



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)

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

4th September 2022 Psalter Week 3	Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Wisdom 9:13-18 <i>Who can divine the will of the Lord?</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.	
Second Reading	St Paul to Philemon 9-10. 12-17 <i>Have him back, not as a slave any more, but as a dear brother.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! I call your friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!	
Gospel	Luke 14:25-33 <i>None of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.</i>	
Saturday 3rd September +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday 4th September +	10.30am	Mass – (Fr Brian Leatherland Int.)
Monday 5th September Bl William Brown, Martyr – op memoria	10.00am	Mass – (Michael McCormick Int.)
Tuesday 6th September <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Service of Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday 7th September <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 8th September NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – feast	7.00pm	Mass – (Cathy Sargeant Int.)
Friday – 9th September St Peter Claver, Priest – op memoria	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Throckmorton family)
Saturday – 10th September	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Private Intention) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
Saturday – 10th September +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday – 11th September +	10.30am	Mass – (Jane and Anthony Medlicott-Diamond Wedding Anniversary)

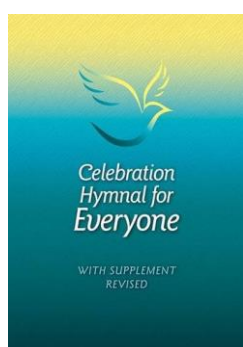
PLEASE NOTE: Mass this coming Thursday will be at 7.00pm

Welcome Back Fr David - Fr David is back with us (DG) after visiting the Holy Land – we very much hope that he enjoyed a peaceful & blessed time. It is good to have you back, Father.



CAFOD PAKISTAN FLOODS APPEAL

CAFOD is part of the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC), a group of 15 leading international aid charities that work together to respond as quickly and effectively as possible during a humanitarian emergency. **After each Mass this weekend** there will be a second collection for the work of the DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal. The money raised will go straight towards helping the local experts on the ground in Pakistan to respond to this climate induced disaster. If you wish, you can donate via the DCP Card Reader located in the porch or via the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/>



Message from the Choir

There will be a meeting for choir members in the church on **Monday 12th September at 7.30pm.**

If you enjoy singing and can regularly attend the practice sessions on a Monday evening you will be most heartily welcome.



Message from Denise

You may be aware that, with effect from the 30th September, the old paper £20 and £50 paper notes will no longer be legal tender. Although some Banks & Post Offices may continue to exchange these old notes after this date, Denise has checked with the Post Office that she uses for all our banking and has been told that they will not accept them after the 30th. In

order for Denise to meet the deadline the last weekend we can accept the old £20 & £50 notes would be 24th/25th September. Thank you.



Second Collection – SVP

One of the many blessings in our parish is the work carried out by the members of our SVP. Not only do they pray for those who are in need, but they make regular visits to them as well as providing them with basic necessities. If you would like to find out more about the work of the SVP here in our parish then please contact Pat Reilly. **Next weekend we will be holding the annual second collection for the work of the SVP here in our**

parish. Envelopes will be distributed this weekend (3rd/4th September) for return next weekend please.



New Academic Year

As the new academic year begins for those at School, College or University we wish our young people every success and hold them in our prayers. These past few months have been enormously challenging for our students and we hope and pray that things will significantly improve in the months ahead.



Nativity of the BVM

“This is the unveiling of the mystery, this is the nature made new, God and man, and the deification of the human nature assumed by God. But so radiant, so glorious a visitation of God to men needed some prelude of joy to introduce us the great gift of salvation. The present feast is such: the prelude is the birth of the Mother of God, and the concluding act is the union which is destined between the Word and human nature. A virgin is now born and suckled and moulded, and is made ready to be mother of God, the king of all for ever.”

Extract from a reading from the sermons of St Andrew of Crete



St. Peter Claver, SJ

Peter Claver was born to a prosperous family in Verdu, Spain, and earned his first degree in Barcelona. He entered the Jesuits in 1601. When he was in Majorca studying philosophy, Claver was encouraged by Alphonsus Rodriguez, the saintly doorkeeper of the college, to go to the missions in America. Claver listened, and in 1610 he landed in Cartagena, Colombia. After completing his studies in Bogotá, Peter was ordained in Cartagena in 1616. Cartagena was one of two ports where slaves from Africa arrived to be sold in South America. Between the years 1616 and 1650, Peter Claver worked daily to minister to the needs of the 10,000 slaves who arrived each year. When a ship arrived, Peter first begged for fruits, biscuits, or sweets to bring to the slaves. He then went on board with translators to bring his gifts as well as his skills as a doctor and teacher. Claver entered the holds of the ships and would not leave until every person received a measure of care. Peter gave short instruction in the Catholic faith and baptized as many as he could. In this way he could prevail on the slave owners to give humane treatment to fellow Christians. Peter Claver baptized more than 300,000 slaves by 1651, when he was sickened by the plague. In the last years of his life Peter was too ill to leave his room. The ex-slave who was hired to care for him treated him cruelly, not feeding him many days, and never bathing him. Claver never complained. He was convinced that he deserved this treatment. In 1654 Peter was anointed with the oil of the Sacrament of the Sick. When Cartagenians heard the news, they crowded into his room to see him for the last time. They treated Peter Claver's room as a shrine, and stripped it of everything but his bedclothes for mementos. Claver died September 7, 1654.

St. Peter Claver SJ was a member of the Society of Jesus and is the patron of African missions and of interracial justice, due to his work with slaves in Colombia. He was canonized in 1888.

Quote: “We must speak to them with our hands before we speak to them with our lips.”

Reflections on this Sunday's Readings

Wisdom 9:13-18

This lovely passage is the conclusion of Solomon's prayer for heavenly Wisdom, saying that heavenly Wisdom and the true knowledge of the things of God are beyond human grasp. If we cannot fully understand the visible world around us, how can we hope to reach an understanding of the divinity beyond the awareness of all our senses? The prayer is put in the mouth of King Solomon, who in the Old Testament is almost the personification of human wisdom; these are the sort of words he may have used because Solomon reigned in the 10th century BC and the Book of Wisdom was composed at Alexandria only shortly before the birth of Christ. The recognition at this moment that divine Wisdom lies well beyond the reach of all human faculties is all the more impressive in view of the achievements of the great philosophical schools of Alexandria. Such occasional poems, scattered throughout the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament, are a valuable reminder that God is beyond all human comprehension in wisdom, in strength and in beauty. Perhaps the most wonderful and overwhelming of all is the experience of God conveyed in the poems of Job 38-41. These poems may also be seen as praise of the Wisdom of God which will become flesh and be manifest to us in Christ Jesus.

St Paul to Philemon 9-10. 12-17

Paul's letter to Philemon – and this reading makes up about half the letter – is a friendly little note from Paul to Philemon about a slave of Philemon's called Onesimus, who has been serving Paul in his imprisonment, and has become a Christian. There are two theories about why Onesimus was with Paul: either Onesimus ran away from his master and took refuge with Paul, or Philemon lent Onesimus to Paul for a limited period. In either case Paul is now sending Onesimus back, and at the same time putting pressure on Philemon to send him Onesimus for a further period. The most important and attractive element in the letter is Paul's affectionate brotherhood with the slave, now a Christian. After accepting slavery within Christianity for a long period, Christians came to realise that the affection and brotherhood expressed here by Paul make slavery among Christians intolerable. A further step was taken later when it was recognised that any enslavement of human beings is incompatible with Christianity, and that all human beings must be treated as brothers and sisters, equal before the Lord. It is a classic case of the slow deepening of the understanding of Christian morality

Luke 14:25-33

Jesus does not pull his punches, and here delivers a series of devastating body-blows to anyone who is looking for easy discipleship. All through this journey which culminates in Jesus' own death at Jerusalem the cost of discipleship has been a recurrent theme: 'Let the dead bury their dead' (13th Sunday), the Parable of the Rich Fool (18th Sunday), 'From one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded' (19th Sunday), 'Father against son, son against father' (20th Sunday), and now 'Hate father and mother' and 'Give up all your possessions'. A certain amount of the vigour of these demands may be attributed to a Semitic (Hebrew/ Aramaic) mode of expression (they would often use superlatives and rarely use comparatives), but there is no doubt about the absolute demands made on the disciple. When Jesus made these demands, he knew what lay ahead of him, and was only asking his disciples to follow his own course. We must count the cost before beginning to build the tower. Most of us have, of course, already started to build the tower by responding to Jesus' call. There is no turning back from the plough (13th Sunday); only pray for a courage and loyalty which exceed our own powers.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, Blessed William Brown, St Peter Claver, pray for us all.

With our love and prayers – Fr David & Deacon Peter