



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

olneyparishpriest@icloud.com

Fr Brian Leatherland (Rtd) – Fr John Fowler (Rtd)

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

pfgriffin@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

Telephone: 01234 711212 ourladysolney@btconnect.com

St Joseph's Convent – Sr Delia DHS - 01234 711267

Turvey Abbey – 01234 881432

SVP Contact: 07925 125206

26th June 2022 Psalter Week 1	Thirteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	1 Kings 19:16. 19-21 <i>Elisha rose and followed Elijah</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	O Lord, it is you who are my portion.	
Second Reading	St Paul to the Galatians 5:1 13-18 <i>You were called to liberty</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!	
Gospel	Luke 9:51-62 <i>Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem. I will follow you wherever you go.</i>	
Saturday 25th June +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Thomas Moore RIP)
Sunday 26th June +	10.30am	Mass – (For the Parish)
Monday 27th June St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor	9.00am	Mass – (Throckmorton family – Foundation Mass)
Tuesday 28th June St Irenaeus of Lyon, Bishop & Martyr – memoria		No Parish Mass today
Wednesday 29th June + Ss PETER & PAUL, Apostles – Solemnity Holy Day of Obligation	10.00am 7.00pm	Mass – (For the Parish) Mass – (Alexander Roberts RIP)
Thursday 30th June First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church – memoria	11.00am	Requiem Mass – Sr Hettie Barrett RIP
Friday – 1st July St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop & Martyr – Op mem	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Shaun Armstrong RIP)
Saturday – 2nd July Our Lady on Saturday	10.00am	No Parish Mass this morning
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
Saturday – 2nd July +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Jack Robbins RIP)
Sunday – 3rd July +	10.30am	Mass – (For the Parish)

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES – Monday's Mass will be at 9.00am, NOT 10.00am
NO MASS ON SATURDAY MORNING



Peter's Pence – Collection next weekend

Each year throughout the entire Church, on the Sunday nearest the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, a collection is held for the charitable work of the Pope. It is interestingly one of the oldest collections in the Church. It was first mentioned in history as far back as 1031. Pope Francis has shown us by his word and by his example the special concern he has for the poor and those on the periphery of society. He has said that he wants a Church which is there for the poor. He has a special concern for the victims of human trafficking and modern forms of slavery. He has appealed on many occasions for support for the many Christians who suffer persecution because of their Faith. The Peter's Pence collection will be held in our parish next weekend – please put your contribution either in the baskets in the narthex or place in a sealed envelope marked 'Peter's Pence' and leave at the Presbytery.



Milton Keynes Foodbank

You will all be well aware of the current cost of living crisis that is affecting so many people – these difficult times are particularly challenging for those individuals and families less fortunate than many of us. We continue to be ever grateful for the tremendous support that you have given to the Foodbank over many years. If you wish to make any donations please deposit them in the box by the Presbytery door – this is emptied daily and the goods taken to Milton Keynes each week. Thank you



The St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) is part of an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need. Founded in Britain in 1844, its volunteers foster diverse and inclusive connections, as a Society that is welcoming of people of all faiths and none, joyfully extending their hands in the care and personal service of individuals and families who need support. We are truly blessed here in our parish to have a very strong and active

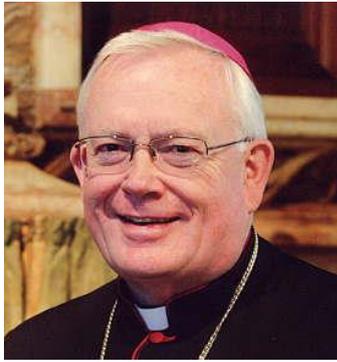
group of volunteers who provide invaluable support to families and individuals in our parish. If you would like to join our group of SVP volunteers or would like further information about their work, please contact Pat Reilly or any member of the SVP. **Together we can make a difference.**



MASS INTENTIONS - If you would like to submit a Mass Intention, can you please use the envelopes provided at the back of the church. It is important that you clearly write the name for whom the intention is being requested, can you please also include your name and a contact number. Occasionally it may be necessary for us to move the intention to a new date and we will need to contact you to discuss this with you. Wherever possible please give plenty of notice if you require a particular date as the diary quickly fills up.



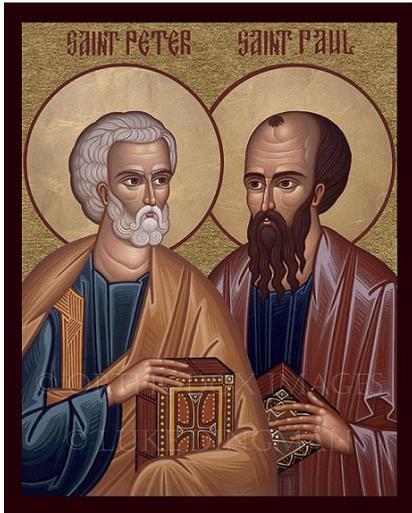
If any parishioner is expecting to be admitted to hospital for planned treatment and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact Father David before you go in. Also, if you are admitted to hospital, please make sure the hospital admissions team are aware you are a Catholic so that you can be offered the opportunity to receive Holy Communion. Finally, if you know of someone in our parish who is sick or unable to attend Mass, can you please let us know in order that we can visit them with Holy Communion



Bishop Emeritus Rt Rev Peter Doyle

On Tuesday of this week, 28th June, we celebrate the ordination in 2005 of Mgr Peter Doyle as the 12th Bishop of Northampton. On this anniversary we thank God for the great love and care that Bishop Peter bestowed on our Diocese. Please do keep Bishop Peter, now Bishop Emeritus, in your prayers thanking God for his continued ministry.

Ad multos annos



SS PETER & PAUL – Reflection by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

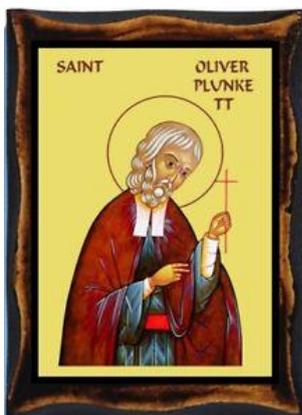
The aim of the Church's mission is a humanity that has itself become a living glorification of God, the true worship that God expects: this is the profound meaning of catholicity...

Like Paul, Peter also came to Rome, the city that was the place of convergence of all peoples and which precisely because of this could become the first of all expressions of the universality of the Gospel. Undertaking the journey from Jerusalem to Rome, Peter surely felt himself guided by the voices of the prophets, by the faith and by the prayer of Israel...

The great psalm of the Passion, Psalm 22, whose first verse “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” Jesus pronounced on the cross ended with the vision: “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him” – Ps 22:28

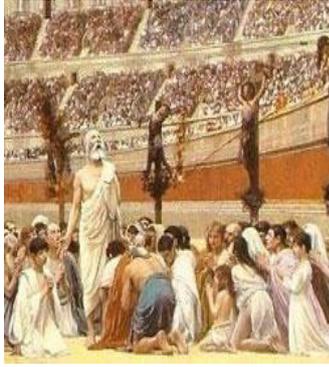
When Peter and Paul came to Rome the Lord, who invoked that psalm on the cross, was risen. This victory of God would now have to be proclaimed to all peoples, thus fulfilling the promise with which the psalm concluded...

The unity of men in their multiplicity became possible because God, this one God of heaven and earth, showed himself to us; because the essential truth of our life, of our “from where?” and “to where?”, became visible when he showed himself to us and in Jesus Christ made us see his face, himself. This truth of the essence of our being, of our living and our dying, truth that by God was made visible, unites us and makes us become brothers. Catholicity and unity go together. And unity has a content: the faith that the Apostles transmitted to us on behalf of Christ.”



St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop & Martyr

Educated in the Irish College in Rome, after his ordination he was unable to return to Ireland because of the Cromwellian persecution. He remained in Rome for fifteen years until nominated Archbishop of Armagh in 1669. He was arrested during the Popish Plot and condemned on the testimony of perjured witnesses. When the jury returned with a guilty verdict, Archbishop Plunkett responded, “Deo Gratias” (Thanks be to God). He was executed at Tyburn in 1681



First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

Thursday 30th June

These early Christians were the first persecuted in mass by the emperor Nero in the year 64 A.D., before the martyrdom of Saints Peter and Paul. Nero was widely believed to have caused the fire that burned down much of Rome in that same year. He blamed the fire on Christians and put them to death, many by crucifixion, being fed to the wild animals in the circus, or by being tied to posts and lit up as human torches.

These Holy martyrs were called the “Disciples of the Apostles” and their firmness in the face of their gruesome deaths were a powerful testimony that led to many conversions in the early Roman Church. These were all early Christians in Rome within a dozen or so years after the death of Jesus, though they were not the converts of the “Apostle of the Gentiles” Romans 15:20. Paul had not yet visited them at the time he wrote his great letter in 57-58 A.D.

There was a large Jewish population in Rome. Probably as a result of Controversy between Jews and Jewish Christians, the Emperor expelled all Jews from Rome in 49-50 A.D. Historians tell us that the expulsion was due to disturbances in the city, “Caused by certain Christians”. It is believed that many came back after the emperor’s death in 54 A.D., because Paul’s letter was addressed to a Church with members from Jewish and Gentile backgrounds.

In July of 64 A.D., more than half of Rome was destroyed by fire. Rumour blamed the tragedy on Nero, who wanted to enlarge his palace. He shifted the blame by accusing the Christians. According to the Historian Tacitus, many Christians were put to death because of their “hatred of the human race”. Peter and Paul were probably among the victims of this time. Eventually Nero was threatened by an army revolt and condemned to death by the senate, and committed suicide in 68 A.D. at the age of 31 because of these, the first of Christian martyrs being falsely blamed.

Wherever the Good News of Jesus was preached, it met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his sufferings and death. Notice how no human force could stop the Spirit unleashed upon the world through the Christians? They only became stronger witnesses to the faith. Pope Clement I, third successor of St. Peter writes, *“It was through envy and jealousy that the greatest and most upright pillars of the church were persecuted and struggled unto death... First of all, Peter whom because of unreasonable jealousy suffered not merely once or twice, but many times, and, having thus given his witness, went to the place of glory that he deserved. It was through jealousy and conflict that Paul showed the way to the prize for perseverance. He was put in chains seven times, sent into exile, and stoned; a herald both in the east and the west, he achieved a noble fame by his faith.”*

We too, can follow the examples of the Great Saints that have gone before us, paving the way of our faith that has stood the many centuries of time.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, St Cyril of Alexandria, St Irenaeus of Lyon, Ss Peter & Paul, the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome, St Oliver Plunkett pray for us all.

With our love and prayers – Fr David & Deacon Peter