



Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Last Sunday after Trinity - All Souls**



**Welcome and notices**

**Reading:** Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

**Gospel:** Matthew 22: 34-end

**Wed 28<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 28: 14-16  
Luke 13: 22-30

**Collect:** *Blessed Lord*, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Intercessions:** This week we pray especially for all who are missing loved ones and for the scared and the lonely. Loving God, we call to mind all those who are no longer with us on earth. We thank you that their time, now completed, however short or long, sad or joyful, is now gathered up, looked on and known to you. We offer up remembrance: for those whose absence we feel daily; those who have shaped us; those who have nurtured us; the people we are grateful to have shared our lives with; all those we hardly knew but wish we'd known better. We give thanks for all that they gave to us and all that the future owes them. Lord, your love embraces every person who has ever lived. May your Spirit keep us always thankful for all our loved ones. O God, our loving Shepherd, who brought to life again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death, comfort us with your protecting presence and your angels of goodness and love, help us in our times of need on earth and eventually bring us home to dwell with You in Your house for ever. Abide with us, Lord, in the morning, in the day, in the evening and through the night. Abide with us and with your whole Church, when we feel alone, when we feel sad and when we feel scared. Be with us and give us a true knowledge of Your love for us and Your blessing upon us. Amen.

**We pray blessing and healing for those who are sick:** *Toby O'Grady, Kevin, Keith, Cyril, Rene Tourle, Pat Major, Gail, Martin, Hannah, Rena Partridge, Phill Stocking, Eliza, Bar, Georgina, Philip Ramos, Michael Seabrook, Debbie and Coralie.*

**We remember the recently departed and pray for comfort for their families and friends.** *Helen Dillely.*

**We remember and give thanks for those whose Yearsmind is now. Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer:**

**Prayer:** God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

**Listening Ear.** Please email [prayer@olney.church](mailto:prayer@olney.church) for prayers.

Some material included is  
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**Social Media reminders:**

Web site: <http://olney.church> Twitter (new!): @olneychurch  
Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stpeterandstpaulchurcholney/>

**Funerals.** None.

**Clocks go back on Saturday 24th. So enjoy an extra hour in bed Hymns.** This Sunday in church we celebrate All Souls: with the hymns 'Be still, my soul' and 'Lord of all hopefulness'. Here is a beautiful interpretation online  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8mti7VL3gg>

**Harvest.** Due to all your very generous donations we have five large boxes of food and toiletries ready to be transported to Olney is Kind. Thank You.

**All Souls.** On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November we will hold our traditional All Souls Service of Thanksgiving. This year we will have to hold the service virtually via Zoom. You may like to light a candle at home and say a special prayer or have a moment of reflection. To access the service use the following link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83544332321> or dial 0203 901 7895. A special prayer will be included in the extended monthly edition of the Weekly Sheet. Please can all names to be remembered be sent to the Church Office by the 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**Report on the APCM.** The APCM last Sunday was far from normal, especially as it was held in October instead of our usual April. The annual accounts had already been approved by the PCC, and the minutes from the previous APCM were unanimously accepted by those in attendance. The annual report for 2019 is available at <http://olney.church/media/>. Paper copies are available on request. The list of sidespersons had been approved by PCC; flowers could not be given in thanks, but alternatives were presented in socially distanced and Covid safe way. David Phillipson and Susan Bailey were re-elected as Church Wardens after a special resolution was passed to allow Susan to stand again. David was also re-elected as Deanery Synod representative alongside Malcolm Jones and Richard Colson. They will serve for another three years. We currently still have four vacancies on the PCC. A date could not be set for next year's APCM at this point due to changing Covid guidelines. As soon as one is set, we will make you aware. *Thank you and God Bless, Susan and David, your Church Wardens.*

**Pins.** As part of the APCM Andrew introduced some gold and silver lapel pins, showing the sword and the crossed keys for St Peter and St Paul. The silver pins are available in the church for people to pick up to show they belong to the church family. Hopefully, we will also be able to sell these to visitors in the future. The gold pins will be given to people who have gone above and beyond in serving the church. On Sunday Andrew gave pins to Susan and Andrew Heron for the work they have done for children within the church, and to the members of the Standing Committee (David, Susan B, Lisa, Haydn and Pat) for all they have done to keep the church together during this difficult year.

**Pancake Race 2021.** I have to advise very reluctantly, that the 2021 pancake race and associated events are cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. We have looked at ways in which the race could at least take place but this would still involve a road closure, the cost of enforcing that closure and the fact that this itself would attract spectators whether we advertised or not. As we would not be in a position of being able to enforce social distancing the prospect of seeing Olney on TV showing numerous people clearly not socially distancing makes me very nervous indeed. I am aware that 2021 will be the first year that the race has not been held since it was revived in 1948 and it saddens me to be in the Chair presiding over this decision. At a time closer to Shrove Tuesday 16th February 2021, we will look at ways in which some sort of shroving service can take place.  
*David Phillipson, Chairman, Olney Pancake Race Committee 2021*