



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 Patrick Hutton - Retired

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 Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267

Turvey Abbey – Rev Bro John Mayhead OSB - 01234 881211

SVP Contact: 07925 125206

13 th August 2023 Psalter Week 3	Nineteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	1 Kings 19:9.11-13 <i>Stand on the mountain before the Lord.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.	
Second Reading	St Paul to the Romans 9:1-5 <i>I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	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	Mathew 14:22-23 <i>Tell me to come to you across the water.</i>	
Saturday 12th August +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass - (For the Parish)
Sunday 13th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Paula Medlicott RIP)
Monday 14th August St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr		No Parish Mass today
Tuesday 15th August + ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM - (Solemnity) Holy Day of Obligation	9.15am 10.00am 7.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (For the Parish) Mass – (Edvard Brylkowski – Thanksgiving)
Wednesday 16th August St Stephen of Hungary – Confessor – op. mem.		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 17th August Feria		No Parish Mass today
Friday – 18th August Feria		No Parish Mass today
Saturday – 19th August St John Eudes – Priest – op mem.		No Parish Morning Mass
TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
Saturday – 19th August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (For the parish)
Sunday 20th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Richard Jewell RIP)

**On Tuesday we will celebrating the Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM
Mass will be at 10.00am & 7.00pm**

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £370.00

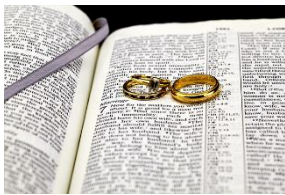
DCP – £40.00

Average Standing Orders: £553.00

Total: £963.00

Many thanks for your continued financial support

Special Collection – we are holding a special collection for Fr David to mark his anniversary. You can donate in one of two ways – either by placing your offering in one of the special envelopes marked 'Fr David' that are available in the porch and put this into the collection basket - please make any cheques payable to 'Our Lady Help of Christians'. Alternatively, you can make an offering on the Digital Collection Plate in the porch. We hope to make a presentation to Fr David on 8th September. Thank you.



Mass for Married Couples - The annual Mass for married couples will take place on **Saturday 30th September at midday at the Cathedral**. Bishop David will celebrate the and give his pastoral blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones; for example: 10, 20,25,30,40,50 years etc. All welcome to attend and there will be light refreshments after in the Cathedral Centre. If you are interested in going, please contact Sam at: mfl@northamptondiocese.org



Mary Meal's - If anyone has any foreign coins/notes or old UK coins/notes that they are looking to dispose of there is a box at the back of the church for your donations. Alternatively, there are envelopes that you can take away and return to the church by the end of September. All donations will be given to the Mary's Meals representative when he visits the parish on 30th September/1st October. Thank you



Milton Keynes Foodbank – we are all very much 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. With the increased demands placed on the Foodbank, supplies are running very low. 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 Foodbank each week. We continue to be ever grateful for the tremendous support that you have given to the Foodbank over many years: thank you very much.

Terry Quinn has an excellent YouTube channel – he is someone who has returned to his Catholic Faith. Check out his channel. In this talk he gives clear teaching about how we can understand Mary as the New Eve – it is very much recommended:

<https://youtu.be/UmjoYGsaaQg>



The Benedictine Monks of Ampleforth Abbey

have recently ventured into the world of audio media as they celebrate the release of their new podcast channel Ampleforth Abbey Podcast. Each week a different member of the monastic community will upload a new episode of "Home Retreat" in which they will offer a challenging reflection for 10-15 minutes.

Home Retreats are offered as an opportunity to pause and reflect wherever you are.



St Maximillian Kolbe - On Monday the Church celebrates the feast of St Maximillian Kolbe a Polish Catholic priest who was very active in promoting the veneration of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. During the Second World War he was imprisoned in Auschwitz where he famously offered himself, as an old man with no dependants, in place of Francis Gajowniczek, an Army Sergeant, who had a wife and children and had been sentenced to death. Truly a Saint of our time.

Prayer to St Maximillian Kolbe

Grant, O Lord Jesus, that we, too, may give ourselves entirely without reserve to the love and service of our Heavenly Queen in order to better love and serve our fellowman in imitation of your humble servant, St. Maximilian Kolbe. Amen.



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

From a Homily of Pope Benedict XVI for the Assumption – 2005

The feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love. Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven: There is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us.

We have a Mother in heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. He himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: "Behold, your Mother!" We have a Mother in heaven. Heaven is open, heaven has a heart.

In the Gospel we hear the Magnificat, that great poem inspired by the Holy Spirit that came from Mary's lips, indeed, from Mary's heart. This marvellous canticle mirrors the entire soul, the entire personality of Mary. We can say that this hymn of hers is a portrait of Mary, a true icon in which we can see her exactly as she is.

It begins with the word "Magnificat": my soul "magnifies" the Lord, that is, "proclaims the greatness" of the Lord. Mary wanted God to be great in the world, great in her life and present among us all. She was not afraid that God might be a "rival" in our life, that with his greatness he might encroach on our freedom, our vital space. She knew that if God is great, we too are great. Our life is not oppressed but raised and expanded: It is precisely then that it becomes great in the splendour of God.

The fact that our first parents thought the contrary was the core of original sin. They feared that if God were too great, he would take something away from their life. They thought that they could set God aside to make room for themselves.

This was also the great temptation of the modern age, of the past three or four centuries. More and more people have thought and said: "But this God does not give us our freedom; with all his commandments, he restricts the space in our lives. So, God has to disappear; we want to be autonomous and independent. Without this God we ourselves would be gods and do as we pleased."

This was also the view of the Prodigal Son, who did not realize that he was "free" precisely because he was in his father's house. He left for distant lands and squandered his estate. In the end, he realized that precisely because he had gone so far away from his father, instead of being free he had become a slave; he understood that only by returning home to his father's house would he be truly free, in the full beauty of life.

This is how it is in our modern epoch. Previously, it was thought and believed that by setting God aside and being autonomous, following only our own ideas and inclinations, we would truly be free to do whatever we liked without anyone being able to give us orders.

But when God disappears, men and women do not become greater; indeed, they lose the divine dignity, their faces lose God's splendour. In the end, they turn out to be merely products of a blind evolution and, as such, can be used and abused. This is precisely what the experience of our epoch has confirmed for us.

Only if God is great is humankind also great. With Mary, we must begin to understand that this is so. We must not drift away from God but make God present; we must ensure that he is great in our lives. Thus, we too will become divine; all the splendour of the divine dignity will then be ours. Let us apply this to our own lives.

It is important that God be great among us, in public and in private life.

In public life, it is important that God be present, for example, through the cross on public buildings, and that he be present in our community life, for only if God is present do we have an orientation, a common direction; otherwise, disputes become impossible to settle, for our common dignity is no longer recognized.

Let us make God great in public and in private life. This means making room for God in our lives every day, starting in the morning with prayers, and then dedicating time to God, giving Sundays to God. We do not waste our free time if we offer it to God. If God enters into our time, all time becomes greater, roomier, richer.

Thought for the week: If anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his Mother, he will not have Christ for his Brother."

St Maximilian Kolbe

[May Our Lady Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Henry Newman, St Maximilian Kolbe, St Stephen of Hungary, St John Eudes pray for us.](#)

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