



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence
39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

Priest in Charge: Fr Biju Chittuparamban
frbiju.chittuparamban@northamptondiocese.org

Deacon: Rev. Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org

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

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

SVP Contact: 07469 717760

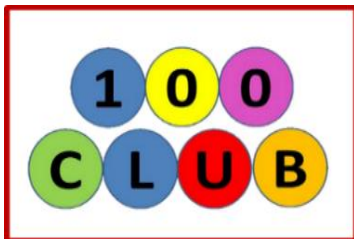
20 th July 2025 Psalter Week 4		Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Book of Genesis18:1-10a 'O Lord, do not pass by your servant.'		
Responsorial Psalm	O lord, who may abide in your tent?		
Second Reading	St Paul to the Colossians 1:24-28 'The mystery hidden for ages but now revealed to his saints.'		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Luke 10:28-42 'Martha welcomed him. Mary has chosen the good portion.'		
Saturday 19 th July +		6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday 20 th July +		10.30am	Mass – (Deceased family & friends of the Ayles family)
Monday 21 st July St Lawrence of Brindisi – Priest & Doctor		9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Dinah Keane RIP)
Tuesday 22 nd July ST MARY MAGDALENE, Apostle to the Apostles		9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Thomas Ryan RIP)
Wednesday 23 rd July ST BRIDGET, Religious – Patron of Europe			No Parish Mass today
Thursday 24 th July St Sharbel Makhluf - Priest		9.15am 10.00am	Mass – (Hanna Rynda – Recovery) Adoration with Confession
Friday – 25 th July ST JAMES – Apostle		9.15am 10.00am 2.00pm	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Yvonne Hussey RIP) Wedding – Bethany Nutt & Alex Buckley
Saturday – 26 th July St Joachim & Anne – Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary		9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (St Patricks Artists in Wapping – Int.)
Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time			
Saturday – 26 th July +		6.00pm 6.30pm	Confessions Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday – 27 th July +		10.30am	Mass – (Fr David Barret – Anniversary of Priestly Ordination)

Thank you for your Weekly Offering	
Offertory	£373.77
Digital Collection Plate	£60.00
Standing Orders	£502.00
TOTAL	£935.77



Fr Biju – as you will know, Bishop David has asked Fr Biju to continue his priestly ministry as the new Parish Priest of St Mary's Church, Dunstable. Fr Biju's last Mass here as our Parish Priest will be on **Sunday 7th September**. After this Mass our Parish Social Committee are busy organising a fitting farewell to Fr Biju and will be serving refreshments. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a Parish to thank Fr Biju for all that he has done in the all too short time that he has been with us.

Collection – The Parish Council are organising a collection for Fr Biju – if you would like to donate, please use one of the special envelopes which will be available at the back of the church from **next weekend** or you can use the Digital Collection Plate. Thank you.



Sunday 3rd August – is the date of the next draw of the '100 Club'. If you would like to 'sign up' for the August Draw. Please see Michele, Toby or Maura after Mass or email: the100clubourladysolney@gmail.com to let the team know you would like to buy a ticket/tickets for the remaining 11 draws of the year and they will be in touch with an

application form and to let you know how you pay for the rest of the year. Of course, if you have already signed up you can still purchase additional tickets if you wish.



Gardening Club Produce – Thank you to those parishioners who supported the parish Gardening Club by donating for some of our vegetables. There will be opportunities over the next weeks to donate at times for: **rhubarb, beetroot, carrots, lettuce, potatoes, chard, onions, leeks, courgettes, parsnips and more**. They will be available after Masses and you can support the parish and the

Gardening Club by making a donation if you wish. Thank you.



Enjoy the Summer! - As our schools, colleges & universities break up for the summer holidays, we pray all members of staff and especially our young people together with their families. We pray that they will continue to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their faith and in all that they do. May it be a time of peace, joy and tranquillity.



Memorial Wall – Fr Biju would like to create a memorial wall in the parish garden by utilising the existing wall that divides the lawn from the paved patio area.

Parishioners would have opportunity of purchasing a simple memorial stone plaque (see image) in memory of a loved one. The cost of each plaque is yet to be finalised but if you are interested, please let either Fr Biju or Deacon Peter know.



Pope Leo XIV has renewed his call for a Gaza ceasefire after three people sheltering in the Holy Family Catholic church in Gaza City were killed in an Israeli strike. A telegram said the Pope was "deeply saddened to learn of the loss of life and injury caused by the military attack." Nine people were wounded, one of whom is in a critical condition in hospital. The parish priest was slightly injured. Please do keep our brothers & sisters in Gaza in your thoughts & prayers.

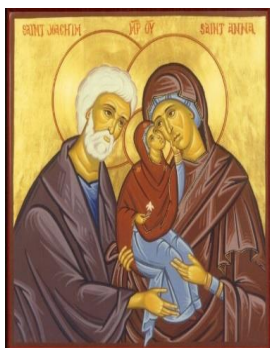
National Walking Pilgrimage – Way of St John - The 2025 National Jubilee Walking Pilgrimage of Hope will pass through the Northampton diocese forming part of a living Sign of the Cross across England and Wales. From the 5th - 9th September the pilgrimage will travel through our diocesan parishes in Leighton Buzzard, Newport Pagnell, and the Cathedral. Parishes are warmly encouraged to offer prayer, welcome and hospitality to the pilgrims.



Pilgrimage of the Sacred Heart – 19–24 October 2025 –

Join Bishop David and Canon John Udris on a spiritual pilgrimage to France marking the 350th anniversary of the Sacred Heart apparitions.

Further information and booking: <https://www.jcjournneys.co/northampton.burgundy>



Ss Joachim & Anne – Parents of the BVM

Next Saturday, **26th July** – we celebrate the feast of Ss Joachim & Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. An old tradition going back to the second century gives these names to the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The veneration of St Anne dates from the sixth century in the East and spread throughout the West in the tenth century; that of St Joachim is more recent. The day is also a Day of Prayer for our grandparents.

Thought for the week: You are not a saint because you keep the rules and are blameless; you are a saint if you live in the real world, going out and loving the real people God has put into your life.

Sr Wendy Beckett

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year – Scripture Reflection

From Fr Biju's desk... The central themes of today's readings are the importance of hospitality in Christian life and the necessity of listening to God before acting. The key to the Christian life is setting priorities: Jesus Christ first, then everything else. The only way really to learn that lesson is to spend some time every day, sitting at the feet of Jesus.

Today's first reading describes how Abraham and Sarah's hospitality to angels in the guise of strangers was rewarded by God, who blessed them with a son in their old age.

In the second reading, St Paul declares that he has been commissioned by God to minister to the Church as the revealer of the mystery of salvation and the preacher of the word in its *fullness* (v. 25). He invites believers to open their hearts and minds and to show their hospitality to the mystery of Christ which he preaches. Paul also challenges us to cultivate that quality of hospitality which welcomes all others in Christ.

Today's Gospel passage describes how Martha, a genuine child of Abraham, wanted to extend the traditional generous hospitality of her people to Jesus, the true Messiah, by preparing an elaborate meal for him. While her sister Mary spent her time in talking to Jesus and listening to him. This story invites us to serve others with Martha's diligence after recharging our spiritual batteries every day by prayer, listening to God and talking to God, as Mary did. We can minister truly to the needs of others only after welcoming God's Word into our hearts and minds.

We need 'listening' Marthas and 'serving' Marys in our church. Martha has become a symbol of action-oriented, responsible people who get the job done. Our world and our parish need such dynamic and generous parishioners. We need them to sing in the choir, to help in the Church, to teach in the Sunday Children's liturgy, to visit the sick and to serve in all other ministries of the parish community activities. We also need to be good listeners, like Mary, at home and in the workplace. Listening and quiet caring are essential for the success of married life, of family life and of the rearing of children with love, affection, and a gentle, firm discipline.



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