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## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A): 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2020**

### **MASS INTENTIONS FR JOSEPH WILL OFFER MASS PRIVATELY**

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

People of the Parish. First Holy Communion children, Parents, Godparents and Catechists.

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 9.30am FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

People of the Parish. Holy Communion children, Parents and Godparents (Rosary Group). Deceased Leone family (Leone). Sue & Jan Jones RIP (Jones).

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May: 9.30am MARTYRS OF ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Fr Joseph Intentions (Rosary Group). Prince Kwabena Fosu RIP (Rosary Group). Gennaro Ruocco, RIP (Maggie)

**Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Dunne (Foundation). Persecuted Christians (Rosary Group). John & Peggy Vint's Intentions.

**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Angela O'Donnell RIP (Conroy). Lynn Sivagnaman, RIP (Eileen)

**Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Lewis Intentions (Grandparents).

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Mary Lawlor RIP (Anniversary) (Family). Iris Goldberg RIP (Goldberg).

**Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> May : 9.30am**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Rodrigo Espina RIP (Brooker). Patrick & Juliet: Thanksgiving for 5<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May: 9.30am FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Private Mass offered by Fr Joseph for the intentions of**

Clement Francis Intentions (Family). People of the Parish.

**You can participate from home in Masses that we stream live at 9.30am each day,  
on facebook: ourladyofpeacecatholicchurchburnham.**

**PARISH OFFICE** Yvonne has been placed on 'furlough' until further notice, please contact Fr Joseph for all Parish matters, he can be contacted via email on [frjosephudoh@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frjosephudoh@northamptondiocese.org) or you can telephone the Parish office on 01628 605764 and leave a message.

**Disclaimer** It has been brought to my notice that scam emails are circulating purportedly from Fr Joseph asking people for Amazon voucher for a seminarian suffering from COVID 19. Please disregard any such email. Should you not be sure of any email you receive as coming from the parish, please contact Fr Joe either by phone or email. Thank you and keep safe.

## **DECEASED**

**Bishop Leo McCartie, RIP** *Bishop David* writes: I am sorry to inform you that Bishop Leo McCartie, the tenth Bishop of Northampton, died yesterday evening at St Joseph's Home in Birmingham. May he rest in peace. In these challenging times, his funeral will undoubtedly be a small affair. I will let you know the details as soon as I receive them. In the meantime, I am sure we will all keep Bishop Leo in our prayers.

Please pray for **Phyllis Wallbank RIP** who died aged 101 on Maundy Thursday. Phyllis had been in a Nursing Home for many years and was a member of our parish prior to going in to the Home. Phyllis was part of the team who set up the London Run for the homeless many years ago, and was then responsible for setting up the Slough Run. Should you wish to contact her family please do so through her daughter: Judith Woofram, 43 Marston St. Oxford, OX4 1JU, telephone: 01865 451004. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May would have been the day our lovely children would have received their First Holy Communion. Sadly it is not going to be just yet – but we will when things are back to normal. It will be well. Below here, Bishop David has sent a special to our beloved children as well as to the confirmandi and adults preparing to come into full communion of the Catholic Church.

**FULL TEXTS OF MESSAGE FROM BISHOP DAVID** Parents and Catechists, kindly pass this on to those affected who are in your care.

## **To catechumens preparing for Sacramental Initiation into the Church and candidates from other ecclesial communities preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church**

Dear friends,

In my first pastoral letter as Bishop of Northampton, I used an image that I would like to share with you again now. It is the early Easter picture of the disciples hiding together behind locked doors because of fear. Maybe this image of the first Christians speaks to us in an even more powerful way during these days of coronavirus lockdown. Then again, we may be telling ourselves, at least they were hiding in their locked room "together"! Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is a community experience rather than an individualistic and solitary one. God's people have always been a pilgrim people and by his grace, you have been brought into an experience of this pilgrimage journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. The Church is a people. Within the isolation of our homes, it is difficult for us to feel part of this people at times. There is the live-streaming of Masses from cathedrals and churches, a very poor substitute for the dynamic gift of being brought together by the Holy Spirit, in order to sing the praises of the Lord who has gathered us to celebrate the mysteries of our faith. How I, and indeed every priest, long to be able to celebrate these life-giving mysteries again with the people of God! In the meantime, we must wait in patience. During these days of the Easter Season I wanted to share this with you, that you are very much in my heart and prayer. Please do pray for the virtue of hope and fidelity to the call you have received. I know that many of you will be living lives of service, where and when you are able to help others within your family and community. These are signs of your faith in Christ Jesus and desire to belong to his Church. May our Lord bless you and continue to support you in faith, hope and love as you await the day when you are able to celebrate the sacraments with us. We will soon celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the day when Jesus fulfilled the promise that the Father and he would pour out the Holy Spirit upon this world. I encourage you to open your lives to the coming of the Spirit in these days.

✠ David J Oakley  
Bishop of Northampton

## **To candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation**

Dear young friends,

I wonder how you were feeling during your preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation? Were you excited and wondering how the gifts you are to receive from the Holy Spirit would work in your life? Were you looking forward to this celebration when you would receive the final sacrament of initiation into God's Church? And now the whole journey towards the Sacrament of Confirmation has been put on hold because of the Coronavirus lockdown! I wanted to send you a message of encouragement in these difficult days. Even though the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation has been delayed because of this crisis, please know that your new Bishop is very much looking forward to meeting with you. Try to be patient and faithful to meeting with Jesus in prayer. Ask the saint whose name you are choosing to pray for you. Pray to the Holy Spirit that you will be even more ready to receive the gifts which will be poured out on you when you are Confirmed. We will soon celebrate that Pentecost day when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon our world. And finally, please spare a prayer or two for the new Bishop! I send you these words together with my blessing for yourself and your families.

✠ David J Oakley  
Bishop of Northampton

## To candidates for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Dear boys and girls,

We have not yet met in your parish or school. I am very much looking forward to that opportunity. In the meantime, I wanted to write a few words of encouragement to you. You will have been preparing to celebrate your first Holy Communion this term. It is such a wonderful moment for you and your family, and there is often a lovely party to celebrate this day when Jesus first comes to you as the Bread of Life. If we don't have food we become hungry! What we eat gives us energy for all the things we have to do in our day. When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, he gives us the spiritual energy to live as his follower in our lives. I hope and pray that this day will come for you soon when we are allowed to celebrate with you in church. May Jesus, the Bread of Life, bless you always.

✠ David J Oakley  
Bishop of Northampton

**MAY DEVOTION: MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY:** Below is a link to the full text of the Holy Father's letter to the people of God for the month of May. Pope Francis encourages all the faithful to keep up our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In your prayers, especially the Rosary, please remember our parish, parishioners and the priests. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-04/letter-on-the-month-of-may-full-text.html>

**SLOUGH FOODBANK needs our help. The list below are the items most needed. Please only donate these.**

### FOOD

Long Life Fruit Juice/Squash  
Sponge Puddings  
Tinned Fruit  
Tinned Rice Pudding  
Tinned Meat  
Tinned spaghetti  
Tinned vegetarian options  
Vegetables  
Instant mash  
Custard  
Tea  
Coffee

### TOILETRIES & BASIC ITEMS

Soap/shower gel  
Shampoo  
Deodorants  
Toothpaste  
Toilet paper  
Shaving foam  
Washing-up liquid  
Laundry tablets/capsules  
Sanitary towels.

**Please only donate these items that we currently need to:** 411 Montrose Avenue, Slough, SL1 4TJ.

**OPEN AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:** Mondays 1.00pm-3.00pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 10.00am – 12noon.

**THE FOODBANK AT ST ANDREW'S** is open every Wednesday from 10.00am.

### GROCERIES FOR PARISHIONERS:

Some parishioners would appreciate donation of groceries. If you are able to help, please contact Fr Joseph through his email or telephone the parish office and leave a message. Thank you to those who have already donated groceries, which have been gratefully received.

**NEW PUBLIC ADDRESS AND STREAMING SYSTEM** in Our Lady of Peace have been completed. Live streaming from the Church will for now still be through Facebook. You can participate from home in Masses that we stream live each day at 9.30am, on Facebook: [ourladyofpeacecatholicchurchburnham](https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofpeacecatholicchurchburnham).

Apart from participating remotely through our parish online streaming or on other channels, we should see in these challenging times an opportunity to journey with the Lord from His passion, death to the glory of His resurrection or more importantly, a reminder that the Lord who accompanies us in our trials and challenges, leads us to victory.

We are grateful and indeed delighted that many groups and families are making good use of social media platforms to gather and pray. Contact your group leaders to join or set up one. Many thanks to those reaching out to fellow parishioners and members of the community. We continue to unite as a family of God in faith, hope and solidarity.

**Spiritual Communion Prayer** *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen*

**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.*

**PARISH RESPONSE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC** Do you need any help? Are you able to join a team we have put together to search out and respond to the needs of parishioners and people in the local community in these challenging times? Please email the parish to register your interest, and for more information on how to get involved, on: [frjosephudoh@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frjosephudoh@northamptondiocese.org) Visit our website: <https://ourladyofpeacecerc.org> and facebook page: ourladyofpeacecatholicchurchburnham for updates. Thank you for your continued support and keep safe.

**A LISTENING EAR IN THE TIME OF LOCKDOWN** Hello, my name is Jaga Heys, and I am a trained and qualified counsellor. You may know me from St. Andrew's where I serve as a Eucharistic Minister and reader; I'm the tall lady with short straight hair. During the time of lockdown I am offering free, 20 minute slots for you to offload anything that is bothering you as a consequence of the pandemic. Our talks would be by Skype, WhatsApp, these 2 being my favourite, or telephone. These will be 'listening ear' only talks and I will be listening empathically and unjudgementally, but not counselling. If you are interested, please contact me either by: email: [jaga@withyoucounselling.co.uk](mailto:jaga@withyoucounselling.co.uk) text: 07508 773107 or if you do not have access to the internet or a mobile, then try ringing the mobile number. I do however prefer the email or text, because I am not glued to my tech and I would not want to miss your enquiry. You can also check out both me and my credentials on my website [www.withyoucounselling.co.uk](http://www.withyoucounselling.co.uk)

**FINANCES** Thank you to those who have asked how the Parish and the Parish Priest can be supported in these trying times, as a large majority of income for parishes is via the collection plate. If you are able to help financially, please do!

The Diocesan Finance office have made options available to allow parishioners to support their Parish and Parish priest through this time of not being able to attend Mass. Church income will significantly reduce as a result of the current cessation of public liturgies. We have received the following information and guidance from the Finance Office at Northampton Diocese.

**Online Donation** We have an online donation facility on our main Diocesan website through Virgin Money giving (link below). 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. <https://northamptondiocese.org/> (scroll down on the home page to the Donate button).

**Standing Order via donor's own bank:** You can set up a standing order for donations to your parish using either your online bank account or in branch. You can also make a one-off payment to the parish or Parish Priest.

The information required to make the donation is as follows:

Bank: NatWest.  
Sort Code; 60-06-11.  
Account Name; 46716203. Account Name; RCDN Our Lady of Peace.  
Payment Ref: Our Lady of Peace, Slough or Parish Priest's Easter offering.

**Donation by Post:** You may send any donations to the parish, or parish priest (Easter Offering) by post. Please do not post cash, cheque only. Cheques should be made payable to 'Our Lady of Peace'. Thank you for donations received over the Easter period.

**Standing Order via the form which is available on our Diocesan website under – Diocese – Departments – Finance and then within the Gift Aid paragraph.**

You can complete the attached standing order form for donations to your parish with the option to Gift Aid. Please indicate on this form if you are not a tax payer but would like to set up a standing order only. There are two sides/sheets to this form, it should be printed, completed, signed and returned to **our Parish office**, we will then forward to central offices at Bishop's House for processing at a later date. Please remember to state which parish this standing is for i.e. 'For the benefit of Our Lady of Peace, Slough Parish' section at the top of the form. Banks will require 7 working days from receipt of these forms to activate the request so please ensure the start date reflects this 7 day period to ensure the S.O can take effect.

Thank you for any help you are able to give and God bless. Fr Joseph

**CONFIRMATIONS** We have received a letter from Bishop David's PA advising that, in view of the current circumstances, it is highly unlikely that the Confirmations planned for June will go ahead. It is hoped that we can arrange a date for Bishop David to come and celebrate the Confirmations with us sometime later in the year.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS** Unfortunately due to the current situation the First Holy Communion Masses booked for 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 will not take place. We realise how disappointing this will be for the children who have been preparing since January for this special occasion, we will update you as soon as we can.

**CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS** Due to the Coronavirus many of the Catholic Newspapers are now available online, on website [www.ChurchPaper.co.uk](http://www.ChurchPaper.co.uk).

**CAFOD** are hosting a live online [Children's Liturgy](https://cafod.org.uk/Pray) for families, on **Sundays at 10.00am**. There are more prayers, for liturgical use or private prayer, available at [cafod.org.uk/Pray](https://cafod.org.uk/Pray)

**NEWS FROM NORTHAMPTON PASTORAL MINISTRY OFFICE** Find in the link included resources for Easter, Pentecost etc. <http://formationpathways.co.uk/resources-for-easter-and-pentecost/> You can find the official statement on our current status from our diocese, and see Cardinal Vincent's video message. <https://northamptondiocese.org/covid-19-liturgical-response/> You can join with Pope

Francis and Catholics across the world in daily prayer, Mass, and Angelus from the Vatican News website: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>. Find the full text of Pope Francis' *Urbi et Orbi* blessing here: <http://www.nores.org.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=-p1n6diBocA%3d&tabid=172>

**NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE:** <https://northamptondiocese.org/news/>

**THE PARISH EVANGELISATION TEAM UPDATE** Just to let you all know, we have been busy! We have been working hard to overcome the restriction caused by COVID-19 and are now able to continue with both our RCIA programme and the Relit programme with the help of the Zoom Video Conferencing App. In addition to these courses we are also able to host our monthly team prayer service. We will continue to run faith formation courses for the benefit of the Parish in this way until we get back to normal. We are also looking at running a shortened course of 8/9 sessions on Matthews Gospel. If anyone would like to take part or would like us to consider running other courses, please contact Bob B. on 01628 543650.

**ARE YOU DOING ANYTHING EXCITING, LET US KNOW** Are you, your family, or parish group doing or coming up with some creative and inspired ways to nourish our faith and support one another and would like to share it? Email the parish and we will publicise it.