

Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence 39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

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Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired

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Turvey Abbey – 01234 881432 **SVP Contact: 07925 125206**

| First Reading Isaiah 49:3-5-6 I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth. Responsorial Psalm Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will. Second Reading 1 Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. Gospel Acclimatation Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia! Gospel John 1:29-34 Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Saturday 14 th January + Sunday 15 th January + Monday 16 th January + 10.30am Mass (Fr Brian Leatherland RIP) No Parish Mass today Feria Tuesday 17 th January St Anthony, Abbott - memoria OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18 th - 25 th January Wednesday 18 th January Pottam Department of the Blessed Sacrament Mass for Christian Unity 10.00am Mass - (Fr John Fowler RIP) Thursday 19 th January St Wilstan, - Bishop - optional memoria St Wilstan, - Bishop - optional memoria St Sebastian, Martyr - optional memoria St Sebastian, Martyr - optional memoria St Sebastian, Martyr - optional memoria St Agnes, Martyr - memoria THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Sunday of the Word of God Saturday 21 st January Vigil Mass (For the Parish) | 15 th January 2023 | Second Sunday of the Year | | | |
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| | Sunday 22 nd January + | | 10.30am | Mass (Joan Bagg RIP) | |

Second Collection for White Flower Appeal (SPUC)

This weekend we are very grateful to Julia Scott who will be making the annual appeal on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (White Flower Appeal). Please leave any donations in the collection baskets in the narthex or place them in an envelope, clearly marked 'White Flower Appeal' and pop in through the presbytery letterbox or use the Digital Collection Plate. Thank you.



PEACE SUNDAY follows the international World Day of Peace and is celebrated in the parishes of England and Wales on this Second Sunday of the Year. The theme is taken from the Holy Father's message for the 56th World Day of Peace: "No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid 19 together, embarking together on paths of peace." You can read the full transcript given by the Holy Father on 1st January 2023 by going to the Pax Christ website on:

https://paxchristi.org.uk/event/peace-sunday-2023/

Prayer for Peace Sunday

O God of peace, who are peace itself and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive, grant that those who are one in heart may persevere in what is good and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed. Amen





This coming Thursday, Mass will be celebrated in memory of dear Fr John who returned to the Lord on 5th August last year. Following the Mass, his cremated remains will be interred in Olney Cemetery. Please do continue to pray for the repose of his soul and for continued comfort for Cicely, Andrew and his wider family and friends. We should also remember in our prayers Bishop Peter Collins the newly installed Bishop of East Anglia and the Priests, Deacons, Religious and people of that diocese which for many years Fr John's much loved Spiritual home. May he rest in peace.



OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY begins this coming Wednesday and runs until Wednesday 25th January. This year's theme is 'Be-Longing' – Praying for Unity Amidst Injustice. We are asked to pray for the unity of all our Christian brothers & sisters across the world – we think especially of the entire Christian Community here within our parish.

May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.

John 17:21

Light up Lent! - Online Week of Accompanied Prayer – 23rd February – 2nd March. Give yourself the gift of time with God this Lent by taking part in our Online Week of Accompanied Prayer led by Canon John Udris. Encounter Jesus in a new way through the Scriptures and see your prayer life come to life.

Introductory webinar 7.30pm – 8.30pm Monday 23rd January – further information:

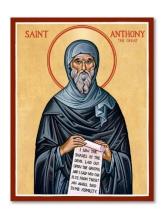
https://week of accompanied prayer.eventbrite.co.uk

Your Legacy - Invest in the future of your parish and our Diocese. Gifts in your Will are a memorable and lasting way you can continue to support the Church's ministry and mission and help meet the needs of future generations. Please consider gifts to the Church and Catholic charities next time you update your Will. For more information, contact Denise or alternatively, go to:

<u>www.northamptondiocese.org/your-legacy</u> or contact Brian Emmanuel on 01604 600337 or <u>brian.emmanuel@northamptondiocese.org</u>.



Used Postage Stamps - We all get lots of used stamps at this time of year so please save them and leave them at the back of the church marked for Denise. They will be forwarded onto the National Children's Society to enable them to raise additional funds.



ST ANTHONY - Abbott

This outstanding father of all monks was born in Egypt about the year 250. After the death of his parents, he gave his worldly goods to the poor and went into the desert to live a life of penance. Many became his followers. He worked for the Church, supporting the confessors of the faith in their sufferings during the persecution of Diocletian, and St Athanasius in his struggles against the Arians. He died in the year 356.



ST AGNES, Martyr - is believed to have been martyred in Rome at the age of 12 because she refused to marry the son of a Roman official, instead declaring herself committed to Christ as a virgin during an era when Christianity was still an underground religion. In the decades after her death, Agnes's tomb became a place of pilgrim age. She was martyred at the Stadium of Domitian, built by that Emperor, which is now the Piazza Navona. She was buried in a catacomb on the Via Nomentana over which was eventually built a Basilica – Sant'Agnese fuori le Mura (St Agnes-Outside-the-Walls)

Prayer for Christian Unity by Pope John Paul II To Our Lady for Christian Unity

"Spouse of the Holy Spirit and Seat of Wisdom, help us in the great endeavour that we are carrying out to meet on a more and more mature way our brothers and sisters in the faith, with whom so many things unite us, although there is still something dividing us. Through all the means of knowledge, of mutual respect, of love, shared collaboration in various fields, may we be able to rediscover gradually the divine plan for the unity in which we should enter. Mother of unity, teach us constantly the ways that lead to unity.

Allow us in the future to go out to meet human beings and all the peoples that are seeking God and wishing to serve him on the way of different religions. Help us all to proclaim Christ.

Mother of Good Counsel, show us always how we are to serve the individual and humanity in every nation, how we are to lead them along the ways of salvation. How we are to protect justice and peace in a world continually threatened on various sides. Let us entrust to you all the difficult problems of the societies, systems, and states—problems that cannot be solved with hatred, war and self-destruction but only by peace, justice, and respect for the rights of people and nations.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, Mary, Mother of God, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Henry Newman, St Anthony, St Wulstan, St Fabian, St Sebastian, St Agnes, pray for us all.