



**Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence**

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

**Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett**

[frdavid.barrett@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frdavid.barrett@northamptondiocese.org)

Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

[deaconpeter.griffin@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:deaconpeter.griffin@northamptondiocese.org)

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

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

[parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org)

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

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

[safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org)

**SVP Contact: 07469 717760**

<b>7<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b> <i>Psalter Week: 2</i>	<i>Second Sunday of the Year</i> <b>Day of Prayer for Peace on Earth</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Samuel 3:3-10. 19</b> <i>Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>1 St Paul to the Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20</b> <i>Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!</b>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>John 1:35-42</b> <i>They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.</i>	
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January +</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass - (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Robin Adnitt RIP)</b>
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Feria</i>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Feria</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Pat Briskham Ints.)</b>
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot</b>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Feria</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Service of Word Communion</b>
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>St Wulstan, Bishop</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (Kit &amp; JohnJoe Kiely RIP)</b>
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>St Fabian, Bishop &amp; Martyr</b> <b>St Sebastian, Martyr</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Ann &amp; John Betts RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>With Rosary &amp; Confessions</b>
<i>Third Sunday of the Year</i>		
<b>Saturday – 20<sup>th</sup> January +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday – 21<sup>st</sup> January +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Arthur &amp; Kathleen McCarthy RIP)</b>

**THIS WEEKEND: WHITE FLOWER APPEAL & SECOND COLLECTION**

## Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £385.60

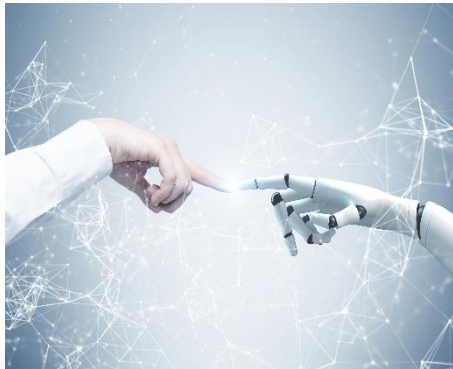
DCP – £25.00

Average Standing Orders: £553.00

**Total: £963.60**

## Second Collection for White Flower Appeal (SPUC)

This weekend we are very grateful to Julia Scott who will be making the annual appeal on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (White Flower Appeal). Please leave any donations in the collection baskets in the narthex or place them in an envelope, clearly marked 'White Flower Appeal' and pop in through the presbytery letterbox or use the Digital Collection Plate. Thank you.



**PEACE SUNDAY – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024** follows the international World Day of Peace and is celebrated in the parishes of England and Wales on this Second Sunday of the Year. This year's theme is taken from the Holy Father's message for the 57<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace: **'Artificial Intelligence and Peace.'** You can read the full transcript given by the Holy Father on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 by going to the Pax Christi website on: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday/>

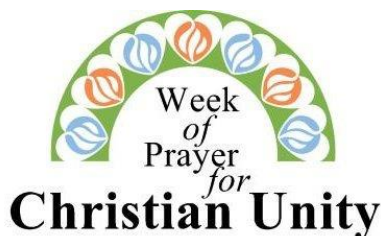
## Prayer for Peace Sunday 2024

*God our creator and sustainer, we thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation.*

*We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace.*

*Make us vigilant as we develop technology; that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fuelled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost. May all that we create contribute to peace and justice.*

*Amen*



## OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Begins this coming Thursday and runs until Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. This year's theme is: **'You shall love the Lord your God – and neighbour as yourself' (Luke 10:27).** We are asked to pray for the unity of all our Christian brothers & sisters across the world – we think especially of the

entire Christian Community here within our parish.

*May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.*

John 17:21

**CONGRATULATIONS TO LIZ RYAN** who was recently awarded the MBE for over 50 years of work in Suicide Prevention in South Bedfordshire, Luton and Harpenden.



## CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

### *Passing on the Faith*

### A PRAYER WRITTEN BY POPE BENEDICT XVI FOR THE GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION:

Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne. Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them! They are a source of enrichment for families, for the Church and for all of society. Support them!

As they grow older, may they continue to be for their families' strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians of noble domestic ideals, living treasuries of sound religious traditions. Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience.

**We hope to begin meetings of the Grandparents Association soon** – once a month, it has been proposed to meet on a Wednesday afternoon, perhaps the last Wednesday of each month around 2.00pm. Would this suit you? Please let Fr David or Fr Patrick know.

**Caritas Northampton** have sent us their thanks for the recent 'Love Christmas' Campaign – please see poster in the porch.

**Parking in the church car park** We have had a couple of issues with car parking for Mass and other church events. Occasionally cars are not being parked within the marked spaces or they are being parked in unmarked places, This can mean that other cars are blocked in or it becomes difficult to get into the cars. Please be aware of others and park within the parking spaces available. Thank you.

**CAFOD School Volunteers needed** - Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? You will be supported by CAFOD with training and all resources will be provided and expenses paid. For more information, please contact Debbie Purfield: [dpurfield@cafod.org.uk](mailto:dpurfield@cafod.org.uk)

**Safeguarding January Key Message** Our key message for January this year is 'The Diocese of Northampton have adopted the National policies of CBCEW'

Key webpages:

<https://catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/resources/national-safeguarding-policy/>

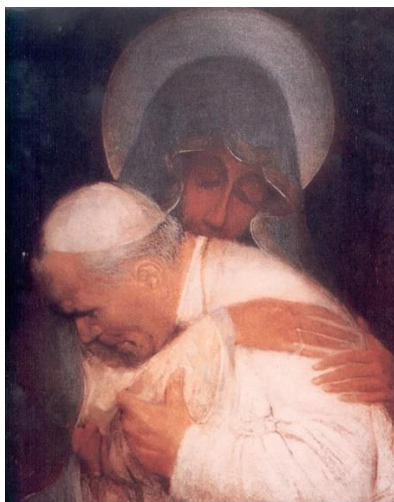
<https://northamptondiocese.org/policies/>



We will beat  
leprosy together

Today, 600 people will be diagnosed with leprosy; 50 of those will be children. Over Three Million people across the globe are living with undiagnosed leprosy. Leprosy is not a disease of the past – it still very much exists today and is still destroying. The charity, LEpra is doing great work across the world but they are in need of our prayers and support in order to continue with their lifesaving work. If you would like to know more about the work of LEpra or would like to offer your support please go to their website:

<https://www.lepra.org.uk/>



### **Prayer To Our Lady for Christian Unity by Pope St John Paul II**

“Spouse of the Holy Spirit and Seat of Wisdom, help us in the great endeavour that we are carrying out to meet on a more and more mature way our brothers and sisters in the faith, with whom so many things unite us, although there is still something dividing us. Through all the means of knowledge, of mutual respect, of love, shared collaboration in various fields, may we be able to rediscover gradually the divine plan for the unity in which we should enter. Mother of unity, teach us constantly the ways that lead to unity.

Allow us in the future to go out to meet human beings and all the peoples that are seeking God and wishing to serve him on the way of different religions. Help us all to proclaim Christ.

Mother of Good Counsel, show us always how we are to serve the individual and humanity in every nation, how we are to lead them along the ways of salvation. How we are to protect justice and peace in a world continually threatened on various sides. Let us entrust to you all the difficult problems of the societies, systems, and states—problems that cannot be solved with hatred, war, and self-destruction but only by peace, justice, and respect for the rights of people and nations.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, Our Lady of Peace, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Mary Vianney, St John Henry Newman, St Anthony of Egypt, St Wulstan, St Fabian, St Sebastian pray for us.

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