

Masses & Services this Week

Saturday 10th March	3.30pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Kathleen Bertolaso RIP)
Sunday 11th <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>	8.00am Mass: (Polly Capon—In Thanksgiving) 11.00am Mass: (Our Mums) 5.15pm Stations of the Cross 6.00pm Mass: (Pat & Reg Brooks RIP) ⁰⁵
Monday 12th	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (In Thanksgiving—Anthony Grunwell's 60th Birthday!) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for the success of our Mission 7.00pm PPC Meeting in the Walsingham Chapel
Tuesday 13th	8.00am Mass: (Holy Souls)
Wednesday 14th	6.30am Mass: (Sharon Amess' Intention) 6.00pm Mass: (Holy Souls) <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> 7.00pm Pre-Mission Meeting with Clare Scully (Sion Community)
Thursday 15th	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Holy Souls) 7.30pm Lenten House Mass: 22A Holland Road, Spalding
Friday 16th	9.10am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass: (Fr. Michael Galea In Thanksgiving) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday 17th <i>St. Patrick</i>	9.00am Mass: (Deceased members of the Martino Family RIP) (Confessions) 4.00pm Confessions 4.30pm Mass: (Patrick Kennedy RIP)
Sunday 18th <i>5th Sunday of Lent (B)</i>	8.00am Mass: (Josephine & Bellingus Galea RIP) 11.00am Mass: (People of the Parish) 3.00pm Reconciliation Service 6.00pm Mass: (Eileen Walton's Intention) ⁰³

*With our prayers and good wishes
Fr. Jim & Deacon Dennis*

PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & SAINT NORBERT

11th March 2018

4th Sunday of Lent (B)

Psalter 4

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Parish School: Saint Norbert's Catholic Primary School, Tollgate (off Pennygate), Spalding,
PE11 1TJ Telephone: 01775 722889

Acting Head Teacher: Mrs. Jenna Withers

Nearest Catholic Comprehensive: Saint John Fisher Catholic High School, Park Lane,
Peterborough, PE1 5JN

Head Teacher: Mr. Sean Hayes Telephone: 01733 343646

Parish Pastoral Council: Judy Flynn 07774 260853

Parish Centre: **Contact the Parish Office: 01775 722056**

Safeguarding Parish Co-ordinator: Mrs. Mary Hurst: 01775 680598



TODAY: A Happy Mother's Day to all our mums today – we wish you a great and blessed day; and we ask the Lord to grant eternal rest to our dearly departed mums who have gone before us but remain deep within our hearts.

Second collection this weekend is for **CAFOD Lenten Family Fast** – transferred from the weekend of 24th/25th February. There are some envelopes available for those who wish to 'Gift Aid' their contribution – please ask the person welcomed you to Mass this weekend.

Voluntary retiring collection taken after all Masses this weekend for Julia's Fund.

Stations of the Cross this evening at 5.15pm – also after the 6.00pm Mass on Wednesday and 7.00pm on Friday.

Easter Draw tickets – We would be grateful if you can help us sell tickets – we have 12 terrific prizes: 1st Prize: Nespresso Lattissima Plus Coffee Machine; 2nd: Amazon Alexia Speaker; 3rd A Family Photoshoot; 4th: 6 bottles of wine; we have prizes donated by Image International Hair Salon in Spalding, Waitrose; The Crystal Inn, Chinese Restaurant...and, of course, there will be a meat voucher! Tickets are £1 each or £5.00 per book. All proceeds will go towards the cost of our Mission expenses.

WARNING: Beware of scam emails being sent – the email address (Accounts@stnorberts.org.uk) has been hacked; please do NOT open any email using this false email address.

Please pray for our sick and housebound parishioners: Marie Tooke, Allison Law, Pat Saville & family, Margaret Trivett, Audrey Cook, Marcello Viglianti, Maria Dowling, Rosetta Le Compte, Elvira Choma, Ros Mullholland-Gullick, Jean Fairbanks, Rosemarie & Peter Ander-ton, Norma Yaxley, Tony Ball, Jesus Moniente, Linda Lawless, Susan Bertolaso, Mollie Coaten, Mary Naughton, Norman Coleman, Sylvia Hayden, Katherine McLoughlin, Patrick King, The Taylor Family, Mons. Jonathan Moore, Pat Baxter, Rita Gensiorskyj, Manfred Haacker,

That our mothers may be blessed this day, and that those who have died may have eternal rest.

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Loving Father in heaven, we thank you for the love of the mother's you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured in euros and cent, whose time does not seem to be measured in the hours they put in per week, whose patience seems to have no end and can even seem to stretch past breaking point.

May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them. We pray for those mother's who fear they will run out of love, or time, or patience, and ask you to bless them with your own special love and the gifts of more time and more patience. And we pray for children and fathers, that they may appreciate, love and support their mother's and wives.

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord and brother.

Amen.

The baby snake says mummy snake, "Mummy, are we poisonous?" The mummy snake says, "Why do you ask?" And the baby snake says, "Because I just bit my tongue."



joined by Fr. Peter Wade & Fr. Victor Dakwan—**and the service is open to everyone!** It will begin at 3.00pm.

Preparing for Holy Week & Easter...

LITURGY PLANNING MEETING: Fr. Jim would like to meet with **anyone** interested in helping to plan our liturgy during Holy Week & Easter. The initial meeting will take place on Tuesday, 20th March at 4.30pm—if there are some of you who would like to be involved, but that time is unsuitable please let Fr. Jim or Deacon Dennis know as soon as possible, please.

Pause for Thought: It's so famous we need only to give the citation: John 3:16. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son."

In today's Gospel we hear the scriptural passage that is a cornerstone for the Christian faith. It is perhaps the most powerful single sentence in the Bible. The concept boggles the mind: God sacrifices his only Son for us. We see the image of Jesus, whipped, beaten, nailed and bloody, as he is roughly hauled up, pinned against the wood. Jesus hangs, rudely displayed for all the centuries yet to come.

How could God ever ask a father to drive a knife into his own son's heart? Still in the first book of the Old Testament, God tests Abraham with the command to do this to his beloved son Isaac. Like a foreshadowing of the crucifixion of Jesus, Abraham agrees. After a journey of three days, they arrive in Moriah as directed. Like Jesus, Isaac carries the wood for the holocaust on his own shoulders. They ascend the hilltop that God has chosen. In the last seconds before Abraham plunges the knife into his son, God intervenes and tells him not to harm Isaac.

Let us continue to pray for peace in all those parts of the world where peace is threatened.

For those who are sick or who live with chronic pain:
for the comfort of all who suffer and for those that love them.

June Burrell, Maurice Cranney, Helen Henry, Philip Chandler, Maria Sharples, Fr. Oliver Martin O.Praem, Brian Stout, Alison Merryman-Marx, Fr. Eamonn O'Hara, Fr. Dominic O'Connor, Canon Michael Bell, Fr. Tom Breslin, Maddie Scott & Laurence Cornell.

Please also remember: Demis Brennan, Nora Tighe, Rasa Vasiliauskiene, Valarie Kenny, Margaret Baltrop, Baby Ethan Burguillo, Richard Bobowski. Mabel Spalding, Petrus van der Werf and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

PARISH FINANCE: NO INFORMATION SUPPLIED

THANK YOU: Fr. Jim wishes to acknowledge a donation of £100 for our Maintenance Fund.

Forthcoming 2nd Collections in March:

17th/18th: Flowers to decorate the church at Easter.

24th/25th: Julia's Fund

Counter's Rota—This week's counters: Anita & Betty **next week:** Joe & Anna.

A new rota has been produced, please make sure you have a copy—thank you.

FLOWER ARRANGERS: Fr. Jim is appealing for **Flower Arrangers**—it would be nice to have a regular team again. If we have any volunteers, please place your name on a list at the back of church. If anyone would like to learn more about flower arranging, we could consider arranging a short number of classes??? There is another list for those who may be interested in this.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Will meet tomorrow evening (Monday) at 7.00pm.

The proposed agenda is as follows

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes
4. Cluster Reports
5. Mission Update
6. Julia's Fund
7. Update re the Methodist Chapel
7. Date of next meeting
8. Closing Prayer

PARISH MISSION 2018

MEETING: This Wednesday evening we welcome back Clare Scully, our Pre-Mission Co-ordinator. Clare is coming for her pre-mission visit to make sure everything is in place. Even if you have not been to a meeting before, please feel free to come along and get involved! We shall meet at 7.00pm...please come along to the Walsingham Chapel.

Mission Newsletter: If you have not got a copy yet, there are still some available – if you can't see them, just ask.

We continue to have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 9.30am Mass on Mondays to pray for the success of our Mission.

VISITING: We are looking for volunteers to accompany Sion Community visitors during the first week of the (church based) Mission. Volunteers will be trained for the visiting, there is not a necessity to be the speaker, prayerful listening is a valuable part of the visit. You can offer half a day, whole days or all six days, at your convenience. the more time you share has prayerful benefits to you the volunteer. Hopefully, with your local knowledge, it will mean that the Sion Community will be able to visit more homes in the parish. Please, help if you can.

Accommodation: This is required for Sion Community members, one group for the first week, different people for the second week. Single rooms are required. No family member is to be displaced from a room to offer accommodation! Details on what will be required are available from the Mission Coordinator, Mary Hurst.

Volunteering to take part in, or offering these services are an important, practical part in a successful Mission, successful for you personally as well as the Parish: prayer in action.

For further details and offers of help please contact Mary Hurst by phone 01775 680598 or e-mail maryehurst2@gmail.com

MEAT RAFFLE: Last week's winner was No. 50 – Mary King. Msry has very kindly donated the vouchers back for the Mission fund, grateful thanks, Mary. We will not have another meat raffle until after the Easter Draw has taken place.

EASTER EGG TOMBOLA: This is always a popular event every Easter Sunday (1st April) where you donate an Easter Egg and then you buy a ticket and hope to win it, (or something similar!) back! The box is in the narthex waiting for you to fill it up! Thank you for your support.

There will also be a **Cake Stall** for which donations can be handed in over the Easter weekend! (Norma)

LENT 2018:

'EARLY BIRD' MASSES IN LENT on Wednesday mornings throughout Lent at 6.30am followed by tea and toast in the Hall. Please, join us.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays at 5.15pm, Wednesdays after the 6.00pm Mass & Fridays at 7.00pm.

LENTEN HOUSE MASS: Our thanks to Ros & Gareth for hosting last week's Mass. This week Ruth Nester is hosting our House Mass, again it will take place this Thursday at 7.30pm. Ruth's address is 22A Holland Road, Spalding.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY: There will be a 'child friendly' Reconciliation Service here next Sunday, 18th March during which those children preparing for their first Holy Communion will celebrate their first Confession. Fr. Jim will be