

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

A GENTLE REMINDER THAT THIS IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION. MASS TIMES ARE: 9.30AM ST AUGUSTINE'S, 10.00AM ST WULSTAN'S & 7.00PM OUR LADY OF GRACE.

JULIAN GROUP

Our newly-formed Julian Group will meet on Sunday at St Augustine's for a time of contemplative prayer. All welcome, especially if you wish to explore this way of praying – without any commitment!

We Dare to Say...

Our meetings considering the Lord's Prayer continue in the Upper Room at St Augustine's on Wednesday at 7.00pm. The prayer taught by Jesus to His disciples is the model for all Christian prayer and is also a reminder to us of the wonder of what God has done for us by adopting us as His children.

SVP Tuesday Morning Coffee at St Wulstan's

The next Tuesday Coffee Morning will be held on the 14th MAY. Please do join us.



SECOND COLLECTIONS

At a time when money is tight for many people, and when many charities are also appealing for money, it is easy for people to feel overwhelmed by the number of collections in the church. Accordingly, there is now a list of the year's retiring collections posted in the porch. This will allow you to plan ahead and decide which ones you are able to support.

Lectio Divina Thursdays at 11.00am

Sessions are over Zoom (joining from 10:45 to start at 11:00) and will last a maximum of 1 hour 30 minutes. For further details on how to join, please contact: Marian Dunsire marian_dunsire@outlook.com, Anne Freier: freier1961@gmail.com, or Kathy Russell: karussell43@aol.com

Companions in Christ

We meet on a Tuesday evening from 7.30 – 9.00pm on Zoom. If you would like to discuss aspects of your faith in a relaxed, informal way then why not come along and join us. Please email Catri c.plummer@ntlworld.com for more details and the Zoom link

Children's Liturgy (SW) 9.00am Sunday

Please note: There will be no children's Liturgy on the 19th May as we have First Holy Communion Mass.

Children's Liturgy (OLG) 11:00am Sunday

There will be a children's liturgy session every Sunday in May. More volunteers would still be very welcome to join our small team either to help or lead. Contact Claire via the parish office for more information or just come and observe a session. All children aged 4 to 8 are very welcome.

First Holy Communion Candidates

Please pray for our First Holy Communion Candidates who will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at both our churches on the 19th and 26th May. They include:

Our Lady of Grace: *Matilda B, Izabele M & Jake S.*
St Wulstan's: *Adele O, Jaydah T, Jaydyl T, Kayla B, Perry G and Ryan A.*

First Holy Communion Flowers (OLG)

A basket will be available at Our Lady of Grace after Mass if anyone would like to make a small contribution towards the cost of flowers for the First Holy Communion Mass. Hopefully we can make the church look extra special for the children on their important day! Thank you.

Repositories at our churches

The Repositories located in the narthexes at both our churches will be open after Masses on Sat. night and Sun. morning.

First Holy Communion Gifts at St Wulstan's

If you would like to purchase gifts for our First Holy Communion children, then Gill has a lovely selection of cards, medals, prayer books and rosaries at St Wulstan's. She will be at the repository on Sunday morning after the 9.00am Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

In future, please direct all Mass intentions to St Augustine's. The no. for St Augustine's is : 01494523969 or email your request to:

frjonathan.hill@northamptondiocese.org

OUR LADY OF GRACE – GAMES DAY

Why not pop along to our Games Day on the 1st Wednesday of every month, 1pm at Our Lady of Grace. Age range: 18 to 80 plus. Come along for a chat and make new friends. Contribution of £2 for attendance will provide refreshments.



"TAIZÈ PENTECOST VIGIL MASS

on 18 May at 5pm at Our Lady of Grace
We are waiting for young people, young adults, and candidates for Confirmation,

to celebrate a Vigil Pentecost Mass to invoke the Holy Spirit together with all parishioners, singing, lighting candles and praying for peace in the world and in our hearts

DIOCESE

DIOCESAN DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

To keep up to date with fortnightly news and opportunities from across our diocese by signing up to receive updates. Visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/#signup>

(1) Diocesan Day for Catechists & Youth Ministers

Diocesan Day for Catechists & Youth Ministers with RISE Theatre Company: **Saturday 29th June 2024, 10am - 5pm St Thomas Centre, Northampton** Suggested donation of £20. To book: <https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/diocesan-day-for-catechists-youth-ministers-29th-june-2024/>

(2) 175th Anniversary of the Diocese – 29th September 2024

Please keep the date in mind. Plans are underway for a Mass and celebration in the Cathedral for the 175th Anniversary of the establishment the Diocese with the restoration of the hierarchy of England and Wales in 1850.

(3) Diocesan Music Day

Our diocesan liturgy commission music section will host a day for singers, choirs and instrumentalists on **Saturday 11th May 11.00am – 3.30pm** at Thomas Becket Catholic School in Northampton. The cost is £10 for adults and free for those under 18's Bookings and more information here <https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/diocesan-music-day/>

(4) International Mass, Aylesbury

The Pastoral Area of St John Fisher will host an International Mass to celebrate cultural diversity across Aylesbury. Parishioners of all backgrounds are invited to join Bishop David at **St Michael's Catholic School on Monday 13th May at 7 pm.**

(5) Mass for Those With Additional Needs

The next Mass will be on **May 13th at 3.00pm at the Sacred Heart Church, Stopsley, Luton LU2 9AY.** All are welcome.

(6) Women in Ministry – The Gathering 3

Did you know that the Northampton Diocese has a Women in Ministry group? We have our own web page <https://northamptondiocese.org/women-in-ministry/> made a We want to invite the women of our Diocese to our next Gathering on **June 8th at St Mary's Woburn Sands, 10am until 4pm.** For more information please email: helen.burgess@northamptondiocese.org. All are welcome!

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

The Diocese is currently recruiting for a **Financial Accountant** and an **Accounts Assistant** to join their central team based in Northampton. Full information for both positions, including how to apply, can be found by visiting <https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs/>
The closing date for applications is **Friday 17th May 2024,**

OTHER

RIGHT TO LIFE

ASK YOUR MP TO SUPPORT THE ABORTION TIME LIMIT REDUCTION AMENDMENT:

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks **Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the narthex and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

Criminal Justice Bill

The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales wish to draw your attention to two amendments in this bill which will shortly be debated in the House of Commons. Please read more here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/take-action-on-proposed-abortion-law-change/>

THE BECKET FESTIVAL

Will take place over the weekend **6-7th July 2024** at **Northampton Cathedral.** On **Saturday 6th Mass will begin a daily program at 11.00am.** It is hoped that each pastoral area will consider transport to enable parishioners to attend.

Emmaus Talks

Our next talk takes place on **Wednesday 5th June @ 7.30 pm – 9.00pm** at **St Aidan's Church in Little Chalfont (HP7 9NE)** The topic is 'Laws of Purification: Should They Still Apply Today?' The speaker is **Fleur Dorrell.** We hope you can join us. Please take home a leaflet with you.



Jesus and Me - Women's Day Retreat

Saturday, June 1st at **St. Augustine's, High Wycombe, starting at 9am and finishing with Mass at 4.30pm.** Theme: "An Encounter with the King" with guest speaker Barbara Reed Mason. A day to set aside and encounter Jesus in scripture, prayer, fellowship and reflection. Tickets £15, including lunch. Spaces limited - booking essential. Please bring a bible. Contact **Marian 07910467588 / marian_dunsire@outlook.com**

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday 8th June 2024

There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of our churches for those who would like to attend. If there are enough people interested, we will arrange for a coach from our parish. The format of the day follows:



12 mid-day Mass celebrated by Bishop David 3.00pm Process from the Chapel of Reconciliation along the Pilgrim's Route to the Priory Grounds. There will be a short service at the site of the original Holy House.

CAFOD Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

Would you like to learn more about your faith?

Consider joining online to follow the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies or Diocesan Certificate in Religious Studies? Both courses offer the same eight modules in Scripture and Catholic Theology with the CCRS leading to a nationally recognised qualification. Those who follow the CCRS/DCRS say they gain a great deal from the course, deepening their knowledge and understanding of their faith. To find out more about the course, **contact Ann Collon E-mail: educationserviceadmin@northamptondiocese.org** or visit our website: www.northamptondioceseschools.org