



# St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

Fr Simon Penhalagan • 366 Leagrave High Street • Luton • LU4 0NG  
01582 663706 • [priest.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:priest.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org)  
[admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org)  
[www.stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk](http://www.stmartindeporreschurch.org.uk)  
@StMartinsLuton

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS – YEAR OF MARK (B)

### Welcome to St Martin's

Happy New Year to you all! I pray you all have a blessed 2021, Fr Simon

**ATTENDANCE AT MASS – The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is still suspended.** Fr Simon will continue to offer Mass privately for the whole parish each day. He will endeavour to live stream Masses on Tuesday at 9.30am, Thursday at 6.30pm and Sunday at 11.00am, via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/StMartinsLuton/>. Please note that you do not need to have the Facebook App or an account in order to view these videos, as our account is public. We now also have a YouTube account, which can be found with the link below:  
<https://youtube.com/channel/UCGeNjCAVvzg52aqq5AHBcoQ>

**EPIPHINAY OF THE LORD – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January –** There will be a public Mass at 9.30am on this day. There will NOT be a public Mass on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF –** Maura Devlin, whose funeral will take place this week.

**WELCOME –** As of 2<sup>nd</sup> January we welcome back Liam Castle, a student for the priesthood who was with us at this time last year. He has been ordained a deacon since last we saw him!

**PARISH OFFICE –** The parish office will be closed from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**CONGRATULATIONS! –** Please keep Ifeoma Udemezue & Ikechukwu Ofomah in your thoughts and prayers this week as they prepare to marry at St Martins on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

**CERTIFICATES –** If your child had their First Holy Communion or Confirmation this year, please ask a steward to get their certificate from the Sacristy.

### 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

Second Sunday after Christmas – 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2021	
No Public Mass	Jane & Peter Fielding RIP
11.00am	Robert Ward RIP
<b>Monday – Feria</b>	
No Public Mass	Mary (Maura) Devlin RIP
<b>Tuesday – Feria</b>	
No Public Mass	
<b>Wednesday – THE EPIHANY OF THE LORD</b>	
9.30am	Michael Burke RIP
<b>Thursday – Feria</b>	
6.30pm	Lola Gallimore RIP
<b>Friday – Feria</b>	
No Public Mass	Cressy Baptiste RIP
<b>Saturday – Feria</b>	
1.00-2.00pm	ADORATION
No Public Mass	Sammy Arnold RIP
<b>NEXT SUNDAY – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	
11.00am	Terry Moran RIP

**LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT –** For parishioners who may be job hunting or going self-employed due to the pandemic, Sacred Heart Parish, Luton has set up a free online career coaching programme <https://www.vitaeopus.co.uk> providing a wealth of information, tools, practical advice and activities to help anyone wanting to find new employment opportunities or back to work support.

**EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021** is the deadline for EEA and Swiss citizens to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. You are encouraged to apply now to protect your rights in the UK. Visit: [www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme](http://www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme) Citizens Advice Luton can assist EU citizens to make their application for settled or pre-settled status. Contact 01582 544778 or email: [eussadvice@lutoncab.org.uk](mailto:eussadvice@lutoncab.org.uk)

### UPCOMING EVENTS!

**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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:admin@nores.org.uk) or phone 01582 723312 (ext 1)

**LUX.Valour Online (For Young People aged 11-18yrs) – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021,** During our LUX.Valour weekend, we will be exploring what it means to be a young person of great bravery. There will be amazing talks, fun small groups, moving times of prayer, ridiculous games and a theme night and all completely free!

To book please click on the link below and complete the form on the website. <https://nymo.org/lux-valour/>

# THE WORD OF GOD

## First reading - Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12

*From eternity, in the beginning, God created wisdom*

Wisdom speaks her own praises,  
in the midst of her people she glories in herself.  
She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High,  
she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One;

‘Then the creator of all things instructed me,  
and he who created me fixed a place for my tent.

He said, ‘Pitch your tent in Jacob,  
make Israel your inheritance.’

From eternity, in the beginning, he created me,  
and for eternity I shall remain.

I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle,  
and thus was I established on Zion.

In the beloved city he has given me rest,  
and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.

I have taken root in a privileged people,  
in the Lord’s property, in his inheritance.’

## Responsorial Psalm –147:12-15,19-20

*The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.*

## Second reading - Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

*Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of  
heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ,  
to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his  
presence,

determining that we should become his adopted sons,  
through Jesus Christ

for his own kind purposes,  
to make us praise the glory of his grace,  
his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith  
in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all  
the saints, have never failed to remember you in my  
prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord  
Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom  
and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full  
knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind  
so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what  
rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

## Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans.

Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.

## Alleluia!

## Gospel - John 1:1-18

*The Word was made flesh, and lived among us*

In the beginning was the Word:

and the Word was with God

and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.  
Through him all things came to be,  
not one thing had its being but through him.  
All that came to be had life in him  
and that life was the light of men,  
a light that shines in the dark,  
a light that darkness could not overpower.  
A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.

He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light  
that enlightens all men;  
and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world  
that had its being through him,  
and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain  
and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him  
who was born not out of human stock

or urge of the flesh  
or will of man

but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,

he lived among us,

and we saw his glory,

the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

‘This is the one of whom I said:

He who comes after me ranks before me  
because he existed before me.’

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received –  
yes, grace in return for grace,

since, though the Law was given through Moses,  
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God;

it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father’s heart,  
who has made him known.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The parish office will be closed from  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
2021.

Elaine Goodship: Parish Administrator

[admin.stmartindepores@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:admin.stmartindepores@northamptondiocese.org)

Charlotte Seery: Parish Finances

[finance.stmartindepores@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:finance.stmartindepores@northamptondiocese.org)

Maura Byers: Parish Safeguarding Representative

Tel: 07796712868