



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

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@StMartinsLuton

ALL SAINTS - YEAR A

Welcome to St Martin's

This Tuesday is the feast day of St Martin de Porres. Normally we would celebrate in some way as a parish. Instead let us take time to pray for each other on the day, - particularly in this great time of need - and for the Lord's blessing on your parish community as a whole.

ATTENDANCE AT MASS - The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is still suspended and it may be that some people may prefer to attend Mass during the week when the church will be less busy. Remember that there's also the opportunity to enter into spiritual communion with our public Masses at: <https://www.facebook.com/StMartinsLuton/> As previously, Fr Simon will continue to offer Mass privately for the whole parish on the days when there is no public Mass

CONFESSIONS - In order to remain vigilant with our COVID-19 secure measures, we need to avoid queuing in the church. Therefore, if you would like to see Fr Simon for confession, please make an appointment by calling the Parish Office (*details overleaf*).

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES - Please pray for all our young people who will be confirmed by Bishop David this coming week.

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF HOLY SOULS - Fr Simon will be offering 3 Masses each week during November. We will NOT be handing out the usual envelopes this year. Instead we ask that you send the list of those you would like remembered during Mass either via email or through the Presbytery door. Please send emails to admin.stmartindepordes@northamptondiocese.org

PARISH VOLUNTEERS - We still continue to need more volunteers! This could include stewarding, cleaning, organising charitable collections, counting donations, gardening or supporting other parishioners. If you feel that you could offer your time, **in any capacity, however great or small**, then please email or call the Parish Office (*see contact details overleaf*) to discuss how you could help our volunteer team.

REPOSITORY - The repository will be closed for the foreseeable future whilst the Coronavirus restrictions for Luton remain at Tier 2.

USEFUL WEBSITE - BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS - On Saturday 10th October, the Church declared Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old who died in 2006, a Blessed. This incredible young man had a great devotion to the Eucharist and created a website dedicated to Eucharistic Miracles which can be found at <http://www.miracolieucaaristici.org/>

EVC UGANDA - This charity raises funds to provide desperately poor children with an education in a loving, caring and supportive environment. They sponsor more than 270 children in primary and secondary education. For more information about future plans, projects, newsletters and ways you can support this organisation please visit www.evcuganda.org

FREE APP - LISTEN UP! ARE YOU HEARING GOD'S CALL?: This free App is for Catholics aged 16-35. The aim? To help you go deep with God, and build solid ground with Him through prayer, through the lives of the Saints, and Scripture. This is a vital first step to discovering the joy-filled life that God has in store for you. Available to download now from Google Play or on the AppStore

All Saints: Solemnity & Holy Day - 1st November 2020

6.30pm	Mary Fitzmaurice INT
11am	Paul Lassey & William Kodjo Sarpong RIP
Monday - ALL SOULS - Solemnity	
No Public Mass	Martin McDonagh
Tuesday - St Martin de Porres - Patronal Solemnity	
9.30am	Onyinye Umeano (Birthday) INT
Thursday - Feria	
6.30pm	Mary Kilbane RIP
Friday - Feria	
No Public Mass	Patrick Joseph O'Byrne
Saturday - Feria	
1pm	ADORATION
6.30pm	Holy Souls
NEXT SUNDAY - 33rd Sunday of the Year	
11am	Sujeewa Gunawardena (1 st Anniversary) RIP

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Saturday 31st October at 4.00pm - "Newman 101: Why Newman Matters" Join in online to celebrate the 10th anniversary of beatification and 1st anniversary of canonisation. Visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/newman/> for more information.

Monday 2nd November, 7.30pm Post-Lockdown Church Webinars: Week 7. "Holding onto joy in troubled times" We are delighted to be joined by David Wells this week, an internationally renowned Catholic speaker who is funny, wise and always uplifting. Join us by clicking this link any time from 7.20pm on Monday evening. David is fantastic! <https://youtu.be/MO1lzUv1AsM>

Saturday 7th November: 11-12.30 - "Planning for Advent and Christmas 2020 - reaching our families and household." Join the Pastoral Ministry Office for the Diocese to explore a range of simple but creative ideas to help our parishes reach out this Advent. <http://formationpathways.co.uk/event/advent-and-christmas/>

Saturday 14th November - Reflection Day: Celebrate all the Carmelite Saints. St Joseph's Parish, Chalfont St Peter via live stream <https://www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live> Keynote address - Fr Matthew Blake OCD. It is not necessary to register but a suggested contribution of £10 towards the cost of the day can be sent to Nat West: Sort Code 600611 Account Number 46738746 Ref: SPIRREFL

The God Who Speaks - Our Liturgy of The Word - A series of 3 online Zoom sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. Led by Mgr Kevin McGinnell & Alex Heath.

- **Tuesday 17th November (7.30-8.30pm)** - Preparing the Way for the Lord: Mark's Gospel & The Season of Advent

- **Tuesday 19th January (7.30-8.30pm)** - 'He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures' (Lk24:45) The importance of God's Word for Christian identity & everyday living

- **Tuesday 16th February (7.30-8.30pm)** - 'Many more began to believe in him because of his Word' (Jn4:41) John's Gospel & The Season of Lent

Please register in advance to secure a place. email: admin@nores.org.uk or phone 01582 723312 (ext 1)

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 23(24):1-6

SUCH ARE THE MEN WHO SEEK YOUR FACE, O LORD.

Second Reading – 1 John 3:1-3

We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been
revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him

because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 5:1-12a

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 of this week

"A huge number, impossible to count" – that is the picture this Solemnity creates. In every age there have been men and women who have followed the Lord faithfully, and who now rejoice in the Liturgy of Heaven, as they stand before the throne of the Lamb. These are the "anonymous" saints, whose names we don't remember - but even though their names are not on our lips, their memory, inspiration, example and prayers are set before us today, so that we too can be encouraged in our own "journey of perfection". What does it take to be a saint? Surely the Gospel that is appointed for today (the Beatitudes) shows us that it is in the small things that we triumph: gentleness, mercy, making peace, faithful mourning, purity of heart, poverty in spirit - these are not grand, public ways to sanctity. They are domestic, and homely, to be practised and perfected with those closest to us. We sometimes exalt the "named" saints to the degree that we can feel they are distant from us. Today's feast, as well as celebrating the memory of the many whose name we do not know, also prompts us to see holiness as within our grasp.

PARISH PRAYER:

*Loving Father, "You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son,
that we might believe in him and have eternal life". May we, the parish of St Martin de Porres, encounter Jesus Christ anew this day and live the good news with joy. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to "go out to the whole world and proclaim" our faith with confidence. Give us the courage to witness to the 'Joy of the Gospel' by our words and actions. Help us to become more welcoming and missionary, so that you may be known and loved by all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*

PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU

- DO NOT LEAVE IT IN THE CHURCH OR CHURCH

PORCH

PARISH OFFICE: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.15am – 1.15pm

Elaine Goodship: Parish Administrator

admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

Charlotte Seery: Parish Finances

finance.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

Maura Byers: Parish Safeguarding Representative

Tel: 07796712868

Weekly Newsletter: Please send any items for the newsletter to Elaine by Thursday at 9.00am. Thank you.