



**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](mailto:olneyparishpriest@icloud.com)  
 Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired  
 Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414  
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 Parish Website: [www.ourladysolney.co.uk](http://www.ourladysolney.co.uk)  
 Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger  
 Telephone: 01234 711212 [ourladysolney@btconnect.com](mailto: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**

27 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 Psalter Week 1	Twenty-First Sunday of the Year	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Isaiah 22:19-23</b> <i>I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>St Paul to the Romans 11:33-36</b> <i>All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, Alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!</b>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mathew 16:13-20</b> <i>You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.</i>	
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August +</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass - (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (McCarthy Family – Int.)</b>
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b> St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop & Doctor - <i>memoria</i>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b> The Passion of St John the Baptist – <i>mem.</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Lillian Morris RIP)</b>
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b> Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward – <i>Martyrs – op. mem.</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass - (Fr Anthony Roberts RIP)</b>
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b> St Aidan, Bishop, & Saints of Lindisfarne	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Service of Word &amp; Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday – 1<sup>st</sup> September</b> <i>Feria</i> Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Doris &amp; Harry King RIP)</b>
<b>Saturday – 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> Our Lady on Saturday	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Sylvia Woodhouse RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>with Rosary &amp; Confessions</b>
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
<b>Saturday – 2<sup>nd</sup> September +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (Fr Kevin Mullan RIP)</b>
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (For the Parish)</b>

## Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £328.20

DCP – Nil

Average Standing Orders: £553.00

**Total: £881.20**

**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 8<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.

**PLEASE RETURN ANY DONATIONS NO LATER THAN SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**Message from the Social Committee** - We are looking forward to seeing everyone at Fr. David's Ordination anniversary Mass on **Friday 8th September**. To assist with planning for the reception afterwards please could you put your name on the list in the porch. We hope to enjoy a finger buffet in the Parish Room. If you can it would be great if you could bring a plate of ready-to-eat, bite size food, sweet or savoury and/or a bottle that we can all share. For more details see the noticeboard. Thank you.

**Message from Denise** - I am in the process of clearing the office, if anyone can make use of a desk/ metal cupboard or a computer desk please can they contact me on the parish email address or ring on 01234 711212. They can be collected on Tuesday 29th August or Tuesday 5th September between 10.30 and 12.30.

**First Holy Communion** - Classes will start 5th November. If you have a child in Year 2 or above and you would like them to make their 1st Holy Communion, please contact Denise – [ourladysolney@btconnect.com](mailto:ourladysolney@btconnect.com) or call her on 01234 711212 for a registration form. Further details will be announced later.

**Book Sale** - There are 2 boxes of books outside the church, please help yourself - if you would like to make a donation, please place money in the container provided.

**CAFOD Supporters Event** - Come and hear about CAFOD's work in Pakistan our Harvest focus country. Saturday 9th Sept St Teresa's Hall. 40 Warwick Rd Beaconsfield HP9 2PL or St Augustine Church, 1 Langcliffe Drive, Heelands, Milton Keynes MK13 7PL. Both are from 10.30am-1.30pm (coffee/tea from 10.00am with a simple lunch from 1.30pm. Please book your place by ringing 01494 863777 or email: [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk)

**March For Life** – The 'March for Life UK' takes place in London on **Saturday 2nd September**. The day begins with Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 10.30am. More information can be found on: [www.marchforlife.co.uk/2023-annual-event-page/](http://www.marchforlife.co.uk/2023-annual-event-page/)



Pope Francis has established 1<sup>st</sup> September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. The day is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si,' which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth. He calls us all to celebrate this opportune moment to "reaffirm [our] personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation, as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."

## A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.  
Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.  
O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.  
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

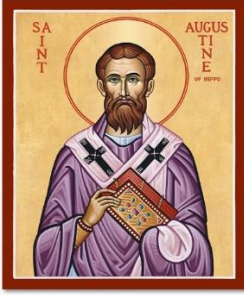
*From Pope Francis, Laudato Si*



**First Saturday Devotion** The origins of the First Saturday Devotion is found in Our Lady's appearances at Fatima and subsequent visions to Sr. Lucia, once of the children of Fatima. Our Lady requested devotion to her Immaculate Heart, in order to convert sinners, save souls from hell and foster world peace. Our Lady asked us to do some simple things as reparation on the first Saturday of each month for five consecutive

months. She said, "I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

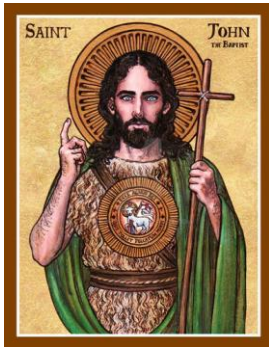
On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, we mark the first Saturday of the month. Confession is available after 10.00am Mass and Exposition and Rosary at 10.30. Confession is also available from 5.45pm in the evening. Communion may be received for the devotion at either of the Saturday Masses (and on Sunday too, if need be) – Confession is also available at any time during those days. All are welcome!



**St Augustine of Hippo** – was born at Thagaste in Africa in the year 354. As a young man he led an unsettled life both in the philosophy he professed and in his moral behaviour, but later, in the year 387, he was converted and received baptism at Milan from the bishop, St Ambrose. He came back to his own country and led the life of an ascetic. Elected Bishop of Hippo, for thirty-four years he was an exemplary bishop to his flock, teaching his people by his sermons and writings, striving to combat the errors of the time and to make the faith understood. He died in the year 430.

*Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.*

**St Augustine of Hippo**



### Reflection on the Passion of St John the Baptist

On Tuesday of this week, we celebrate the memoria of what was once known as ‘The Beheading of St John the Baptist, but is now called the ‘Passion of St John the Baptist’.

*Passion* can be understood in two ways; passion in terms of suffering, trial and death, and passion in terms of the motivating force and energy of someone for a particular purpose. The gospels make it clear that John fully understood his purpose in

preparing the way for the coming Messiah, for Jesus.

As cousins, they may have known each other quite well in their childhood days and early years. John fulfilled his mission so well that his group of followers continued well after his death, although some, as we know, turned to Jesus. To die, the way he did at the hands of Herod, seems scant reward for all that he did for Jesus. Yet he would not have wanted it any other way. He offers us a somewhat brutal lesson as followers of Jesus whose mission, passion like John’s, is to prepare the way for Jesus to enter the lives of those we encounter.

Our reward may not be glorious, happy, or joyful in any way but, our reward, like John’s, is to fulfil whatever God asks of us, however difficult, however challenging, and however impossible it may seem. Let us pray with the psalmist:

**In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.  
Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me;  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
Free me from the hand of the wicked.**

**My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help.**

Be true to your mission, then, and know that you shall not be overcome because the Lord will be with you to deliver you.

**“Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven”**

*Matthew 5:10*

May Our Lady Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Henry Newman, St Augustine of Hippo, St John the Baptist, Ss Margaret Clitheroe, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, St Aidan pray for us.

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