

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND
Please keep all the sick and housebound in your prayers.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Let us pray for all those who have died recently especially Urszula Stephens
. We also pray for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time. May they Rest in Peace. **Please keep their families in your prayers.**



Every life is unique and special, especially at their passing. If you would like a 'paragraph eulogy' included in the bulletin, please contact Father Pat.

ROTAS FOR 1/2 AUGUST 2026 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

READERS: Sat 01 6.30pm Duncan Clark

Sun 02 8.30am Christina Morris

Sun 02 10.00am Cohen Tester, Margaret Hamm

EUCCHARISTIC Sat 01 6.30pm (C) Bernadette Collins, Carmen Bennett, Rita Aston

MINISTERS: Sun 02 8.30am (C) Akin Amusu, Barbara Chodkiewicz, Funmi Amusu

Sun 02 10.00am (C) Carlton Rose, Anthony Brown, Denise Williams

FLOWERS: Sat 01 Fiona **COUNTERS:** Sun 02 Louise Barr & Ellen O'Hare

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: NO Children's Liturgy in August

TEA & COFFEE: Sun 02 Sheila **BULLETIN:** Ruth (Office)

DONA CARD READER

Remember to use our contactless card reader for all your donations. Donations can also be made by scanning the QR code so you could donate from home when you are having a cup of coffee or tea. With grateful thanks.



OUR BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline for notices to be included in the weekly bulletin is **Tuesday evening** at the latest
All notices should be sent by **email** to: olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk or given to Father Pat.

SAFEGUARDING WEEKLY NOTICE

"The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. **Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Jo Browne.** She can be contacted at: sg.olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns."

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Reg. Charity No: 234216

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First reading

1 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118):57, 72.
76-77. 127-128. 129-130. (R) 97a

(R) O Lord, how I love your law!

1. You, O Lord, are my portion;
I have promised to obey your words.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than large quantities of silver and gold (R)

2. Let your merciful love console me
by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight. (R)

3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways. (R)

4. Your decrees are wonderful indeed;
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple. (R)

Second reading

Romans 8:28-30

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom
to little children.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:44-52

Communion Antiphon

Ps 102: 2

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Hugh
Moorland Road, Witney OX28 5YA Tel:01993 702661
Parish Priest: Fr. Patrick Broun
fr.patrick.broun@rcaob.org.uk
Email: olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk



SUNDAY 26 JULY- 2 AUGUST 2026

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Year A

SAT 25 Feast of St James, Apostle

EXPOSITION 10am-11am

MASS 6.30pm Fr Daniel McAvoy PP of
St Joseph's Bracknell

SUN 26 Feast of Ss Joachim and Anne

****Sixth World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly.**

MASS 8.30am People of the Parish

MASS 10.00am Deacon Carlton S.I.

MON 27 NO MASS

TUE 28 MASS 6.00pm Andy Pledge R.I.P.

WED 29 Memorial of Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Eucharistic Service 9.30am

THU 30 MASS 6.00pm Fr Noel Breslin R.I.P.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP 6.30pm

FRI 31 Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

MASS 9.30am Agnes Cooper R.I.P.

**SAT 01 Memorial of St Alphonsus Mary
de' Liguori, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

EXPOSITION 10am-11am

MASS 6.30pm David Fudge R.I.P.

SUN 02 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS 8.30am Bernard Harkin R.I.P.

MASS 10.00am People of the Parish

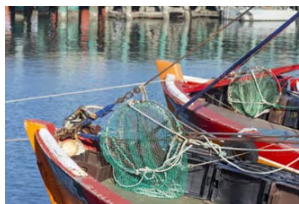
**** See inside bulletin for details**

CONFESSIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Confessions are on Saturdays at
10.30am-11am & 5.30pm-6pm



If you would like to see Fr Pat for Confession
or any other reason, please do not hesitate to
make an appointment either by phone or email.



GOSPEL REFLECTION - 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In the first reading Solomon acts with integrity in asking the Lord to give him wisdom. Yet he was to end up worshipping false gods and displeasing the Lord. He did not initially set out to do this.

This relates to the Gospel reading. The dragnet symbolizes the Church. Both good and bad people can belong to it. We know this

from experience. However, like Solomon, how many of those 'bad' people set out to be that way? Do we ourselves ever fully understand the motives for the way we act at times? Once we start applying standards which we expect people to meet to be eligible to be part of our Church community can we be truly sure that we are meeting them ourselves?

God Bless. Fr Pat.

PRAYER FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PARISH (& FOR ALL OF US TOO)

Many of our young people will be moving on to many different things including changing year groups, changing schools, moving on to sixth form or college, going to University or going to work. These changes can feel very daunting and many of our young people will be feeling very apprehensive and scared.

Although this prayer is especially for them, it can also be for all of us, reminding us of the good things we have in life and remembering that God is with us wherever we are, and however we feel.

Lord, help me to cherish the last time I really laughed, value the last thing that I achieved; respect the last time I did something that scared me. Lord, be by my side so that I can find joy in the smallest things, appreciate the wonder of your creation and live my life to the full. Amen.



POPE LEO'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION

Pope Leo's July prayer intention: 'For formation in discernment'

If you would like to pray with the Holy Father this is the link to use.

<https://www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/>

Pope Leo XIV releases his prayer intention for the month of July, and invites us to pray that we may know how to choose the right path for our life and reject anything that leads us away from Christ. He prays that the Holy Spirit may inform our decisions and that we may learn to listen attentively to God's gentle voice. In listening, he says, we learn to "discern the hidden paths of my heart" and understand what truly matters to God.

"I ask you for the grace to learn how to pause," he prays, "to become aware of the way I act, of the feelings that dwell within me, and of the thoughts that overwhelm me, which, so often, I fail to notice." Pope Leo leads us to pray that our choices may lead us "to the joy of the Gospel," despite moments of doubt and fatigue, constantly seeking to begin anew. "Because, at the end of the journey, your consolation is the fruit of the right decision," he affirms.



**SIXTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Pope Leo XIV has chosen "***I will never forget you***" (Is 49:15) as the theme for the Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.



The World Day, instituted by the late Pope Francis in 2021, is celebrated every fourth Sunday of July and is presented as an opportunity to bring the closeness of the Church to the elderly and to enhance their contribution within families and communities.

This year, the date coincides with the **feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, Sunday, July 26**, (who are the parents of the Virgin Mary. There are no mentions of them in the Bible or Gospels, what we know comes from Catholic legend,) and the Holy Father invites everyone to celebrate the Day.

Taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the chosen verse is meant to be a message of consolation and hope for all grandparents and elderly people, especially those who live in loneliness or feel forgotten. At the same time, it is a reminder to families and ecclesial communities not to forget them, recognizing in them a precious presence and a blessing.



NO LUNCH CLUB IN AUGUST



It has been lovely to welcome so many of you to our monthly Lunch Clubs. We are going to have a break in August, so the next one will be in **September**. More details to follow later.

TUESDAY TODDLER



Toddler Time is now closed for the summer. We will return in September.

MUSIC GROUP NEWS



Due to various commitments there will be no Music Group in August. We will next lead the music in Mass on **September 13th. (2nd Sunday)**

We have had many positive comments about the new hymns we have introduced into Mass; thank you all for them. We are planning on introducing a new Mass setting from September. We would encourage anyone to come and join us. And if you play an instrument we would love you to come and play with us too. We wish you all a lovely Summer.

OUR CHURCH GROUPS NEED YOU



Many of our church groups really need more helpers to keep the various groups we have in church, existing. If you are able to help with any of them but a) wonder if you have the time to commit, b) feel a bit scared of joining a group you don't really know or c) not sure if you have the ability to join then please, ask Fr Pat to put you in touch with whoever leads the group, or send an email to the church email asking to be put in touch with the groups. Be brave and give it a go!!