



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence
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| 29 th June 2025 Psalter Week 1 | Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles | |
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| First Reading | Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11 'Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.' | |
| Responsorial Psalm | From all my terrors the Lord set me free. | |
| Second Reading | 2 St Paul to Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 'There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.' | |
| Gospel Acclamation | Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Alleluia! | |
| Gospel | Matthew 16:13-19 'You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.' | |
| Saturday 28th June + | 6.00pm | Confessions |
| | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo) |
| Sunday 29th June + | 10.30am | Mass – (Karen Creed Ints.) |
| Monday 30th June | 9.15am | Adoration with Confession |
| The First Martyrs of Rome | 10.00am | Mass – (Yvonne Williamson RIP) |
| Tuesday 1st July | 9.15am | Adoration with Confession |
| St Oliver Plunkett – Bishop & Martyr | 10.00am | Mass - (Frances Redden RIP) |
| Wednesday 2nd July | | No Parish Mass Today |
| Feria | | |
| Thursday 3rd July | 6.00pm | Adoration with Confession |
| ST THOMAS, APOSTLE | 6.45pm | Mass – (Mary Redmond RIP) |
| Friday – 4th July | 9.15am | Adoration with Confession |
| St Elizabeth of Portugal | 10.00am | Mass – (Patrizia Marella Hutchinson – Healing) |
| Saturday – 5th July | 9.15am | Adoration with Confession |
| Patronage of St Thomas of Canterbury | 10.00am | Mass – (Ann Harris – Healing) |
| Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time | | |
| YEAR C - LECTIONARY YEAR 1 | | |
| Saturday – 5th July + | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo) |
| Sunday – 6th July + | 10.30am | Mass – (Caroline Saw RIP) |

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – PETER'S PENCE

| Thank you for your Weekly Offering | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Offertory | £337.92 |
| Digital Collection Plate | £110.00 |
| Standing Orders | £502.00 |
| TOTAL | £949.92 |

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND - the second collection this weekend is for 'Peter Pence' a collection that is taken up annually in Catholic parishes worldwide, where the faithful offer financial support to the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. These donations are used for various Church needs, humanitarian initiatives, social projects, and to support the Holy See.



The First Thursday Discussion Club will meet as usual on **Thursday, 3rd July, at 7.30pm, after Mass at 6.45pm.** All are welcome. This is the final meeting of this 'school year' and will be a social gathering when we will also reflect on the 2024-5 sessions, decide whether to continue the Club and, if so, choose a theme for 2025-6 and coordinators. Anyone who cannot join us on the day but has views on the Club is welcome to contact Simon Lee by email simon.lee@qub.ac.uk or phone 07837138249. We will begin by following up two aspects of Fr Biju's June talk through a brief 'question and answer' session (starting with questions the Club had about St Thomas the Apostle!) and a 'show and tell' explanation of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, including the East Syriac liturgy. Then we will thank Fr Biju for his support of the Club throughout his time in the parish. The meeting will be accompanied by drinks from vineyards and nibbles which have featured in the parables (eg bread, lamb, fish, mustard, figs). Actually, the wine and the water will be sparkling. Please feel free to bring any contribution of food but this is not required for entry! Weather permitting, we will also go outside to enjoy the work of the Gardening Club. Our theme for the First Thursday of July, then, is 'Dipping into the ParablesTT'. All are welcome.



Thank you to everyone who has purchased tickets for the 100 club. We have **sold 199 tickets** so far which means we will have raised just over **£3500** for Our lady help of Christians this year. Thank you to everyone who is taking part. Good luck for the first draw on the 6th July. It is still not too late to join if you see us this weekend.



Gardening Club Produce - from time to time throughout the growing season, a few fresh vegetables will be available from the parish garden. Parishioners are welcome to buy them, when they are available, after the weekend Masses, for a reasonable donation to the Gardening Club - a basket will be available on the table at the back of the church. The donations will help defray the cost of the new petrol-driven lawn mower and other gardening expenses. So be on the lookout!



Altar Servers – We are looking to recruit some young members of our parish to join our team of Altar Servers and are appealing especially to those who recently received their First Holy Communion. Altar Servers play a very important part in the Church's Liturgy enabling us all, Priests, Deacons, and the Laity to worthily celebrate the Mass. Full training will be given to you. If you are interested, please speak to either Fr Biju or Deacon Peter.



The Becket Festival and 175th Anniversary Celebration

Join us at Northampton Cathedral on **Saturday 5th July** for a special celebration marking the 175th anniversary of the Diocese of Northampton and the Feast of the Translation of the Relics of St Thomas Becket. The day will begin with **Mass at 12 noon** followed by the annual **Becket Lecture at 3pm** delivered this year by Fr Andrew Coy on the theme "Becket: A Saint for Europe". The day will conclude with the celebration of Vespers.



Pope Leo XIV's coat of arms blends Marian and Augustinian elements

The Pope's coat of arms includes the traditional papal symbols of the crossed keys of St. Peter and episcopal mitre. The upper left-hand corner of the shield bears a silver fleur-de-lis set against a light blue background. On the bottom right, a red heart topped by a flame and pierced by an arrow sit atop a red book framed by an ivory background. Pope Leo XIV's motto—**IN ILLO UNO UNUM** ("In the One, we are one")—sits at the bottom of the coat of arms.

The motto echoes St. Augustine's sermon on Psalm 127, where he explains that *"although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one."* the blue field evokes *"the heights of the heavens and is distinguished by its Marian significance, with the lily appearing as the classic symbol of the Blessed Virgin Mary."*

The opposite field contains the heart enflamed and pierced by an arrow, which is the emblem of the Order of St. Augustine, of which Pope Leo XIV served as Prior General for two terms. This figure symbolically evokes Saint Augustine's words in the Confessions: *'Sagittaveras tu cor meum charitate tua'* ("You pierced my heart with your love"). From the 16th century on, the symbol has appeared in the Augustinian coat of arms. It is typically accompanied by the open book, which symbolizes *"the Word of God that transforms every human heart, as it did Augustine's."* The book also recalls the enlightened works that the Doctor of Grace bestowed upon the Church and humanity. White (in the papal arms rendered in ivory) recurs in many religious orders' heraldry as a sign of holiness and purity.

"God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail!"

Pope Leo XIV



SS PETER & PAUL

Reflection by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

The aim of the Church's mission is a humanity that has itself become a living glorification of God, the true worship that God expects: this is the profound meaning of catholicity...

Like Paul, Peter also came to Rome, the city that was the place of convergence of all peoples and which precisely because of this could become the first of all expressions of the universality of the Gospel.

Undertaking the journey from Jerusalem to Rome, Peter surely felt himself guided by the voices of the prophets, by the faith and by the prayer of Israel...

The great psalm of the Passion, Psalm 22, whose first verse *"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"* Jesus pronounced on the cross ended with the vision: *"All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him"* – Ps 22:28

When Peter and Paul came to Rome the Lord, who invoked that psalm on the cross, was risen. This victory of God would now have to be proclaimed to all peoples, thus fulfilling the promise with which the psalm concluded...

The unity of men in their multiplicity became possible because God, this one God of heaven and earth, showed himself to us; because the essential truth of our life, of our "from where?" and "to where?" became visible when he showed himself to us and in Jesus Christ made us see his face, himself.

This truth of the essence of our being, of our living and our dying, truth that by God was made visible, unites us and makes us become brothers. Catholicity and unity go together. And unity has a content: the faith that the Apostles transmitted to us on behalf of Christ."



With our love and prayers, Fr Biju, and Deacon Peter