



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

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2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2023 Psalter Week 1	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16</b> <i>This is a holy man of God, let him rest there.</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>St Paul to the Romans 6:3-4. 8-11</b> <i>When we were baptised, we went into the tomb with Christ, so that we too might live a new life.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!</b>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mathew 10:37-42</b> <i>Anyone who does not take his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me.</i>	
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July +</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (McCarthy family Int.)</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b> <b>ST THOMAS - Apostle</b>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>St Elizabeth of Portugal – op mem</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass - (Colin Panter RIP)</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>St Antony Zaccaria – Priest - op mem</b> <b>Bl Thomas Belson – Martyr - op mem</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass - (Tom &amp; Noreen Ryan RIP)</b>
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>St Maria Goretti – Virgin, Martyr - op mem</b> <b>Bl Thomas Alfield – Priest, Martyr op mem</b>	<b>6.15pm</b> <b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (David Emery RIP)</b>
<b>Friday – 7<sup>th</sup> July</b> <i>Feria (First Friday – Sacred Heart)</i>	<b>6.15pm</b> <b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass (Lin Sturge RIP)</b>
<b>Saturday – 8<sup>th</sup> July</b> <b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Caroline Saw RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions</b>
<b>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Sea Sunday</b>		
<b>Saturday – 8<sup>th</sup> July +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Olga Ayles RIP)</b>

**Please note: Thursday & Friday Mass is at 7.00pm this week**

**This Weekend: Second Collection – ‘Peter’s Pence’**  
**Second Collection Next Weekend – ‘Sea Sunday’**

**Many thanks for your continued financial support**

Last Week’s Collection: **£320.00**

Card Reader: **£45.00**

Average Weekly Standing Orders: **£239.00**

**TOTAL: £604.00**

Second Collection: Day for Life: **£141.60**

*Tea and Coffee after 10.00am Mass every Tuesday – all are welcome!*



**Peter’s Pence – This 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 this weekend** – please put your contribution either in the baskets in the narthex, the Digital Collection Plate or place in a sealed envelope marked ‘Peter’s Pence’ and leave at the Presbytery.



**THE BECKET FESTIVAL** - St Thomas Becket is the co-patron of our Diocese, and the **Solemnity of the Translation of the Relics will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Friday 7th July at 11.00am**. The Principal Celebrant will be His Excellency, The Most Reverend Miguel Maury Buendía, the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain – you are most welcome to attend this Mass. This will be followed throughout the day by Veneration of the Relic.



**Caritas Northampton** is responsible for the promotion, establishment, and support of various social outreach projects within the diocese. One of their current outreach programmes is to establish parish dementia support groups within the diocese. There is currently over 944,000 people

in the UK with dementia and our diocese has some of the highest levels within the UK (Northampton has 8200 sufferers) and it is estimated that 1 in 3 of us will become carers for someone with dementia in our lifetime. We already have a successful pilot scheme running supporting 120+ sufferers and their families and providing a valuable service to the community. To be able to mirror this success in our parishes we will be holding a **‘Carbs for Caritas’** event as part of the Becket festival. This will take place on **Friday, 7th July 6.30pm – 9.00pm** with all proceeds going towards this project. The event will consist of a range of delicious Italian food along with a friends and family quiz where you will have the opportunity to win a range of great prizes. This costs £10 per team (up to 6 people per team). Please book via: [bishopsecretary@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:bishopsecretary@northamptondiocese.org)

# Helping Hands

**Many thanks** to everyone who 'signed up' to our parish 'Helping Hands' initiative on the theme of "Many hands make light work." The idea is to see if people would be willing to volunteer to help in one area of parish life so that everyone is involved; at the same time, by having many people involved, no-one will have to do too much, as we know we all have busy lives. This is especially important since Fr David will be working 3 days a week at Allen Hall Seminary in London from September. If you weren't able to 'sign up' last weekend & would like to help out or would like to know more, please contact either Fr David or Deacon Peter.

## CAFOD Just one world

**Mission Unleashed: an event with Cardinal Tagle**  
The Church has a mission but what is it? How should we do it? Cardinal Tagle of the Philippines has responsibilities for evangelisation and mission in the Vatican and is an inspirational speaker. Join CAFOD online for **Mission Unleashed: Embracing the Social Dimension of Evangelisation – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 7.00pm – 8.30pm.** To register and/or be sent the recording afterwards go to: [www.bigmarker.co/cafod/evangelisation](http://www.bigmarker.co/cafod/evangelisation).



**HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK** – if you are going into hospital or know of someone who is unable to get to Mass and would like to receive the Sacraments, please let Fr David know or the Parish SVP – **07925 125206**



**Altar Servers** – We are looking to recruit some young members of our parish to join our team of Altar Servers and are appealing especially to those who recently received their First Holy Communion. Altar Servers play a very important part in the Church's Liturgy enabling us all, Priests, Deacons and the Laity to worthily celebrate the Mass. Full training will be given to you. If you are interested, please speak or contact either Fr David or Deacon Peter.



It is sad to announce that the Bedford Branch of SPUC has come to an end after more than twenty years, though we will continue to deliver the annual White Flower Appeal throughout all our churches. In lieu of this, there will be a monthly Rosary for The Sanctity of Life prayed at **St Joseph and the Holy Child Church, Midland Road, Bedford** on the **last Saturday of every month at 11.15am**, immediately following Mass and during Exposition. Please see the poster in the porch for details - ALL ARE

WELCOME - please join us for this worthwhile devotion. Further info from Julia Scott: [julia\\_scott22@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:julia_scott22@yahoo.co.uk)



**Powerful Testimony concerning Medjugorje and how to grow in our Faith** – Fr Edward A Murphy gives a wonderful reflection on how his life changed and how we can change our lives and grow in our relationship with Christ and Our Lady. You will find the video at: <https://youtu.be/eocEmod17k4>

## This Sunday's Readings

### 2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16

This is a lovely story of hospitality repaid; it is given to us here to illustrate one sentence in the gospel, that hospitality given to a prophet earns the reward of a prophet. In fact, we are here told only half the story, for later the child suddenly sickens and dies (possibly of sunstroke), and the prophet bring the child back to life. Almost the same story is told of the prophet Elijah in 1 Kings 17; the similarities in the way the story is told show that the evangelist Luke had this in mind when he told the story of Jesus raising to life the son of the Widow of Naim, which ends with the popular acclaim, 'A great prophet has risen among us; God has visited his people' (Luke 7:11-16). In St Luke, Jesus is frequently presented as a prophet and more than a prophet, for instance in his opening manifesto in the synagogue at Nazareth, where Jesus likens his mission to that of Elisha and Elijah (Luke 4:16-30). The Ascension is also described in terms of the prophet Elijah being carried up to heaven, while his disciple looks on. (2 Kings 2:11)

### Romans 6:3-4. 8-11

Last Sunday's reading from Romans explained to us how Christ is the Second Adam, by his obedience undoing the disobedience of Adam. The reaction may be, 'But what has that to do with me? How does it benefit me?' The answer here given is that we were baptized into Christ's death so that we are joined to him and will be transformed by his Resurrection. The Greek *baptizo* means 'plunge into': we are plunged into Christ's death. Our life is now Christ's life, although not yet transformed like his. St Paul coins a whole series of new words beginning with 'syn-' (a formation similar to 'synchronized' or 'synthetic') to show how our life is merged into Christ's. The most expressive of all is that we are *synphytoi* with Christ: this word is used in medical terminology to express how two parts of a broken bone grow together again and merge into a bond stronger than the original. By my baptism into Christ's death, his death becomes mine. Christ's story becomes my story. Christ's strength becomes my strength. Christ's body becomes my body. Christ's risen life becomes my risen life.

### St Matthew 10:37-42

At the end of this collection of sayings of Jesus about the mission of the Christian apostolate, St Matthew puts a whole series of daunting challenges. Luke gives almost all the same sayings, but scattered in different contexts. The last saying is only in St Mark as well. Believing as we do that the composition of the gospel is inspired, even to the selection and ordering of the sayings of Jesus, we can see this group of sayings as a series of challenges not to take up Christianity without serious forethought. There is no such thing as non-apostolic Christianity, but by becoming Christians we take on a share in Christ's own task of spreading the Good News. The challenge is great but the reward is certain. First comes a trio of sayings to show the absolute priority of Christ's claims, over the closest family ties, over life and finally over possession of one's own self. Then comes a quartet of promises of rewards to those who welcome Christ's messengers. The envoy is placed equal with the principal: Christ's messenger is as Christ, Christ as his Father. Then in detail the reward for welcome of a prophet, of any upright person, and finally of the Christian in need.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Henry Newman, St Thomas, St Elizabeth of Portugal, St Antony Zaccaria, Bl Thomas Belson, St Maria Goretti, Bl Thomas Alfield, pray for us.

With our love and prayers to you all - Fr David, Fr Patrick & Deacon Peter