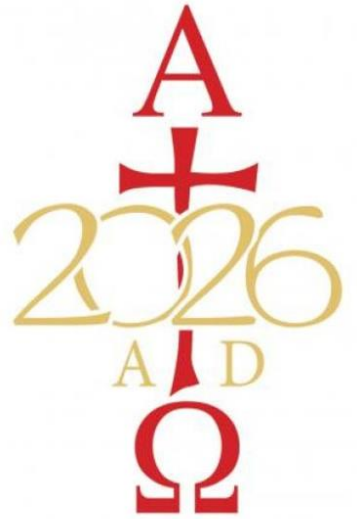

Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton
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Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger
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5th April 2026	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord He is Risen! – Alleluia, Alleluia!	
First Reading	**Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43** *'We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.'*	
Responsorial Psalm	**This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.**	
Second Reading	**St Paul to the Colossians 3:1-4** *'Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.'*	
Gospel Acclamation	**Alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord. Alleluia!**	
Gospel	**John 20: 1-9** *'He must rise from the dead.'*	
Saturday 4th April +	**7.30pm**	**The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night** *(Pro Populo)*
Sunday 5th April +	**8.00am** **10.30am**	**Mass** *(Bishop David Int)* **Mass** *(Ben Mannion RIP)*
Monday 6th April *Easter Octave*		**No Parish Mass today**
Tuesday 7th April *Easter Octave*	**9.15am** **10.00am** **4.30pm**	**Adoration with Confession** **Mass –** *(Rosaleen Salist – Recovery)* **Reception – Jane Medlicott RIP**
Wednesday 8th April *Easter Octave*	**11.30am**	**Requiem Mass - Jane Medlicott RIP**
Thursday 9th April *Easter Octave*	**6.00pm** **6.45pm**	**Adoration with Confession** **Mass –** *(Foundation Mass – Throckmorton family)*
Friday 10th April *Easter Octave*	**10.00am**	**Service of Word & Holy Communion**
Saturday 11th April	**9.15am** **10.00am**	**Adoration with Confession** **Mass –** *(Kathleen Appleton RIP)*
Second Sunday of Easter (Low Sunday) **Divine Mercy Sunday**		
Saturday 11th April +	**6.00pm** **6.30pm**	**Confessions** **Mass** *(Pro Populo)*
Sunday 12th April +	**10.30am**	**Mass –** *(Deceased family & friends of the Ayles family)*

Thank you for your Weekly Offering	
Offertory	**£435.74**
Digital Collection Plate	**£95.00**
Standing Orders	**£502.00**
TOTAL	**£1032.74**

Easter Offering - as is customary, the Easter Offering is your personal gift to our Parish Priest, Fr Daniel. If you wish to contribute, please either put this in the planned giving envelope or use the printed envelopes at the back of the church – if using online banking please insert 'Easter Fr Daniel' in the description or you can use the Digital Collection Plate in the narthex. Thank you.

Altar Servers – we extend our sincere thanks to our small but dedicated team of Altar Servers who did such a splendid job throughout Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum. This is a wonderful Ministry of the Church for our young people (and not so young!) – if you would like to become an Altar Server or would like to know more of what is involved, please speak with Deacon Peter.

The Thursday Discussion Club meets on the Second Thursday, **9th April at 7.30pm-8.30pm, after Mass at 6.45pm.** There is an acronym 'STEM' which refers to the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Although our theme in this third series of First Thursdays has been Faith in the Arts, and we will consider Sacred Music and Art itself in the coming months, in April we are going to consider how STEM subjects affect our lives and our faith. prompted by the recent reflection by Pope Leo XIV on his experience of teaching Mathematics and Physics and his views on algorithms, that we must pay attention to the moral dimension of emerging technologies.
https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-sends-mathematics-day-message.html
The discussion will be led by Salah Hayek who will reflect on this in the light of his years in technology and science research, both in industry and in universities.
Please join us. All are welcome.

Confirmation Preparation – The parish Confirmation Preparation programme has begun with the next meeting on **Friday 24th April from 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.** The session will only last for one hour.
If there is any young person aged 12yrs and above who may wish to be confirmed, **please contact either Fr Daniel or Deacon Peter** direct alternatively just turn up on the evening – you will be most welcome.
We plan to hold one class per month ending in July – the Confirmation Mass will be held in the Parish in September. Please keep our young people in your prayers as they journey towards the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The next 100 Club draw will take place during the teas and coffees after Mass on Tuesday 7th April

Easter Sunday Reflection

"Easter" is sometimes referred to as "the feast of fresh flowers." Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church for four reasons:

Firstly - The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith. It is the greatest of the miracles, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: **"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain"** *(I Cor 15:14)*. **"Jesus is Lord! He is risen!"** *(Rom 10:9)*, was the central theme of the *kerygma* (or "preaching"), of the Apostles.

Secondly - Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: *"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will live even though he dies…" (Jn 11:25-26).*

Thirdly - Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows, and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living. It also gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears.

Finally - Easter gives meaning to our prayers. It supports our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in and around us, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament, and in Heaven, hearing our prayers, and so gives meaning to our personal as well as our communal prayers.

Let us live the lives of Resurrection people. We are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, dangerous addictions, despair, discouragement, or doubts. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the living presence of the Risen Lord Who loves us in all the events of our lives and amid the boredom, suffering, pain, and tensions of our day-to-day life.

The salutary awareness of the presence of the Risen Lord within us inspires us to honour our bodies, keeping them holy, pure, and free from evil habits and addictions.

Our conviction that the loving presence of the Risen Lord dwells in our neighbours and in all those we encounter should encourage us **to respect them and to render them loving, humble, selfless service. Let us become transparent Christians, radiating the Risen Lord around us** in the form of selfless and sacrificial agape love, mercy, compassion, and a spirit of humble service.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if you were already there,
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Regina Caeli

Regina caeli, Laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.
Gaude et Laetare, Virgo Maria, alleluia.
Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

Prayer to Our Lady Help of Christians

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Help of Christians,
how sweet it is to come to your feet imploring your perpetual help.
If earthly mothers cease not to remember their children, how can you, the most loving of all mothers forget me? Grant then to me, I implore you, your perpetual help in all my necessities, in every sorrow, and especially in all my temptations. I ask for your unceasing help for all who are now suffering.
Help the weak, cure the sick, convert sinners. Grant through your intercessions many vocations to the religious life.
Obtain for us, O Mary, Help of Christians, that having invoked you on earth we may love and eternally thank you in heaven. Amen

Fr Daniel, Fr Liam, Deacon Peter, the Sisters, and Denise wish you, your families, and friends a very Blessed and Happy Easter. God bless you all!