

Diocese of Northampton  
Liturgy Commission and NORES



COVID19 – 3 – 19 March 2020

*While we continue our insistent prayer for the world caught up in this crisis  
today we remember our new bishop,  
and ask the prayers of St Joseph as patron of the universal church*

**Prayer for our bishop elect as he is ordained today**

*O Lord, who for the feeding of your flock have chosen your servant David as our bishop,  
grant him, we pray, a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety,  
so that, by faithfully governing the people entrusted to him  
he may build up in the world the sacrament of the Church.*

**From the Rite of Ordination today**

*Presentation of the Book of the Gospels*

Receive the Gospel and preach the word of God with unfailing patience and sound teaching.

*Investiture with Ring and Pastoral Staff*

Take this ring, the seal of your fidelity. With faith and love protect the bride of God, his holy Church.

Take this staff as a sign of your pastoral office:

keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has appointed you to shepherd the Church of God.

**FOR ST JOSEPH'S DAY**

**Gospel - Luke 2:41-51a**

**Mary stored up all these things in her heart**

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority.

**Collect**

**Roman Missal**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over  
the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation,  
whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care.

**From Pope Francis homily at his installation as Bishop of Rome, 19 March 2013**

"Joseph is a 'protector' because he is able to hear God's voice and be guided by his will; and for this reason he is all the more sensitive to the persons entrusted to his safekeeping. He can look at things realistically, he is in touch with his surroundings, he can make truly wise decisions. In him, dear friends, we learn how to respond to God's call, readily and willingly, but we also see the heart of the Christian vocation, which is Christ! Let us protect Christ in our lives, so that we can protect others, so that we can protect creation!"