



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

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Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel Rooke

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Deacon: Rev. Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

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21 st September 2025 Psalter Week 1		Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Evangelii Gaudium Sunday – ‘Joy of the Gospel’	
First Reading	Prophet Amos 8:4-7 <i>Against those who ‘buy the poor for silver.’</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.		
Second Reading	1 St Paul to Timothy 2:1-8 <i>‘Prayers should be made for all people to God, who desires all people to be saved.’</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Luke 16:1-13 <i>‘You cannot serve God and money.’</i>		
Saturday 20 th September +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 21 st September +	10.30am	Mass – (Alan & Joan Bagg RIP)	
Monday 22 nd September <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Marcello Zannatti RIP)	
Tuesday 23 rd September St Pius of Pietrelcina	9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Laura Gracey & Thierry Intrs.)	
Wednesday 24 th September OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM		No Parish Mass today	
Thursday 25 th September <i>Feria</i>	9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Emma Kearns Ints.)	
Friday – 26 th September Ss Cosmas & Damian - <i>Martyrs</i>	9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Fr Daniel – Anniversary of Priestly Ordination)	
Saturday – 27 th September St Vincent de Paul - <i>Priest</i>	9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Treherne family Ints.)	
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time			
Saturday – 27 th September +	6.00pm 6.30pm	Confessions Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday – 28 th September +	10.30am	Mass – (SVP Members & Benefactors)	

WEEK ONE: ANNUAL PARISH MASS COUNT

Second Collection This Weekend – Bishops' Conference Evangelii Gaudium

Thank you for your Weekly Offering	
Offertory	£374.26
Digital Collection Plate	£35.00
Standing Orders	£502.00
TOTAL	£911.26



Evangelii Gaudium Sunday will be celebrated in our parishes on **this weekend 21 September 2025**.

This year, the Church has been celebrating a significant anniversary. It is 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea. This great gathering of Bishops from around the Church began the work to

formulate the creed we proclaim Sunday by Sunday. It is the content of this creed that is our mission, so that we may know and love God in this life, to be happy with him forever in the next. The creed begins with a profound proclamation, **"I believe..."** **This is the theme for Evangelii Gaudium Sunday 2025.**

You can see further information including a short video address from Bishop David, on: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/evangelii-gaudium-sunday/>



Reverend Father Daniel Rooke **Ordained Priest: 26th September 2020**

This coming Friday 26th September, Fr Daniel celebrates the fifth anniversary of his priestly ordination. We are very fortunate to have been blessed with such a caring and loving Parish Priest and we thank God for Fr Daniel's priestly ministry and pray for him, his family, and friends as he embarks on the next phase of his priestly ministry here in Olney. God bless you Fr Daniel

Ad Multos Annos

"O, how great is the priest! ... If he realised what he is, he would die. If we had faith, we would see God hidden in the priest like a light behind glass, like wine mixed with water. Without the priest, the passion and death of our Lord would be of no avail."

St John Vianney



First Holy Communion - Classes will start on **Sunday 5th October**. If you have a child in Year 2 or above and you would like them to make their 1st Holy Communion, please contact Denise on parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org or call her on 01234 711212 for a registration form. Further details will be announced later.



Message from the Parish SVP – we will be holding our annual appeal on **27th/28th September**. Envelopes will be distributed **this weekend - 20th/21st September** for return the following weekend please. . You can also donate via the digital collection plate (select SVP). Members of the SVP will be available both weekends if you would like to chat to us or ask any questions. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.



CAFOD - **Cafod Harvest Fast Day this year is on Friday 3rd October.**

a day when we are asked to live and eat more simply, recognising the needs of others throughout the world who struggle to survive. The theme this year is '**love thy neighbour as thyself.**' These are the words of Jesus himself and a phrase very familiar to all of us. This year Cafod has chosen Ethiopia as the country to show neighbourly love and support. The Cafod Appeal talk and distribution of Fast Day

envelopes will be given out over the weekend **4th/5th October** and contribution envelopes collected the following weekend **11th/12th October**.

Thank you for your continuing generosity. **Parish Cafod Support Group**



PILGRIMS OF HOPE – JUBILEE EVENT – All the parishes in our Pastoral Area are getting together to celebrate the Jubilee on **4th October** at St Pauls Catholic School, Milton Keynes. The parishes are ourselves, Olney, Stoney Stratford, Buckingham, Milton Keynes cluster, Bletchley, Woburn Sands and Winslow. It will be a great opportunity to meet people from other parishes share idea

and make see the wider community of which our parish is part. The format is around a Mass at 11am. There is an extensive music programme and some members of our choir will be singing with other choirs at the Mass.

Before and after Mass there will be displays to show what is going on in the Pastoral Area. Our own Gardening Club and First Thursday club will be providing displays. After Mass there is a shared meal (please bring a plate). Please come along and support our parishioners. All all ages are welcome.

NOVENA - As part of the Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee event there will be an online Novena (Prayer Group) **from 7.30pm to 7.50pm** over nine nights from 25th September to 3rd October. The Novena will be on the theme of St Paul, and we will pray for a different aspect each evening. Olney will be hosting the Novena on **Friday the 26th September**, led by Fr Daniel. Please join us on the call for a few minutes of prayer in this Jubilee year.

The link details are below and on the Jubilee event poster in the porch. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/86027385097?pwd=zINtTAGE6pHZgfibQnrL6Z2Eo9Sapg.1>.

Meeting: ID: 860 2738 5097 Passcode: 179063



Our Lady of Walsingham – Reflection

Long before the notes of ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ were strung together, and its lyrics begun to sing about a ‘Land of Hope and Glory’; long before William Blake jotted down the verses of Jerusalem; and before Britannia started to rule any wave; in fact, even before St George’s Cross was borrowed from the Republic of Genoa to become the flag of this land; before that time, England looked to another symbol, indeed to one person, in which to find its unity, its pride, and its comfort in times of need. England looked to Mary. According to tradition, during the reign of St Edward the Confessor, one thousand years ago, England began to be called **“dos Mariae,”** Mary’s dowry – meaning that out of all the Christianised countries, out of all the places one could possibly imagine, England was Our Lady’s own possession, her portion which she loved, protected, and offered as her own precious gifts to her divine Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. But what is more fascinating about this tradition is that “Mary’s dowry” was not an official dedication, some pious slogan that a saintly king or an archbishop came up with, rather this was the fruit of popular devotion to the Mother of God, the product of the faith and love of people like you and me. And if England was Mary’s possession, this sentiment was nowhere more felt than at Walsingham, a tiny speck of village in Norfolk – which many of us know well – where our Lady had a replica of her holy house of Nazareth, and where countless pilgrims from all over the country and even the near continent flocked to ask Our Lady’s intercession.

But besides the obvious nostalgic sentimentality and emotionally charged devotion of these lines, what can we, in a multicultural twenty-first century England, get out of all this? We are not in the Middle-Ages anymore and dowries are something that has largely fallen into disuse. So, what would be the point of recalling these traditions of times long gone by? Well, first, the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham and its connections to England as somehow being as her special possession, should remind us to pray for a revival of the Christian faith in this land; it should give us confidence in praying, as the Walsingham prayer says, for the ‘conversion of England’ so that more people may turn to the Lord Jesus. Secondly, this feast should inspire us to present Our Lady with gifts of our own. Let us make room for Mary in our lives, giving to her our hearts, our future, and our every good deed, to be her dowry as well, and she will, in turn, present them as precious offerings to the Lord. Indeed, about this second, more personal point, today’s gospel gives us a simple instruction; which is nothing too morally demanding nor too taxing to put into practice. The gospel simply says to each of us, **‘Here is your mother,’** and then **“take her into your home.”** England may have stopped being widely known as Mary’s dowry, and not many people may know the significance of Walsingham, but the Mother of Jesus, always remains our mother as well.

So, when we are pressed down by worries or plagued by indecision; when we find ourselves stuck on top of our own personal calvaries, when we are dejected or discomforted; when, like St John at the foot of the Cross, we feel powerless before the suffering of others; the gospel simply says, **‘Here is your mother.’** Then, in those moments let us take Mary with us and she, Our Lady and protectress, will help us in our every need.

Our Lady of Walsingham, Pray for Us!

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