



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

17 th July 2022 Psalter Week 4	Sixteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Genesis 18:1-10 <i>Lord, do not pass your servant by.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	The just will live in the presence of the Lord	
Second Reading	St Paul to the Colossians 1:24-28 <i>A mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to God's saints.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!	
Gospel	Luke 10:38-42 <i>Martha welcomed Jesus into her house. Mary has chosen the better part.</i>	
Saturday 16 th July +	5.45-6.15pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday 17 th July +	10.30am	Mass – (Monica Grady Int)
Monday 18 th July St Edburga of Bicester, Religious – op memoria	10.00am	Mass – (Thomas Ryan RIP)
Tuesday 19 th July Feria	10.00am	Service of Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday 20 th July St Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr – op memoria		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 21 st July St Lawrence of Brindisi – Priest & Doctor	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Deacon Peter – Int.)
Friday – 22 nd July ST MARY MAGDALENE, Penitent - Feast	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Mary Nippard RIP)
Saturday – 23 rd July ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN – Patron of Europe Feast	10.00am 10.30- 11.30am	Mass – (Steven O'Malley RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confession available
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
Saturday – 23 rd July +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday – 24 th July +	10.30am	Mass – (Simon Snow RIP)

“Peace begins with a smile”

Mother Teresa, also known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta,



Pray for the Sick

Please do continue to pray for those who are sick: members of our families, our friends and those who have no one to pray for them. Keep especially in your prayers Brian Barrett (*Fr David's Dad*); Fr Brian, Fr John and our sisters both here at St Joseph's & those at Burlington Hall.

Ever-living and ever-loving, Lord God,
You are the everlasting salvation of those who believe.
Hear us on behalf of (name) who is sick. We ask You to have mercy on (her/him) that, bodily health may be restored.
We thank you and praise you through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Adapted by Sr Mary Christa Kroening OSB



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



If you donate every week to the collections in church and you are a taxpayer, please consider Gift Aid. It will cost you nothing and is of great financial benefit to the parish. You can donate using standing orders, planned giving envelopes, cash in the baskets or via the digital collection plate.

Please contact Denise on 01234 711212 or email on parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org

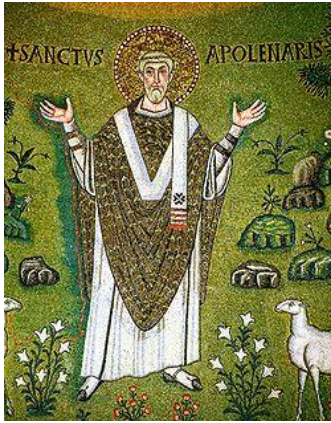


UNIVERSALIS APP

One way to follow the readings and the Office, the Prayer of the Church, is to get the Universalis App. You will need a smart phone or a tablet and you get the app from the App store. It is a one-off payment of £10.99 but has the readings for weekdays and Sundays, the complete cycles with the Mass prayers, it has the full Office (Office of Readings morning, evening, midday night prayer). Visit <https://universalis.com/> for an overview of the App together with details of a FREE trial period.



As our schools, colleges & universities break up for the summer holidays, we pray especially for our young people whose education has been dramatically affected by the coronavirus pandemic with so much 'lost learning'. We pray that they will continue to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their faith and in the lives more generally - **Enjoy the Summer!**



St Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr

According to tradition, Saint Peter sent Apollinaris to Ravenna, Italy, as its first bishop. His preaching of the Good News was so successful that the pagans there beat him and drove him from the city. He returned, however, and was exiled a second time. After preaching in the area surrounding Ravenna, he entered the city again. After being cruelly tortured, he was put on a ship heading to Greece. Pagans there caused him to be expelled to Italy, where he went to Ravenna for a fourth time. He died from wounds received during a savage beating at Classis, a suburb of Ravenna. A beautiful basilica honouring him was built there in the sixth century.



St Mary Magdalen

Mary was one of Christ's disciples and was present at his death. On the morning of Easter day she was the first to whom the risen redeemer appeared, according to St Mark's Gospel (16:9). Devotion to her spread throughout the Western Church especially in the twelfth century.

'If you have the courage to imitate Mary Magdalene in her sins, have the courage to imitate her penance!' – St Pio of Pietrelcina



St Bridget, Religious

Born in Sweden in 1303, she married while still a girl and gave birth to eight children whom she brought up in a religious spirit. She was a member of the Third Order of St Francis but after the death of her husband she decided to lead a more ascetical life even though still in the world. Later she founded the Bridgettine Order and went to Rome where she became outstanding in her practice of virtue. She wrote many works describing the mystical experiences she had and went on a penitential pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She died at Rome in the year 1373.

On this special feast we especially remember in our prayers the Bridgettine Sisters at Iver Heath here in our own Diocese.



Reflection on today's Gospel – 'Martha & Mary' Luke 10:38-42

All of us, in one way or another, lead very busy lives – however hard we try to organise our daily routine there are, despite our best efforts always things that just don't seem to get done each day. Perhaps one of those things that we don't seem to have enough time for is daily prayer. One of the important aspects of our relationship with God is that we have a good, structured daily prayer life. Signs of a good 'prayer life' are that it is unique to each individual – we create it for ourselves by praying in a way that works for us. This may be contemplative prayer, charismatic prayer, praying the rosary, using simple traditional prayers or perhaps even 'Lectio Divina' (Divine Reading) which refers specifically to an approach to prayer and scripture reading practiced by monastics since the early church.

In today's familiar Gospel reading we learn about the contrasting relationship with Jesus of Martha & Mary. Martha invited Jesus into her house and whilst her sister Mary sat at the feet of Jesus listening to what He had to say to her, Martha busied herself tidying the house and preparing a meal for them all. I'm sure that all of us can identify with the frustrations experienced by Martha – here she was doing all of the housework and preparations whilst her sister Mary was not lifting a finger to help her but had chosen to sit down at the feet of Jesus.

It is most important that each of us has a loving relationship with God – time each day that we set aside to invite Jesus into our lives in the same way that Martha invited Him into her home. Jesus will always accept our invitation for Him to come into our lives but what He wants of us during this special time is to simply listen to Him as He listens to us. Our prayers are not a 'one way' dialogue – prayer is a two-way conversation; with God listening and speaking to us and we listening and speaking to Him. A priest friend of mine once suggested that when we pray to God we should always pray twice – firstly for whatever it is that we are asking of God; secondly and most importantly for the grace to **listen** to the answer. Whilst we may often think that we have **heard** the answer have we really **listened** to the answer? Sometimes when we pray, we may feel disillusioned that perhaps God isn't listening to us but God always listens to us:

'O Lord, you search me and you know me, you know my resting and my rising, you discern my purpose from afar. You mark when I walk or lie down, all my ways are open to you. Psalm 138

Time spent in prayer is not time wasted. It is the most fruitful time of all. For beginners, prayer may not always be easy but for those who persevere, it is certainly rewarding. Sometimes we may become distracted in prayer simply because our minds are so active. St. Teresa of Avila, writing about this, said it is like having 'a mad man in the attic.' We may need to give the 'mad man in the attic' something to occupy himself if we are to have less distractions during prayer. In today's Gospel we can clearly see that Martha, having invited Jesus into her home, became 'distracted' by continuing with her chores instead of using this special time with Jesus to listen to him as did Mary. Whatever way we occupy the 'mad man in the attic' the important thing is to meet Jesus in prayer. If we really meet Jesus in prayer we will be uplifted and have a much more enjoyable life. As Jesus reminds each one of us as He speaks to Martha:

"Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part, it is not to be taken from her." (Luke 10:41-42)

Deacon Peter

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, St Edburga, St Apollinaris, St Lawrence of Brindisi, St Mary Magdalene, St Bridget pray for us all.

With our love and prayers – Fr David & Deacon Peter