



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

Fr Simon Penhalagan • 366 Legrave High Street • Luton • LU4 0NG

01582 663706 • priest.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

www.stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk

@StMartinsLuton

29th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR A

Welcome to St Martin's

ATTENDANCE AT MASS – as we move towards a colder season, and while space in Church remains restricted, **could I ask that those of you who drive to Church consider remaining in your cars** to allow those who have to come on foot access to the Church. I realise that it's not quite the same, but it is an act of generosity that allows more people to attend. We will continue to set up speakers outside so that you can participate in Mass from your cars, and for Holy Communion to be brought to you at the entrance to the Church.

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.

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: The Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in, in prayer and celebration of our church's mission to share God's love with all people – 'Here I am, send me!' For more information and other ways to donate visit Missio's website mission.org.uk

PARISH VOLUNTEERS – We send our deepest thanks to our **dedicated volunteers**, who continue to generously give their time to help with the day-to-day running of our church and also ensuring that at this uncertain time, we can all safely attend Mass. However, **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 you 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.

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.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

REPOSITORY – The repository will be open before and after all Masses for the sale of all devotional items. Please note that only one person is allowed into the hall at any one time and social distancing and COVID-19 secure measures should also be followed in the hall. Items can only be handled if you are wearing gloves. There will be a sale of selected items that will be marked separately. See Anne Mead to order your 2021 St Paul's Sunday Missal, you can contact her on 01582 508699 or 07484169533 at any time.

WEBINAR SERIES – Exploring the Post-Lockdown Church – Monday webinars, Pastoral Ministry Office
Week 5: This week we welcome Fleur Dorrell, director of the *God Who Speaks* campaign. Speaking on *The God Who Speaks in All Seasons*, she will be sharing stories about the different ways that people prayed with Scripture during lockdown and will give us inspiration for the months to come. The giver of the 2019 NORES lecture, Fleur has spoken to many diverse audiences up and down the country, including preaching in Parliament. To register for the series, go to <http://formationpathways.co.uk/exploring-the-post-lockdown-church-webinar-series/>. Find more information about God Who Speaks campaign and a lot of excellent resources on their website: <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk>.

29 th Sunday of the Year – 18 th October 2020	
6.30pm	Philip & Margaret O'Reilly RIP
11am	Anthony O'Byrne RIP
Monday – Feria	
No Public Mass	Willie Power RIP
Tuesday – Feria	
9.30am	Simon McDonagh INT
Thursday – Feria	
6.30pm	Cyril Williams RIP
Friday – Feria	
No Public Mass	Natasha & Mickey Anderson INT
Saturday – Feria	
1pm	ADORATION
6.30pm	James Seery RIP
NEXT SUNDAY – 30TH Sunday of the Year	
11am	Francis Conway (1 st Anniversary) RIP

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES 2021 - Given the current crisis the Luton parishes will not begin preparation for First Reconciliation[Confession], First Communion, or Confirmation until at least January 2021. Your clergy will meet again in November to review the situation and will keep you informed.

For baptism as an adult or for your child please see your parish priest.

The usual marriage preparation course for the town will not take place in 2021. Any couples asking to be married in 2021 should see their parish priest immediately.

DONATIONS –For further details please visit our website www.stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk Thank you for any help you can give. *A particular thank you to all of you who have taken out Standing Orders over the last months. This gives us a surer footing on which to build for the future.*

ACT OF PRAYER & WITNESS - Saturday 24th October 1- 2pm - in support of life and against abortion outside the Luton and Dunstable Hospital. Please come to give these children a voice - and to pray for all involved.

CAFOD - The webinar held in conjunction with Missio about the global response of the Catholic family to the COVID-19 pandemic is available for people to watch. It is very hopeful.

<https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/missio>

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Harpenden, are looking to appoint a part-time Parish Caretaker. Responsibilities will include maintenance of the Parish hall, and other parish property. An ability to work alone is essential. For further information please visit: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/parish-caretaker-harpenden-our-lady-of-lourdes-parish/>

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTIONS OF UNBORN CHILDREN – The charity is looking for volunteers to deliver pro-life information leaflets door-to-door in the area. If you are interested please visit the website at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Door-to-Door> or call SPUC on 020 7091 7091

SPUC is campaigning to save the right for peaceful pro-life vigils to take place. If you would like to sign the petition, please click the link below

<https://spuc.org.uk/SaveTheRightToSaveLives>

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Isaiah 45:1,4-6

I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: 'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.'

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10

GIVE THE LORD GLORY AND POWER.

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

YOUR WORD IS TRUTH, O LORD:

CONSECRATE US IN THE TRUTH.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 22:15-21

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar—and to God what belongs to God.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach

the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

The Word of this week

Everyone on this earth belongs to God. All are made in his image. Therefore, it is right that all men and women, 'from the rising to the setting of the sun', should know the God to whom they belong. The only desire of our God is that all should know and love him, and find in him the fulfilment that they seek. Even a pagan king like Cyrus is used to further this knowledge of God - just as Jesus uses Caesar's head to make the point again: all belong to God, and the mission of all who acknowledge that belonging is to help others to find it. This is exactly what we see Paul, Silvanus and Timothy doing, as they write to the people of Thessalonica, to whom they carried the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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.