



## 30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR A

### Welcome to St Martin's

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION TODAY – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:** World Mission Sunday supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection. Please put donations, in an envelope marked 'World Mission Sunday', in the collection basket. For further information and for other ways to donate, please call 02078219755 or visit [mission.org.uk](http://mission.org.uk)

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS** – Please keep Prima D'Souza and Sunny Yadu in your prayers as they marry at Northampton Cathedral on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**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*).

**ROSARY WHIRLWIND AROUND THE BRITISH ISLES – 31<sup>ST</sup> October**  
The Walsingham Shrine team have organised a Rosary Whirlwind around the British Isles, similar to the one organised during the national lockdown. Our Diocese will be one of those praying the Rosary in the first hour between 9 - 10 am. Visit [www.walsingham.org.uk/event/rosary-whirlwind-across-the-british-isles/](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/event/rosary-whirlwind-across-the-british-isles/) for further information.

**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 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.

**REPOSITORY** – The repository will be open before and after all Masses for the sale of all devotional items. Please note that only **four** people are allowed into the hall at any one time and social distancing and COVID-19 secure measures should be followed. See Anne Mead to order your 2021 St Paul's Sunday Missal, you can contact her on 01582 508699 or 07484169533 at any time.

**CAN YOU HELP?** – We have been contacted by Luton Adult Social Care who are looking for someone to help a local, vulnerable and elderly gentleman. He is in a wheelchair and needs someone who could take him out for a walk around the local area once or twice a week. If you would be able to support him, please contact the parish office.

**WEBINAR SERIES** – Exploring the Post-Lockdown Church – Monday webinars, Pastoral Ministry Office: How is it possible to run our sacramental programmes in current circumstances? Can we create community online? And are there new possibilities for catechesis that our current situation opens up? Explore these knotty questions with Veronica Murphy from the Archdiocese of Liverpool and our own Alex Heath. To register and see previous videos in the series, go to <http://formationpathways.co.uk/exploring-the-post-lockdown-church-webinar-series/>.

**RETRouvaille – A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES** - Do you feel alone? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. This programme has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on 12th -15th Nov 2020 Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443. Email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year – 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	
6.30pm	James Seery RIP
11am	Francis Conway (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) RIP
<b>Monday – Feria</b>	
No Public Mass	Patrick McDonagh INT
<b>Tuesday – Feria</b>	
9.30am	Elizabeth Martin RIP
<b>Thursday – Feria</b>	
6.30pm	Thanksgiving INT
<b>Friday – Feria</b>	
No Public Mass	Frank O'Byrne (Birthday Remembrance) RIP
<b>Saturday – Feria</b>	
1pm	ADORATION
6.30pm	Mary Fitzmaurice INT
<b>NEXT SUNDAY – All Saints – Solemnity &amp; Holy Day</b>	
11am	Paul Lassey & William Kodjo Sarpong RIP

**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

**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. 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.

**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](mailto:admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org)

**PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES** – If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 you must apply for a school place by 15 January 2021. You must apply for a place even if:

- your child is attending the pre-school or early year class attached to the school you would like him/her to go to
- you have already made an earlier application direct to the school
- the school you would like your child to go to is not in Luton
- the school you would like your child to go to is a faith school, a foundation school, an academy or a free school

To get an information pack or to ask for further information and advice, please contact Admissions Team – 01582 548016 [admissions@luton.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@luton.gov.uk)

# THE WORD OF GOD

## First Reading – Exodus 22:20-26

*If you are harsh with the widow, the orphan, my anger will flare against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

“You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

## Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 17(18):2-4,47,51

*I LOVE YOU, LORD, MY STRENGTH.*

## Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

*You broke with idolatry and became servants of God; you are waiting for his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## Gospel – Matthew 22:34-40

*You must love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

### The Word of this week

When you look at something like the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and see its 691 pages, or look at the 2,000 pages of the big Jerusalem Bible, you can be forgiven for thinking that Christianity is a complicated affair. But Jesus reminds us today that it is essentially very simple: everything can be summed up in two basic rules: love God, love your neighbour. Exodus backs this up, by talking about the simple love that we must show to each other. Not that this is easy - love is always costly, and involves some degree of sacrifice. We will have to change, to become perfect in love; but it is possible, and when we do, like the people of Thessalonica, we become a great example to people everywhere.

### 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](mailto:admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org)

Charlotte Seery: Parish Finances

[finance.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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.