



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NORTHAMPTON

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST. ETHELBERT'S PARISH,
WELLINGTON STREET SLOUGH, SL1 1XU**

Safeguarding officer: Mrs. Rosina Majoni

Telephone: (01753) 523147 - Website: www.st-ethelberts.co.uk

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND FAREWELL - FR FRANCIS EYO, MSP

We welcome all to today's Mass, especially visitors and friends who are celebrating with us.

Mass Times & Intentions this Week

SUN 20/03/2022 MASS: 9.00am Philomena Eyo-RIP, Giovanni Listanti – RIP , 11.00 am Luban Lourdes Pereira - Bthdy & Thksgvg , Philomena Eyo-RIP, Mr. Greg Iwu & Mrs Tessa Iwu 6.30pm: People of the Parish ,Philomena Eyo-RIP & Departed Parishioners, Simon's intentions	
MON. MASS - 9.30 am Mike Eleazor Rebelo Bthdy blessing , Leon Rodriques, Prisca D'cruz & Francis D'Cruz –RIP, Maria Fernandes – Bthdy wishes, Keren Jenifer Demelo –Bthdy wishes , Jose Luciano Rodriques –RIP	TUES. No Mass (<i>Office Hours – Church is open</i>).
WED. NO MASS – All intentions to be offered on Monday	THURS. No Mass (<i>Office Hours – Church is open</i>)
FRI. Stations of the Cross at 12.00 & MASS at 12.30pm	SAT. No Mass
SUN 27/03/2022 MASS: 9.00am, 11.00 am Loyenum Adoh- Bthdy Thksgvg , Teresa Fernandes & Fly Thksgvg , 6.30pm:People of the Parish, Ist Anniv Bernado Fernandes	

MINISTRIES:

Readers for today

9am Mass: Alina R, Angel D
11am Mass: Irene D, Mariano D 6.30pm
6.30pm Mass: Sheila M, Maria M

Next Sunday

9am Mass: Reece G, Sheryl F
11am Mass: Cecilia JP, Lawrence Ado
6.30pm Mass: Lucas P, Olivia G

Eucharistic Ministers today

9am Mass: Jim B, Natalina S
11am Mass: Rosemary, Maiano
6.30pm Mass: Jean Pierre

Next Sunday Eucharistic Ministers

9am Mass: Sr. Caroline, Millie A .
11am Mass: Irene, Agnes
6.30pm Mass:

Collection:

Loose cash: £820.00
Envelope: £208.50
CAFOD Fast: £612.00
Thank you for your generous giving, May God bless all.
R.C.D.N. ST. ETHELBETH CATHOLIC CHURCH SLOUGH
A/C: 46714642 S/C: 600611 (NatWest)

GOD ALWAYS GIVES US ANOTHER CHANCE

Grace is described as unmerited favour from God, kindness that we do not deserve. You don't have to do anything and there is nothing we can do to earn this favour. **Lent** is the time of Grace, producing in us the fruits of the Spirit: **Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control** (Galatians 5:22-23).

God gives us his grace generously, freely, spontaneously and unconditionally. Grace is divine favour, it comes in form of mercy, compassion, love and the invitation to share in the divine life of God through Jesus Christ. **Grace is God giving us another chance to change, grow and be healthy.**

In 1st Corinthians 15:10, St. Paul states: "it is by the grace of God that I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain ..." Referring to the gift of grace bestowed on us through Jesus Christ, Scripture states that **"from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace"** (John 1:16).

The belief that misfortune is punishment for sin. That the more people suffer, the greater their sins, that their suffering is God's punishment for sin, is completely wrong. God is not in the business of punishment. God does not deal with us according to our sins or inequities. Scripture says: "if you O Lord should mark our guilt, who will survive?"

We see the **amazing power of grace in today's gospel**. Jesus emphasises repentance in the gospel and ask the people to move their thinking and understanding towards Grace, for God is gracious, compassion and love. We live everyday by the grace and mercy of God. **"It is by grace you have been saved"** (Ephesians 2:8-9). We must accept God's grace and rely on it. **God will always make a way for us.** Rejecting the power of his grace is dangerous and remains the greatest tragedy in our world. Let us continue to share his love through the power of his grace.

HAPPY SUNDAY AND REMAIN BLESSED! – FR FRANCIS. MSP

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begot ten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BIDDING PRAYERS:

Reader: Jesus, you will set us free;
Response: **you are the saviour of the world.**

Please Pray for: the Sick and Housebound Parishioners.

Those who died recently and all departed parishioners - RIP.

SUNDAY READINGS: First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8,13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'. **The word of the Lord**

Responsorial Psalm 102(103):1-4,6-8,11 "The Lord is compassion and love"

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall. **The word of the Lord**

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

APPRECIATION: Fr Francis would like to thank all parishioners, families, friends, visitors and people of goodwill for supporting his ministry in the parish and being with him during the difficult days and the 1st Anniversary of his mother Mrs Philomena Eyo (RIP). May her soul rest in peace. Amen. **Thank you all for your prayers, words of encouragement, gifts, food, drinks, support received, the good and memorable times we have shared.** May the good Lord bless you all.

A second collection this Sunday 20th March at all Masses to collect for a leaving gift, thank you for supporting this initiative. Also, after each Mass we will have tea & coffee available and we thank you for bringing something to share.

Mass this Week: Monday 9.30am & Friday 12.30pm. Sorry, No Mass on Wednesday Stations of the Cross on Friday. The Parish Charismatic Renewal Vigil on 25/3/ at 8.30.