth and Dunkeld, **1pm** – Clifton, Salford and St Andrews and Edinburgh, **2pm** – East Anglia, Shrewsbury and Aberdeen, **3pm** – Hallam, Southwark and Glasgow, **4pm** – Hexham and Newcastle, Wrexham and Ordinariate OLW, **5pm** – Lancaster, Westminster and Argyll and the Isles, **6pm** – Leeds, Polish mission and Galloway, **7pm** – Liverpool, Middlesbrough and Motherwell, **8pm** – Menevia, Paisley and Syro Malabar Eparchy, **9pm** – The rosary rally will end with a rosary being led by Bishop John Keenan from St Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley.

Hope Centre Bank holiday weekend virtual events. As you may be aware, The Hope Centre have had to cancel or postpone most of their events for this year due to the ongoing Coronavirus crisis. They are struggling so much at the moment and know that this year is going to be one of the hardest they have ever faced as a charity, so all the help and support you currently give them is priceless. Below are some of the virtual events they are managing to run this weekend.

Ride for Hope Virtual bike ride: They recently held a virtual bike ride where they cycled from Northampton to Australia. This time around they want to cycle back home – some 15k+ miles. Via Strava or by emailing them your distance, they are going to be adding up all the participants cycle distances over the course of the bank holiday weekend. Find the full details here:

<https://northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/event/virtual-cycling-ride-from-oz-to-northampton/> The event costs just £5 to take part in and you can cycle as much or as little as you like over the weekend. All the miles will contribute to their total.

Big SleepIn: They are asking people to take part in an at home version of their Big SleepOut. At a time suitable to people, over the bank holiday weekend, they are asking both adults and kids to get sponsored to sleep somewhere less comfortable than their bed (e.g. the floor, the garden, the kitchen). The idea being that they get an awareness of how uncomfortable it is to sleep rough and to raise money. Find all the information here: <https://northamptonhopecentre.org.uk/event/bank-holiday-big-sleepin/>

First Holy Communion. The first three Sundays of May should have been a celebration when children in both of our parishes were making their First Holy Communion. We do not yet know when the new dates will be but families will be contacted as soon as those decisions are made. Please keep all those children and their families in your prayers.

Update your information. Sacred Heart parish have recently had to repay a significant sum of money to the diocese where two parishioners have moved from Sacred Heart to another parish but their Standing Order and Gift Aid was still showing as crediting the Sacred Heart parish as they had not notified either us, their new parish or the Finance Office at Bishop's House. It would be extremely helpful if parishioners of both parishes could make sure they keep this information up to date. If you have changed address or contact details, please could you let Lorraine in the parish office know via email and she will make sure your personal details are kept up to date. Any parishioners who are taxpayers, but have not signed a gift aid form, please consider contacting the office so that the parish can claim an extra 25% on what you already kindly give.

Catholic Herald. From the Month of May, the Catholic Herald is changing from a weekly to a monthly publication. Subscribers will receive 12 monthly issues and will have 24-hour access to our new website as well as podcast from Rome and our historic archives. The print magazine will include expanded Vatican coverage from our Rome Bureau; more arts and books coverage, features which expand the mind; and the best spiritual writing and monthly religious calendar which helps us to live the faith, along with interviews that keep the church accountable. Just as when the likes of G.K Chesterton, Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh wrote for us on the key issues of the day, so today we will continue to publish very best writing on What's really happening in the catholic church. Today, that means not having to wait a week to get news. The Herald will continue to be an inspiring debating chamber of ideas, opinion and reporting from today's Catholic writers and commentators. A printer and dignity subscription will cost £59.99 a year, which is a 30% saving off our usual rate. A digital-only subscription is £45. For more information on subscription package see <https://catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe> or telephone 0207448307 or 3618.

Mass Sheets. There is a downloadable version of the Sunday Mass Sheets available from the redemptorist publications. See <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/> for more information.

Both parish websites have prayer resources and links to other websites with live-streamed Mass and various resources for prayer and how to cope with the lockdown. The Pentecost Novena which continues until Sunday 31st May, can be found at www.sacredheartnorthampton.org.uk/prayer-at-home and <https://ourladyandstanselm.org/prayer-at-home/>