



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

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Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to St Martin's

THIS SUNDAY'S SECOND COLLECTION - is for Home Mission Sunday.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING - A second chance for those wishing to join the altar serving team! Come along **THIS THURSDAY 21st September** at **7:15pm**. Children should be accompanied throughout the approximately 45 minute session.

FIRST COMMUNION DEADLINE - the deadline for returning application forms is today, **Sunday 17th September**.

ANNUAL MASS FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: On **Saturday 23rd September at 2pm**. All our sick and housebound and their families are invited to Our Lady's, Castle Street for Mass and Anointing. This will be followed by Afternoon Tea in the Parish Hall for everyone.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OPEN DAYS Loreto College: Tues. 26th Sept. 6.00pm JFK: Tuesday 3rd Oct. 6.30pm Cardinal Newman: Thursday 12th Oct. 5.30pm.

THE NEXT CHCF MASS for those with special needs is **Sunday 1st October** at 3pm here in St Martin de Porres.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMS - There will be a Mass & Meeting on Mon 25th September at 7pm.

RCIA/GROWING IN FAITH: There will be a joint Pastoral Area course for people who want to become Catholics and for baptised adults who have not received the other Sacraments of Initiation at St. Joseph's Parish Centre. The course will start on Monday, 2nd October at 7.30pm at St. Joseph's Parish, Gardenia Avenue, Luton LU3 2NS.

HOLY DAYS Our bishops have decided from 2018, the **Feast of the Ascension of the Lord** will return to the fortieth day of Easter. That means that Thursday 10th May 2018 will be a Holy Day of Obligation. **The Epiphany of the Lord** will return to 6th January (except when it's a Saturday or Monday - then it will be moved to the Sunday).



SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Sat 6:30pm	Eugene McSweeney, RIP
9:00am	Stella Bird, RIP
11.00am	The People of the Parish
Monday - Feria	
9:00am	Lolita Verzosa, RIP
Tuesday - Feria	
9:00am	Michael Donaghy, RIP
<i>Wednesday - No Mass Today</i>	
Thursday - ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE	
6:30pm	In Thanksgiving (Divina)
Friday - Feria	
10:00am	Requiem: Margaret Fortune
Saturday - St Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)	
10:00am	Uchenna Kenneth Ajulufoh, RIP
10:30-11:00am	<i>Confessions & Eucharistic Adoration</i>
5:30pm-6:00pm	<i>Confessions</i>
Next Week - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sat 6:30pm	Calignawan family (In thanks)
9:00am	The People of the Parish
11:00am	Nicolau Francisco Mascarenhas

"Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."

- Saint Padre Pio



VISITATION of the World Apostolate of Fatima National Statue and Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco to Northampton Cathedral on **Saturday 30th September**.

The visitation begins with Mass celebrated by the Bishop in the Cathedral at **12 noon on Saturday 30 September**.

PRAYER CARDS for Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor RIP are available in the Porch



SAINTS are ordinary people with the **COMPASSION** of the **FATHER** in their Souls, the **HUMILITY** of **JESUS** in their Minds and the **LOVE** of the **SPIRIT** in their Hearts

- Mother Angelica -

This Sunday's Readings

Jesus tells a dramatic story in the Gospel, to make a very important point: the desperate need in our world for forgiveness and reconciliation. How many chances do we give each other? As many as seven? How often do we shut doors on people, even family and friends, saying "That's it; you've just gone too far this time: never again"? When Jesus says that we must forgive 'seventy-seven' times, he implies that we never stop forgiving, whatever happens. He doesn't just say this, however: even when they do the worst thing that could be done to him, nailing him to a cross, Jesus puts these words into practice: 'Father, forgive them...' As his disciples, we must do likewise.



First Reading – Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Forgive your neighbour the hurt that he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the
vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the
commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your
neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and
overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm – 102(103):1-4,9-12

*THE LORD IS COMPASSION AND LOVE, SLOW TO
ANGER AND RICH IN MERCY.*

Second Reading – Romans 14:7-9

Alive or dead we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die,

we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 18:21-35

I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy seven times.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Thanks to our Offertory Counters

This Week: Team 5: Charlotte & Roy

Next Week: Team 6: Anne Jephcott & Diane Casey

Thanks to our Church Cleaners

This Week: Team 4: Sunny, Clara, Charlotte & Paul

Next Week: Team 5: Margaret, Mary & Linda

Useful Contact Details

+ Charlotte Seery (Parish Secretary)

secretary@stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

Collection: Sunday 10th September – £928.55