



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
 Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland
safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org
SVP Contact: 07469 717760

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| 24th September 2023 <i>Psalter Week 1</i> | Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year | |
| First Reading | Isaiah 55:6-9 <i>My thoughts are not your thoughts.</i> | |
| Responsorial Psalm | The Lord is close to all who call him. | |
| Second Reading | St Paul to the Philippians 1:20-24. 27 <i>Life to me is Christ.</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 20:1-16 <i>Why be envious because I am generous?</i> | |
| Saturday 23rd September + | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass - (For the Parish) |
| Sunday 24th September + | 10.30am | Mass – (Margaret Cleaver Int.) |
| Monday 25th September <i>Feria</i> | | No Parish Mass today |
| Tuesday 26th September Ss Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs – op mem | 10.00am | Mass – (Charles Keeney RIP) |
| Wednesday 27th September St Vincent de Paul, Priest - memoria | | No Parish Mass today |
| Thursday 28th September St Wenceslaus, Martyr – op mem St Laurence Ruiz, Martyr – op mem | 10.00am 4.30pm | Service of Word & Holy Communion Convent Chapel – Reception of Charles Keeney RIP |
| Friday – 29th September Ss MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, <i>Archangels - feast</i> | 12 noon | Church – REQUIEM MASS – Charles Keeney RIP |
| Saturday – 30th September St Jerome, Priest & Doctor - memoria | 10.00am 10.30am- 11.30am | Mass – (Alan Bagg RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary & Confession |
| TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR | | |
| Saturday – 30th September + | 5.45pm 6.30pm | Confession Vigil Mass – (For the Parish) |
| Sunday 1st October + | 10.30am | Mass – (Mary Redmond RIP) |

PARISH MASS COUNT THIS WEEKEND

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £333.00

DCP – £25.00

Average Standing Orders: £553.00

Total: £911.00

Many thanks for your continued financial support



Charles Keeney RIP – the parish and the Sisters at St Joseph's Covent & Burlington Hall were greatly saddened on learning of the passing of Charles. His body will be received into the Covent Chapel at St Joseph's this coming **Thursday, 28th September at 4.30pm**. His Requiem Mass will follow on **Friday 29th September at 12 noon** here at Our Lady's. Please do continue to pray for the repose of his soul and for comfort for Morag, the family and all who mourn his passing. Requiescat in Pace



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - Friday 6th October

From floods and earthquakes to famine and droughts, CAFOD is working with local experts to provide food, water, and shelter as quickly as possible wherever it is needed most. Your steadfast support during emergencies and previous Fast Days has enabled CAFOD to respond rapidly to help stricken Communities, currently those in Morocco and Libya. On **Friday 6th October** we can pray, eat simply, and give, as you always do so generously. CAFOD Harvest Day envelopes will be available next weekend – **30th September/1st October**. Thank you for your continued support - Parish CAFOD Group.



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. On the weekend of **30th September/1st October** we will be welcoming John Fulton who will give a talk on behalf of Mary's Meals.



First Thursday Club - This is a new initiative in the parish organised by Simon Lee and is open to everyone in our area. After a year of celebrating Amazing Grace's 250th anniversary in fine style, we thought we would look at some of the surrounding denominations, places, and eras. Wherever he went as a cleric, Revd John Newton invited other Anglican clergy and non-Conformist ministers to join him on first

Thursdays. As Catholics, we would like to develop that practice 250 years later to include us and all-comers, laity as well as those in ordained ministries. So, following **The Anglican Heritage in Buckinghamshire** the new **First Thursday Club** will meet on the first Thursday of every month in our parish hall as follows:

October 5th: The Catholic Heritage in Northamptonshire & beyond

November 2nd: The Gunpowder Plot, Catholics, Northamptonshire & Olney 1605-1777

December 7th: Evangelical-Catholic Ecumenism in 18th Century Buckinghamshire

Parish SVP – invite you to join them for a ‘Cuppa & Cake’ after Mass next Sunday, 1st October to say thank you for your continuing support, love & prayers. We couldn’t manage without your support. Looking forward to seeing you there.

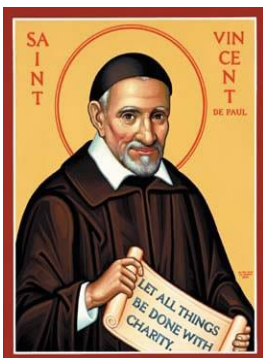
Mass for those with Disabilities - Bishop David will preside at a Mass for those with disabilities, their carers, families, and friends on **Sunday 8th October at 3.00pm** in the Cathedral. For more details see poster in porch.

Mass for Marriage and Family Life - The annual Mass for Married Couples will take place on **Saturday 30th September at 12noon** at Northampton Cathedral. Bishop David will celebrate Mass and give his pastoral blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones in their marriage ie: 1,10,15,20,25,30,40,50 years etc. if you know anyone who is celebrating such a milestone, please contact Sam at mfl@northamptondiocese.org or **07824 386804 before 24th September**. All are very welcome to attend and there will be light refreshments in the St Thomas Centre after Mass.

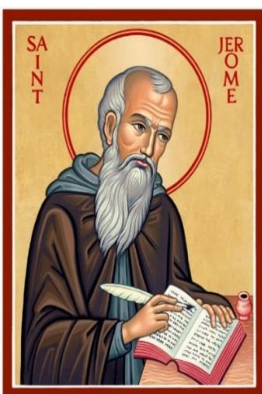
Celebrating Our Riches - Bishop David will celebrate Mass on **Saturday 4th November** at Holy Ghost Church, Luton from 12 noon followed by lunch finishing at 3.00pm. It is a time to celebrate our oneness in diversity and will have the opportunity to experience and learn more about our different cultures.

St Thomas More Secondary School, Bedford - for pupils looking to join Year 7 in September 2024 our open evening will take place on **Thursday, 28th September** from 6pm until 8:30pm. Please feel welcome to join us.

St Paul's Secondary School, Milton Keynes - You are warmly invited to attend our open evening for prospective year 7 parents on **Tuesday 3rd October from 6pm – 8pm**. There will be talks from our Headteacher, Mrs Hoarty at 6.15pm and 7.00pm, and the opportunity to have guided tours of the school led by our students.



St Vincent de Paul was born in Gascony in France in 1581. He completed his studies and was ordained priest and became a parish priest in Paris. He founded the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) for the purpose of the spiritual formation of the clergy and the relief of the poor, and with the help of St Louise de Marillac he founded also the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity. He died at Paris in 1660. We pray especially today for the Conference of St Vincent de Paul here in our parish who do so much good work for the sick and less fortunate – may God bless them abundantly.



St Jerome was born at Strido in Dalmatia about the year 340. He studied at Rome and was later baptised. Then he began to lead a life of asceticism, went to the East and was there ordained priest. Returning to Rome he was secretary to Pope Saint Damasus and began the task of translating the Bible into Latin as well as promoting the monastic life. He then settled in Bethlehem where he gave great help in the needs of the Church. He wrote many works, especially commentaries on the scriptures. He died at Bethlehem in the year 420.

Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

Feast Day: Friday 29th September



Angels—messengers from God—appear frequently in Scripture, but only Michael, Gabriel and Raphael are named.

Michael appears in Daniel’s vision as “the great prince” who defends Israel against its enemies; in the Book of Revelation, he leads God’s armies to final victory over the forces of evil. Devotion to Michael is the oldest angelic devotion, rising in the East in the fourth century. The Church in the West began to observe a feast honouring Michael and the angels in the fifth century.

Gabriel also makes an appearance in Daniel’s visions, announcing Michael’s role in God’s plan. His best-known appearance is an encounter with a young Jewish girl named Mary, who consents to bear the Messiah.

Raphael’s activity is confined to the Old Testament story of Tobit. There he appears to guide Tobit’s son Tobias through a series of fantastic adventures which lead to a threefold happy ending: the marriage of Tobias to Sarah, the healing of Tobit’s blindness, and the restoration of the family fortune.

Each of these archangels performs a different mission in Scripture: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides.

Prayer to Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

Heavenly Father, you have given us archangels to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth.

Saint Michael is our protector; I ask him to come to my aid, fight for all my loved ones, and protect us from danger.

Saint Gabriel is a messenger of the Good News; I ask him to help me clearly hear Your voice and to teach me the truth.

Saint Raphael is the healing angel; I ask him to take my need for healing and that of everyone I know, lift it up to Your throne of grace and deliver us back to the gift of recovery.

Help us, O Lord, to realise more fully the reality of archangels and their desire to serve us.

Holy angels, pray for us. Amen.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Henry Newman, Ss Cosmas & Damian, St Vincent de Paul, St Wenceslas, St Laurence Ruiz, Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, St Jerome, pray for us.

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