

Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton
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
 Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger
 St Joseph's Convent – Sr Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267
 Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland
safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org
SVP Contact: 07469 717760

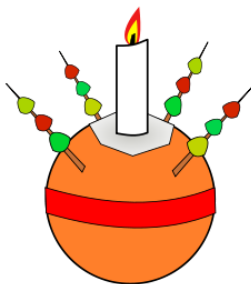
16 th November 2025 Psalter Week 1		Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
First Reading	Prophet Malachi 4:1-2a <i>‘For you the sun of righteousness shall rise.’</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	The Lord comes to judge the peoples with fairness.		
Second Reading	2 St Paul to the Thessalonians 3:7-12 <i>‘If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.’</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Luke 21:5-19 <i>‘By your endurance you will gain your lives.’</i>		
Saturday 15 th November +		4.00pm	Vigil Mass – Parish Memorial Mass (Faithful Departed)
		6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday 16 th November +		10.30am	Mass – (Deacon Peter – Int.)
Monday 17 th November St Elizabeth of Hungary – Religious St Hilda – Religious St Hugh of Lincoln - Bishop			No Parish Mass
Tuesday 18 th November Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul		10.00am	Mass - (Eileen Barrett RIP)
Wednesday 19 th November <i>Feria</i>			No Parish Mass today
Thursday 20 th November St Ragener – Martyr		10.00am	Service of Word & Communion
Friday – 21 st November The Presentation of the BVM			No Parish Mass today
Saturday – 22 nd November St Cecilia – Virgin & Martyr		9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Eileen Barrett RIP)
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe			
Saturday – 23 rd November +		6.00pm 6.15pm	Confessions Vigil Mass – (Eric Humphries RIP – 1st Anniv)
Sunday – 24 th November +		10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)

Christmas cards and advent calendars are available in the narthex

Thank you for your Weekly Offering	
Offertory	£223.20
Digital Collection Plate	£80.00
Standing Orders	£502.00
TOTAL	£805.20

Fr Derek Lance RIP – Last Saturday the Diocese of Northampton was informed of the death of Fr Derek Lance. Fr Derek was ordained to the priesthood on 29th June 1975 and served the Church faithfully in a variety of capacities at St John's Cathedral, Norwich; St Lawrence, Cambridge; Chaplain Thomas Becket School, Northampton; Chaplain to Catholic Students, Northampton; Promoter of Spirituality; Diocesan Adviser on the Healing Ministry. He retired in 2002 after decades of devoted service to parish communities, young people, and the wider Diocese. *"Well done good and faithful servant"* May he rest in peace.

Praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory - Throughout November, we remember all the Holy Souls at each Mass. Before the Altar is a box containing the names of our loved ones for whom we pray – we think also of those Holy Souls who have no one to pray for them. Jesus, Mary I love you, save souls.



Christingle Service - We warmly welcome all children and grandchildren to come and make a Christingle and enjoy a hot chocolate at **3pm on Saturday 6th December**. There will be a family friendly **Vigil Mass at 4pm** when we will light the Christingles. Everyone is welcome to join the Mass and share the light of Christmas.



Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter & St Paul's Church, Olney
Saturday 6th December & Sunday 7th December
This year's theme is The Three Kings

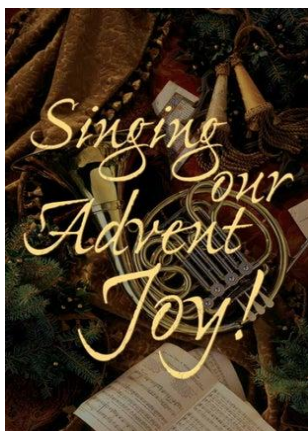
We will not need any Christmas tree decorations, but we thought it would be an ideal Christmas offering if anyone who is able and willing could make a small gift. Some of these will be used to decorate around the Christmas tree and then displayed in our church before being donated to the SVP for delivery in and around Olney – Any gift donations to Vivienne Young please.



Our annual parish Christmas Concert will be held on **Friday 19th December at 7.00pm** here in our church. An evening of carols, readings and prayer followed by seasonal refreshments in the parish hall. Everyone welcome! This year the proceeds from the concert will go to 'Willen Hospice.'



Plant Sale – a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported our annual Autumn Plant sale – it was another huge success! With your support we raised the magnificent sum of **£252.00**. This money will be used to continue the work enhancing the parish garden. We very much hope that your newly acquired plants will bring you much joy & pleasure. Thanks also to the Gardening Club for organising this.

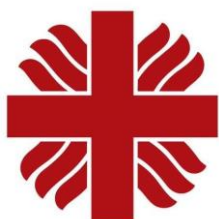


Sing the Season – Advent 2025 - Join the Diocese of Northampton Music & Liturgy Team for a brand-new event, **'Sing the Season' next Saturday 22nd November 2025 (11am–4pm)** here at **Our Lady's**.

Open to cantors, choir leaders, singers, and musicians, the day will feature seasonal music, new psalm settings, and fresh ideas for parish liturgy. Attendance is free (suggested £5 donation). Tea and coffee provided—bring your instrument, voice, and packed lunch! Let's prepare for Advent together in song, faith, and fellowship.



Sacrament of Confirmation – Early in the new year we are hoping to begin preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are in **School Year 7** or above, or you know of someone who is, and would like to begin preparation for the Sacrament of then please give your details to either Fr Daniel or Deacon Peter. Likewise, if you are an adult & have not yet been Confirmed but wish to know more about what is involved in preparing for the Sacrament then please contact Fr Daniel or Deacon Peter.



Love Christmas 2025– Share the Joy, Spread the Light.

This Advent, join Caritas Northampton's Love Christmas Campaign and help bring the true spirit of Christmas to those most in need across our diocese. Over the past four years, your generosity has shared over 1,700 Bags of Kindness, touching the lives of more than 4,000 people, from children in care and young carers to isolated elderly and families struggling to make ends meet. Together, we can make an even greater difference this year. Simply collect small gifts, such as toys, chocolates, warm clothing, or toiletries and we will provide the bags which can be left at the church/presbytery for collection by Caritas. Let us fill our community with hope and compassion this Christmas.

Further information: <https://northamptondiocese.org/caritas/>



Thought for the Month of Holy Souls: "We must say many prayers for the souls of the faithful departed, for one must be so pure to enter heaven"

St John Mary Vianney

Crime and Policing Bill



Archbishop John Sherrington, the Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, has issued a statement on the Crime and Policing Bill which is currently going through Committee Stage in the House of Lords. He urges peers to support the amendment to overturn clause 191 which would decriminalise abortion and threaten the life of unborn children, and calls for compassionate support and legal protection for pregnant women, mothers, and their children.

Statement

“As the House of Lords scrutinises the Crime and Policing Bill, we remain deeply distressed by an existing amendment that decriminalises abortion for women and further threatens the fragile life of the unborn child (clause 191). This amendment would allow women to perform abortions at home, up to birth, regardless of the circumstances. Such a law places the health of women at greater risk as well as placing them at risk of coercion, as more women may use abortion pills to perform late-term, ‘DIY’ abortions. The amendment also threatens the lives of many more children, who could be aborted after the current 24-week limit.

This is a dramatic proposed change in the law which surveys suggest is strongly opposed by the British public. It also weakens protections for women and children even further. I therefore urge members of the House of Lords to support the amendment, introduced by Baroness Monckton and other Peers, to overturn clause 191. I also ask Peers to support Baroness Stroud’s amendment to reinstate in-person medical consultations for women seeking to perform their own abortions.

Pregnant women often choose abortion out of desperation and isolation. They need compassionate support and legal protection to be able to care for themselves and their children. Decriminalisation does not meet any of these needs, which need to be better addressed by society.

In these decisive weeks, I ask you all to join me in prayer for Peers, who will be debating and voting on these amendments, for pregnant mothers, and for their unborn children.”

Archbishop John Sherrington
Archbishop of Liverpool
Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference

Picture credit: Archdiocese of Liverpool

“Whoever attacks human life attacks God’s very self.”

Pope St John Paul II

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