



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome to St Martin's

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, Saturday 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/UCGeNjCAVvzg52aaq5AHHBcoQ>

2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – 25TH April – PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND – Please put any donations in an envelope clearly marked Priests Training Fund and place in the offering basket. Thank you for any help you can give.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – There will be a **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND – 1ST & 2ND MAY** – in support of the SVP. Please place all offerings, in a clearly marked envelope, into the collection basket. Thank you.

We now have a mobile phone dedicated for the SVP. If you need assistance from the SVP, please call and leave a message on 07927 776291, someone will call you back between 7-8pm. You can also email us at st.martinsdepordesvpluton@gmail.com
The next SVP meeting is on 03/05/2021 between 7.00-8.00pm

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS – Please note that we do not have any available dates until Mid-August. If you require a significant date that is already booked, we will include your request for the bidding prayers on this date and a Mass will be booked for a later date. Please use the Mass request envelopes for your requests and offerings, available from a steward at the entrance and exit doors. Thank you.

COURSE – CATHOLIC BASICS – A basic introduction to the Catholic Faith. Delivered in four evening Zoom presentations from **7pm to 8:30pm**.

- Monday June 07 2021 - God
- Monday June 14 2021 - The Church
- Monday June 21 2021 - The Moral Life
- Monday June 28 2021 - Prayer

There is **NO CHARGE** for the course delivery. However, to get the most out of the sessions, it is important to purchase the course pack of 4 course texts for £20.

To book contact Ann Collon: email: admin@nores.org.uk or phone: 01582 7233

FREE COVID HOME TESTING KITS – Every household can now order a free pack of 7, Covid-19 home test kits. These are able to produce a result in 20-30 minutes. Households can order one pack, once a week. These will be very good to use before meeting any friends or family to know that you are clear of Covid-19.

Use the link below for more information and ordering <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
You can also order by phone if you cannot order online. Call 119 between 7.00am and 11.00pm – calls are free.

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Design Technology Technician required at Cardinal Newman Catholic School – an opportunity exists for a DT Technician to mainly support the management and delivery of the Engineering and Graphic Communications curriculum. 37 hours per week, term time only. L2 Pt4-5. £15 911 per annum. Applications through MyNewTerm. Closing date – 3 May 2021.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 25 th April 2021	
(Sat) 6.30pm	Larry & Phyllis Farrell RIP
11.00am	Margaret Moloney RIP
Monday – Feria	
No Public Mass	Thanksgiving (Wedding Anniversary) INT
Tuesday – Feria	
9.30am	Pauline Finnerty RIP
Thursday – ST CATHERINE OF SIENA	
6.30pm	Bridie Doyle (1 st Anniversary) RIP
Friday – Feria	
No Public Mass	Sue Herbert RIP
Saturday – Feria	
1.00-2.00pm	ADORATION
6.30pm	Mary O'Toole RIP
NEXT SUNDAY – Fifth Sunday of Easter	
11.00am	Alice Carlin (1 st Anniversary) RIP

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Mondays from 19th April – 7.30-8.30pm – From the Pastoral Ministry Office of Northampton: DIVINE RENOVATION READ-ALONG – After a roller-coaster year, what's next for our churches? How do we meet Pope Francis' challenge to become the church for all people? Join with Avril Baigent and special guests as we read Fr James Mallon's *Divine Renovation* together.

This Week: Monday 26th April, 7.30pm Rebuild my house.
Reflecting on the challenges of parish life, and what some practical responses might be. With Fr David Boyd, parish priest of St Bernadette's parish, Erskine, Paisley.

To receive the zoom link, register here:

<https://readalong.divine.renovation.eventbrite.co.uk>

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

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Acts 4:8-12

The name of Jesus Christ is the only name in which we can be saved.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.

Responsorial Psalm – 117:1.8-9, 21-23, 26.28-29

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

Second Reading – 1 John 3:1-2

We shall see God 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.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Gospel – John 10:11-18

The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

Jesus said:
'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;

this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.
'I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock,
and one shepherd.
'The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life
in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

The Word of this week

This is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday" because of the Gospel narratives (from John 10) read each year, in which Jesus talks of himself as the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his flock. A general "theme" to the Scriptures is the person of Jesus and what he has achieved by the Paschal Mystery (his dying and rising): the first reading talks of his name, and the power of the name of Jesus to save: one of the results of the "power of this name" is that in him we are all God's children, and are promised an eternal reward. All this is summed up in the Gospel, in which Jesus talks of himself as the real shepherd, who is prepared to do anything for his flock, even to the point of giving his life. This he said before his passion, but in Eastertide we read it with the benefit of hindsight. His words are true, and by his dying and rising he has truly saved his flock.

PARISH OFFICE: Reduced Operating Hours - Tuesday & Friday 9.15am-1.15pm

Please do not come to the office, call or email only.

Elaine Goodship: Parish Administrator

admin.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

Charlotte Seery: Parish Finances

finance.stmartindeporres@northamptondiocese.org

Maura Byers: Parish Safeguarding Representative

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