



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Lawrence

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SVP Contact: 07925 125206

23rd August 2020 – Twenty-First Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week 1

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|-------------------------|--|
| First Reading: | Isaiah 22:19-23 |
| Psalm: | <i>Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.</i> |
| Second Reading: | St Paul to the Romans 11:33-36 |
| Gospel Alleluia: | <i>Alleluia, Alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!</i> |
| Gospel: | Matthew 16:13-20 |

Saturday 22nd August **6.30pm** **Vigil Mass** (*The Watson family – Int*)

Sunday 23rd August **10.30am** **Mass** (*The People of the Parish*)

Monday 24th August **10.00am** **Mass** (*Bishop Charles Grant RIP*)
ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle - Feast

Tuesday 25th August **10.00am** **Mass** (*Sr Margaret Abbott*)
Feria

Wednesday 26th August **No Mass**
Bl Dominic of the Mother of God, Priest

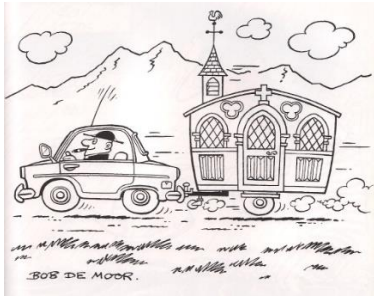
Thursday 27th August **10.00am** **Mass** (*Zaida Matamoros Int*)
St Monica - memoria

Friday 28th August **10.00am** **Mass** (*Alexander Roberts RIP*)
St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor - memoria

Saturday 29th August **10.00am** **Mass** (*Sr Anne Ryan RIP*)
The Passion of John the Baptist - memoria

Saturday 29th August **6.30pm** **Vigil Mass** (*John Langford RIP*)

Sunday 30th August **10.30am** **Mass** (*The People of the Parish*)



Bon- Voyage....

Fr David will be taking a well-earned and long overdue break for a few days and we wish him a very peaceful and joyous time with his friends. We offer a warm welcome back to Fr Brian who will be celebrating Mass for us whilst Fr David is away. Should you require a priest during Fr David's absence please contact either Deacon Peter or Denise.



Feast of the Assumption of the BVM

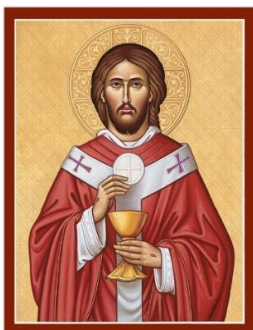
A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in the preparations for last Sunday's Mass in our beautiful garden and to everyone who joined us either in person or via the 'live stream' it truly was a fitting and worthy celebration of this great feast. The Lord blessed us with some good weather – just! We are hoping to make more use of the garden and are looking to renovate the statue of Our Lady as well as the possibility of having Stations of the Cross placed around the perimeter.



PUBLIC MASSES AND LITURGIES – The obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday continues to be dispensed, by the Bishops of England and Wales, at this time, therefore we will continue to 'Live Stream' all Masses except on Wednesdays. Those of you that do attend the church for Mass are asked to carefully follow the guidance of the Stewards. The booking-in system for Mass, particularly at weekends, is still in place. If you haven't already done so, please contact Denise with your preferences. If you have any concerns, please contact Fr David or Deacon Peter

Government Guidelines now require the wearing of a Face Mask in all places of worship.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

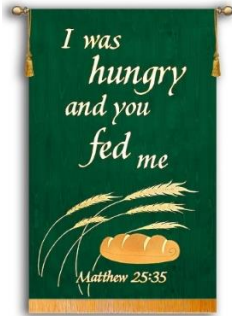


My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly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

St Alphonsus Liguori

St Bartholomew – Apostle

On Monday we celebrate the feast of St Bartholomew one of the apostles who was born in Cana. He was led to Jesus by the apostle Philip and after the Lord's Ascension tradition has it that he preached the Gospel in India and there suffered martyrdom. He is only mentioned a few times in the Synoptic Gospels – in Mark 3:18 he is one of the twelve whom Jesus calls to be with Him and names as apostles: “and Andrew, Philip and Bartholomew....”



We continue to be very grateful to all of you who have been supporting the Food Bank – Catholics, Anglicans and others. The donation box remains outside the presbytery door and is checked frequently. The Food Bank continues to need donations of:
Long Life Milk – Long Life Juice – Tinned Rice Pudding – Tinned Custard – Tinned Meat – Tinned Vegetables – Tinned Tomatoes – Pasta Sauce - Spreads

If you are aware of anyone who is in need of support or company or with any kind of need, please do get in touch with the SVP, Fr David or Deacon Peter.

The SVP is an organisation where members are guided and inspired to see their work of helping people as part of their spiritual life. If you would like to join the SVP and be part of an organisation that helps those in need in our parish, do contact the SVP on the number at the top of the newsletter.



MASS OFFERINGS (STIPENDS) – If you have any Mass intentions to be offered, please contact Fr David, Deacon Peter or Denise. Please do include the full name of the person for whom you want the Mass to be offered, whether they are alive or deceased. There are some available dates during August and September.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION – If anyone would like to go to Confession, please contact Fr David by email or call round to the presbytery. Confessions will not be held in the confessional but in a safe place and with appropriate distancing, in compliance with the guidelines.

As we move slowly out of lockdown, the churches of Olney are participating in a Family Trail challenge produced by Scripture Union from 17th August until 1st September. In your own time you are invited to be an adventurer and find four clues which are located at the four churches in the town – (Catholic; Baptist; URC; Anglican) that will lead you to virtual treasure which we all need in these challenging times. All you need is a smart phone to scan the QR codes on the clues. Good Luck!



From Deacon Peter's Cupboard.....

Reflection on Twenty-first Sunday

At last Peter recognises that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. At last he realises that in Jesus they can see the action of God. The disciples followed Jesus as soon as He called, but for a long time they were puzzled what to make of Him, of His wonderful teaching and his godlike personality. Now comes a shaft of light and understanding. We too often take some time to appreciate the true worth of someone we know well: a little gesture can sometimes reveal just how generous and thoughtful they are. Peter suddenly grasps that there is God, acting among them, a daunting or even terrifying thought. Jesus replies to Peter's recognition with His own generosity, giving him a new name "Rock", for this is what 'Peter' means. If you name something, you make it your own, take it to yourself. This is just what Jesus does with Simon who becomes His own Peter. That is the importance of the names of a child at Baptism – the first thing that the Priest/Deacon says to the parents at Baptism is "*What name have you given this Child?*" Jesus takes us to Himself and we come His. The early Christians called themselves, '*Those over whom the name of Jesus has been called*'. We may have been named Mary or John, but the name of Jesus has been called over us and, through our baptism, we have become His.

Yesterday afternoon at Our Lady's, we welcomed baby Savannah Hill into the Church through the sacrament of Baptism and through the words "*... the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Saviour...*" Savannah is now a child of God. Please keep Savannah, her parents Martyn and Laura and all her family in your prayers throughout the week ahead for, like each one of us, Savannah has been claimed by Christ

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, St Joseph, St Lawrence and St Rita pray for us all.

With our love and prayers,

Fr David and Deacon Peter

