



# St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

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@stmartins1962

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

Thanks to all who made last Sunday's send-off for Kevin Ryan so enjoyable. Kevin very much appreciated all the kind words, cards and continued prayers as he returned to the seminary. Should you wish to write to Kevin, his address is: **St Mary's College, Oscott, Chester Rd, Sutton Coldfield B73 5BB**

*Fr Michael*

**CANDLEMAS** is celebrated this Thursday 2nd February at 6:30pm. We will be blessing candles for use during the year, and we will process around the Church. After Thursday's Mass, the crib will be taken down.

**ST BLAISE'S DAY** is celebrated on Friday. The traditional blessing of throats will be available after 9am Mass.

**MASS INTENTION WATCH** - Please note that the diary is looking full for the foreseeable future, especially at weekends. We are advised to arrange Masses for significant dates well in advance.

**CAFOD SUPPORTERS' MEETING** - all welcome to join us at our Supporters' Meeting here on **Saturday 4th February** here at St Martin de Porres Hall. The day runs from **10am - 1.30pm** followed by a shared lunch. There will be a message from Bishop Peter and our Lenten focus will be on our project in Zambia. **Please book a place** by phoning 01844 274724 or [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk)

**DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIED LIFE:** Bishop Peter invites you to this Mass, 12 noon Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at Christ the King Church, Harrowden Road, Bedford, MK42 OSP. If you are celebrating a special anniversary, please contact: [mfl@nores.org.uk](mailto:mfl@nores.org.uk) Tel: 07412151517

**GALWAY ASSOCIATION DINNER DANCE** Tickets are available from Anne Mead (01582 508699) for the dance on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**NEXT CONFIRMATION CLASS** - On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb from 7.15pm - 8:45pm in the hall.

**YOUCAT YOUTH**  
(for year 10+)  
continues on  
**Monday 6th February**  
**at 7:15pm**  
in the parish hall

**NEXT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS** -  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb,  
5:30pm (Group 1) and  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan,  
11am (Group 2).

**THE NEXT CHCF MASS** for those with special needs is next Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm in St. Johns parish, Sundon Park, Luton.

SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY 2017	
Sat 6:30pm	Jim Fenlon, RIP
9:00am	The People of the Parish
11.00am	Michael Broderick, RIP
5:00pm	Reception of Patrick Kelly, RIP
<b>Monday - Feria</b>	
<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Requiem: Patrick Kelly</b>
<b>Tuesday - St John Bosco</b>	
9:00am	Neil Gazeley, RIP
<i>Wednesday - No Mass Today</i>	
<b>Thursday - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b>	
<b>6:30pm</b>	Gerard McCarney, RIP
<b>Friday - St Blaise</b>	
9:00am	Mary Raphael Chakkery, RIP
<b>Saturday - Votive Mass of Our Lady</b>	
<b>10:00am</b>	Jarlath F. Cummins, RIP
10:30-11:00am	Confessions & Adoration
5:30pm-6:00pm	Confessions
Next Week - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sat 6:30pm	Liam Spillane, RIP
9:00am	The People of the Parish
11:00am	Mr Chandy Philip



**FR BRENDAN SEERY**  
WILL CELEBRATE MASS FOR THE  
**FIRST ANNIVERSARY**

OF HIS PRIESTLY ORDINATION,  
on **Tuesday 7th February**  
at **7:00pm**

Afterwards in the  
hall at 7:30pm...

**FR MARK FLOODY**  
WILL SHARE PLANS FOR A



FOR OUR MOTHER CHURCH IN NORTHAMPTON.

*We look forward to sharing with you the exciting and ambitious plans for the future of our Cathedral, and how we can help make them a reality, so please join us if at all possible!!!*

+ \*\*\* **Tuesday 7th February: 7pm Mass, 7:30pm Hall** \*\*\* +

# This Sunday's Readings

## First Reading - Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13

*In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.*

Seek the Lord, all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

## Responsorial Psalm - Ps 145:7-10 r. Matt 5:3

*How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

## Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

*God chose what is foolish by human reckoning.*

Take yourselves for instance, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: *if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.*

## Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

## Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12

*How happy are the poor in spirit.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'



## The Word this Week

Last week we heard Saint Matthew describing the beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. This week Saint Matthew begins the most important summary of the proclamation of the kingdom of God - what we refer to as the 'Sermon on the Mount.' This great collection of Jesus' teachings begins with the Beatitudes - the Charter of the Kingdom. It is essential to understand these, if we are to understand what we will read in Saint Matthew during the rest of this year: the key, as underlined by the First Reading, is that the values of this world are not the values of the Kingdom of God - the Kingdom will see things turned upside down: happiness and blessing belong to those whom this world would ignore or mistreat. If we truly wish to live out the Gospel, we would do well to reflect on the virtues laid out in this familiar passage.

### Thank you to our Offertory Counters

This Week: Anne Mead & Diane Casey

Next Week: Abiola, Linda & Clara

### Thank you to our Church Cleaners

This Week: Charismatic Prayer Group

Next Week: Michael Williams & Tania CLarke

### Useful Contact Details

+ Charlotte Seery (Parish Secretary)

secretary@stmartindeporeschurch.org.uk

+ **Parish Hall Bookings:** Contact Maura on 01582 724623  
between 6pm-8pm.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

Collection: Sunday 22nd January - **£996.34**