



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

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**Diocese of Northampton**

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired

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Parish Website: [www.ourladysolney.co.uk](http://www.ourladysolney.co.uk)

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St Joseph's Convent – Sr Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267

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<b>26th November 2023</b> <b>Psalter Week 2</b>	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King</i> <b>DAY OF PRAYER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Ezekiel 3:11-12. 15-17</b> <i>As for you, my sheep, I will judge between sheep and sheep</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>1 St Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-26.28</b> <i>He will hand over the kingdom of God the Father, so that God may be all in all.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!</b>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mathew 25:31-46</b> <i>He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men from one another.</i>	
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November +</b> <b>(Holy Souls – S-T)</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass - (Bernie Wogan RIP)</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November +</b> <b>(Holy Souls – U-V-W-X-Y-Z)</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Feria</i>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Feria</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Noleen O'Connor RIP)</b>
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Feria</i>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>ST ANDREW, Apostle – Patron of Scotland</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Service of Word &amp; Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday – 1<sup>st</sup> December</b> <b>St Edmund Champion, Martyr</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (Charles Keeney RIP)</b>
<b>Saturday – 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> <b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass (Eleanore Blunt RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions</b>
<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>Year of Mark (B) – Ferial Lectionary: Year II</b>		
<b>Saturday – 2<sup>nd</sup> December +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Alexander Roberts RIP)</b>

## Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £330.80

DCP – £30.00

Average Standing Orders: £553.00

**Total: £913.00**

**Day of Prayer for Young People** - Today we celebrate the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King – as well as marking the end of the Church's Year, it is also a day when we pray especially for our young people. They are growing up in a very confused and complicated world and they need our prayers. Please do keep all our young people in your prayers. You can read Pope Francis' message to young people here:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/rejoicing-in-hope-rom-1212-2/>



**Fr. Richard Moroney RIP** – It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Fr Richard Maroney on Tuesday evening. He was a much-loved priest of our diocese who was ordained to the Sacred Priesthood on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1975 and served in the parishes of St Anthony, Slough; St Edward, Kettering; the Cathedral; St Ethelbert, Slough; Wolverton; Little Chalfont & Biggleswade where he retired in 2012. He was a great friend and mentor of Fr David and you will know that we have been remembering Fr Richard in our parish prayers for quite some time. Fr David was able to spend some special time with him last Sunday – DG. Please pray for

the repose of his soul and for comfort for his family, friends, former parishioners and especially his brother priests. May he rest in peace.



## CAFOD PARISH APPEAL

### Christmas Gift of Winter Survival Kit

In the countries of Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan life is difficult after war, floods, and earthquakes. Displaced families are at risk from extreme harsh winter weather. A CAFOD Christmas Gift of a Winter Survival Kit costs £30 and with your help would provide blankets, warm clothing, fuel, and food. Donation envelopes will be available **next**

**weekend - 2nd/3rd December** and may be returned the following week. We thank you for your continued generosity. CAFOD Parish Group



**OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT** will take place on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm** – an evening of carols, readings, and prayer. All will be welcome. The proceeds from the concert will go to Willen Hospice. If you would like to sing in the choir, then please do join them for their Choir Practice every Monday evening in the church at 7.30pm.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL IN OLNEY & OUTDOOR NATIVITY** For details of the Christmas Tree Festival and the Outdoor Nativity see posters in the porch.



## CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

*Passing on the Faith*

*A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER*

Dear Grandparents

Welcome to the Catholic Grandparents Association. We all know how important our families are. We also know how important our faith is to us.

As Grandparents we all simply want the best for our grandchildren and our families.

The Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA) exists to support all Grandparents in their key vocation of both Passing on the Faith and keeping Prayer at the Heart of the family.. May St Joachim and St Anne, Parents of Mary and Grandparents of Jesus, bless our families.

*Catherine Wiley*

*Grandmother and Founder of the Catholic Grandparents Association*



Fr David & Deacon Peter remain very grateful to everyone who 'signed up' to our parish 'Helping Hands' initiative on the theme of "Many hands make light work." There are already very positive signs of the work that is being done by a wide variety of individuals and groups

within the parish. One area that we are still looking for **additional volunteers is for the 'Offertory Counting' each week.** Hopefully we will attract sufficient volunteers to be able to draw up a weekly rota which would mean that the task would not be too arduous – a couple of people at a time. If you have already volunteered for this, we thank you and there is no need for you to let us know. If, however, you would like to add your name to the list please contact Deacon Peter on [pfggriffin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pfggriffin@hotmail.co.uk) or Toby Cooper on [toby.cooper1@me.com](mailto:toby.cooper1@me.com) Thank you all in anticipation.

**Caritas Northampton** have launched the Love Christmas Campaign. Our parish is pleased to be taking part in the diocese Love Christmas Campaign 2023. Over the last two years many parishes and schools have taken part and so have been able to distribute 1450 Bags of Kindness containing gifts and toys for 3300 individuals. Importantly these all go to those in need local to where the donations are made. With the continuing cost of living crisis and even more help being required we are hoping to support many more individuals and groups including families, the elderly, those who are lonely and isolated, children from broken homes, children in care and young carers. Suggested gifts are toys (new), colouring books, games, Chocolates, biscuits, socks, gloves, scarves, aftershave. In fact, whatever you think a child, young family or elderly person would like to receive.

**Online Advent Retreat** - Mondays from **27th November, 7.30-8.30 pm.** The theme for the retreat is "Let the Wilderness Bloom!" Join Canon John Udris and Avril Baigent as they draw on the life of John the Baptist to explore themes of silence, solitude, dryness, and vulnerability, moving towards resilience, promise and hope. Join live on Monday evenings or access the recording at a more convenient time. Register here: <https://pastoralministryoffice.org/bloom/>

**Tammy Peterson: Rosary Testimony** – if you have access to YouTube, follow this link – well worth watching: [https://youtu.be/e4uWemSfpwk?si=w4KyRP5ICA-Dz\\_DH](https://youtu.be/e4uWemSfpwk?si=w4KyRP5ICA-Dz_DH)

## The Moment of Choice: Heaven, II

Not only will we be totally bound up with every being that lives with God, but we will especially be bound to those in this world to whom we gave ourselves or who gave themselves to us. Such is the glorious character of the risen body that such a union will be expressible in a way hitherto impossible. To express love through the five senses is, as the poet says, 'a wonder and a wild desire', to be able to express it through myriad senses achieves a union beyond imagining.

We will not be alone. We will be one with Our Lord, Our Redeemer, and our friend. We will be one with Our Lady, God's mother and ours; we will be one with the angelic hosts, those wonderful beings whose individuation is such that we cannot properly use a collective noun to describe them; one with all those unknown millions 'of every tribe, tongue and kingdom' who have entered into bliss; one with all those who in purification are making themselves fit for the vision of God; one with all those on earth who have the life of God in their hearts, even if they do not know it; and especially one with those with whom we are especially close, the saints we have made our friends, those who have gone before us and for whom we have especially prayed and those with whom we have been particularly close on earth. We will be with them for ever and they will always be with us.

Further, unique as persons on earth, we shall each have a unique function in Heaven; each, as it were, an instrument in the great orchestra of praise and thanksgiving played by the created and redeemed to God. Absorbed in God and in each other, we shall not be lost; each of us will be a unique expression and revelation of God's beauty, truth, and love, each will mirror some facet of the infinite in a manner manifested in our particular way by no other created being.

'Behold, I make all things new': the infinity of God is not something static and fixed. The Apocalypse makes a sempiternal spring, the water of life, flow from below the throne of God, and we may well see in some still spring we know a symbol of what we are trying to say. Such a spring is silent, for its movement is not from place to place; its reality is not slowly expending itself, spilling over from 'here' to 'there,' never anywhere wholly contained. But where it is, it is totally. And silently it replenishes itself as it gathers itself from the secret places of the earth. Alive with its own hidden rife, it is forever renewing itself in a perennial resurrection. It is forever old, forever new.

So, it is with Heaven. Heaven is a living world, a world of perpetual renewal, a world of endless growth and in it all who live in God enjoy the unending variety of infinity. Yet this enjoyment is not simply that of a spectator gazing at something outside himself, however sublime, but a living joy, the dynamic participation of one who is living what he sees. As far as created beings can, we shall share in the living working of the divine. 'The Father works and I work,' Our Lord said; and he also said: 'I live and you shall live.' This living, this working, is what we mean by 'eternal life'; this is the joy that God has promised us, 'the joy that no man shall take away from you'.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, Our Lady of Peace, Our Lady of Walsingham, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Mary Vianney, St John Henry Newman, St Andrew, St Edmund Campion pray for us.

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