

| PARISH.OURLADYHELPOFCHRISTIANSLUTON@NORTHAMPTONDIOCESE.ORG |
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FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

By the time you read this, I will, God willing, be in Lourdes along with a number of pilgrims not only from our parish but, from across our Diocese.

A pilgrimage is a beautiful reminder that each of us are on a journey to grow closer to God - to become saints who stand in the presence of Love Himself. On the way there can be difficulties, there can be obstacles, there can be joys, and there can be affirmations and consolations. The most important thing, however, is that we persevere in striving towards our destination.

For each of us, that destination is Heaven. We are only passing pilgrims on this world for we are created for higher things! Let us always have the destination of Heaven in our minds and hearts. And let us persevere in reaching that destination.

Oremus pro invicem!

St Monica - Pray for us!

SAINT OF THE WEEK ST MONICA

Most of us think of Saint Monica in association with her son, the great Saint Augustine.

This is understandable for two reasons. We are familiar with the famous painting of the parting of Monica and Augustine at Ostia. Familiar, too, are the now famous words of an unknown bishop to Saint Monica: 'The child of such tears will never perish.' We are introduced, as it were, to Saint Monica sorrowing.

Sorrow played a big part in the life of Saint Monica; the sorrow of a loving wife for a harsh spouse and a devoted mother to a wayward son. Life was not kind to Saint Monica.

In spite of every difficulty, Monica brought up her children in faith and piety. We are indebted to Saint Augustine's own writings for the information. Alone with her grief, but incessant in prayer, Monica witnessed, through many years, the acute mental and moral struggles of Augustine. Eventually, however, through St Monica's faithfulness and prayers, her son was baptised and goes on to become an incredible theologian and doctor of the Church.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday - 10 am - 12 pm

Tuesday - 10 am - 12 pm

Wednesday - CLOSED

Thursday - CLOSED

Friday - CLOSED

Saturday / Sunday - CLOSED

Pastor and Diocesan Chancellor

Fr Brendan Seery

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www.northamptondiocese.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION
WWW.OURLADYHELPOFCHRISTIANS.CO.UK

PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Please note that the Newsletter was printed on Wednesday 21st of August. This was to ensure that it would be available for the weekend whilst the Office is closed for the Parish Pilgrimage.

FR UGO NNAJI

We welcome Fr Ugo from St Margaret of Scotland Parish who will be looking after the spiritual needs of the parish for the next few days.

RCIA

If you are interested in learning more about the beauty of the Catholic Faith or would like to become a Catholic, then the RCIA Programme is for you!

For more details, email the Parish Office or phone Kate on 07921 778507

PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Parishioners are be invited to host a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham for a week at a time and pray for particular intentions while meditating on the Rosary.

The idea is to have a chain of prayer for the parish and for various intentions.

The sign up - sheet is at the back of the church.

VINNY'S PANTRY

Vinny's Pantry will be closed this Tuesday but will reopen on Tuesday 20th August.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Please use the following link to register as a member of the Parish (<https://www.caspar.church/me>)

PARISH FEAST DAY FOOD

We are all invited to bring some food to the Parish Feast Day reception that will take place in the Parish Centre following Mass.

If you are able to provide food, please indicate that you are by signing the sheet at the back of the church.

PUBLIC ROSARY

There is an opportunity to pray the Rosary outside of the church (Castle Street side) from 4 pm every Sunday.

SUNDAY VESPERS AND BENEDICTION

There will be no public Vespers and Benediction during the month of August.

Public Vespers and Benediction will resume in the Autumn.

CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

It is hoped that over the next few months and years, a number of projects for the church and parish centre will be completed.

These include restoring the baptismal font to the original baptistry, improving the facilities in the parish centre including installing a full kitchen and dividers to make better use of the space, creating a prayer garden at the back of the parish centre, and many more.

As with everything, these projects will require some funding. A new fund has been added to the card machine at the back of the church for anyone who would like to, and is able to, support some of these projects.

PARISH FEAST DAY

We will be celebrating our 140th anniversary of the establishment of the Catholic Mission in Luton on Friday the 6th September at 7 pm.

This will be an opportunity to thank God for 140 years of faith and to ask Him for the strength to continue to proclaim the joys of Christ to all people.

Everyone is invited to take part - please keep the date free!

We are all invited to wear national dress for the occasion.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6th September - Parish Feast Day Mass at 7 pm followed by reception in the Parish Centre.

6th September - 8th September - Visit of the Dominican Sisters to the Parish and a number of events for young people and young adults.

1st November - All Saints Day Party for young people at 6 pm in the Parish Centre.

9th November - Morning Recollection for new and existing Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (10.30 am - 12 pm).

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Please continue to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and please continue to pray for priests!

“Protect them, guide them, and keep them in your heart. Be a Mother to them, especially in times of discouragement and loneliness. Love them and keep them belonging completely to Jesus! Amen”

Our Lady, Mother of Priests

Pray for us!

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF NASHVILLE

Over the weekend of our 140th anniversary celebrations, we will also be hosting some Religious Sisters from the Convent of St Cecilia in Nashville. They will be running the following events during their stay:

Saturday 7th September

10.30 am - 12 pm

An event for all young people aged 7 - 12 in the Parish Centre.

Saturday 7th September

2 pm - 4 pm

An event for all young people aged 13 - 17 in the Parish Centre.

Saturday 7th September

7 pm - 9 pm

An event for all young adults aged 18 - 35 in the Parish Centre.

DIGITAL OUTREACH

We are looking for anyone who would be interested in help the parish make better use of digital technology in promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This includes working on, and maintaining, the parish website.

If you are interested, please email the Parish office.

PARISH PRAYERS

Please pray for: Sally Rhodes, Robert Roe, Connor McFadden, Alexander El-Lamaa, Margaret Spring, Agnieszka Daniel, Christopher Parfitt, Jimmy, Tina, John McCormick, Jane Matthews, Mary Williams, Michael Curtin, and all who are sick.

Please pray for: Thomas O'Boyle, Francis Farrell, Augustine Abara and all our loved ones who have died.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

It is now possible to sign up for the Sacramental Programmes (First Confession, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation, that will begin in the autumn.

Please collect a form from the sacristy and return it as soon as possible.

YORK PILGRIMAGE

WEEKEND

26th - 27th October

There is an opportunity for young adults to take part in a pilgrimage to York and explore some of the beauty and history of our faith in these islands.

For more information, use the link below:

<https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2024>.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that from the 23rd August - 30th August, there will be reduced opening times for the Parish Office.

All queries will be responded to from Monday 2nd September.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.”

- St Francis of Assisi

MARCH FOR LIFE

The annual event to promote the dignity of all life will take place on Saturday 7th September.

Morning events 10.00am to 1.00pm - Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3DW.

Mass 11.00am - St Georges Cathedral, Southwark, London, SE1 7HY

The March 1.30pm - from the Emmanuel Centre.

www.marchforlife.co.uk

Parishioners from Luton and Dunstable are attending. If you would like to meet up contact Kevin 07802 525581.

SELF DEFENCE CLASSES

The self defence classes continue **THIS WEDNESDAY** at 7 pm in the Parish Centre.

MASS READINGS AND PRAYERS

Please scan the QR code to access the daily Mass readings and prayers.



PARISH OFFERTORY

A huge thank you to all those who are able to support the mission of the parish through their financial offering.

£1875.64

Please note that no monies are kept on site.

LITURGIES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY 25th August</p> <p>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>	<p>9.30 am MASS</p> <p>11.30 am MASS</p> <p>4 pm Rosary</p> <p>5 pm MASS</p>	<p>Remita Dave - Ake Int., John & Ann Haughey RIP, Cornelius Peter RIP, William Silva RIP, Catherine William RIP.</p> <p>John Bosco Nwaeri Int., Chizitese Nwaeri Int.</p> <p>Pro Populo, Liam O' Donnel RIP.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY 26th August</p> <p>Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God</p>	<p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>Minnie McDonnell Int.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY 27th August</p> <p>S. Monica</p>	<p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>Reed Robinson Int.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY 28th August</p> <p>S. Augustine</p>	<p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>Peter Heames RIP.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY 29th August</p> <p>The Beheading of John the Baptist</p>	<p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>University of Bedfordshire.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY 30th August</p> <p>SS Margaret Clitherow and Margaret Ward</p>	<p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>Kathleen McGuire RIP.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SATURDAY 31st August</p> <p>Votive Mass of Blessed Carlo Acutis</p>	<p>9 am ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>9.30 am MASS <i>Followed by veneration of the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis</i></p>	<p>Young People of the Parish.</p>