



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence
39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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Fr Patrick Hutton – Retired

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21 st July 2024 Psalter Week 4		Sixteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Jeremiah 23:1-6 <i>The remnant of my flock I will gather and I will raise up shepherds to look after them.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.		
Second Reading	St Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18 <i>Christ Jesus is the peace between us, and has made the two into one.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Mark 6:30-34 <i>They were like sheep without a shepherd.</i>		
Saturday 20 th July +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 21 st July +	10.30am	Mass – (Family & friends of the Ayles family)	
Monday 22 nd July St Mary Magdalene - Apostle to the Apostles	7.00pm	Confirmation Mass – (Confirmandi Ints.)	
Tuesday 23 rd July St Bridget of Sweden - Religious, Patron of Europe	10.00am	Mass – (Caroline Saw, RIP)	
Wednesday 24 th July St Sharbel Makhluf - Priest	11.00am	Requiem Mass- Sr Ellen Burke, RIP	
Thursday 25 th July St James - Apostle		No Parish Mass today	
Friday – 26 th July Ss Anne and Joachim – Parents of Our Lady	10.00am	Mass – (Sue Lees RIP)	
Saturday – 27 th July Our Lady on Saturday	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Joyce Grant – Healing) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession	
Seventeenth Sunday of the Year			
Saturday – 27 th July +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday – 28 th July +	10.30am	Mass – (Fr David's Ints)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £458.36

DGP – £15.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £861.65

Peter's Pence Second Collection: £183.58

Many thanks for your continued financial support.



Confirmation Mass with Bishop David Monday 22nd July 2024 at 7.00pm

We have 15 candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday evening. Bishop David Oakley will be here from Northampton for the evening. All are welcome, although seating for the candidates and their families will be a priority. There will be refreshments after Mass for everyone. Please do keep the candidates and their families in your prayers.

Note from Fr David: Many thanks to Deacon Peter and Veronica Tarrant for helping to prepare the young people for their Confirmation – their generous work is much appreciated. Many thanks as well to the parents, families and sponsors of each of the young people, for their commitment to the programme. Lastly, thanks to the young people themselves for coming forward to be confirmed. I pray that the Gift of the Holy Spirit will help them to grow in their love for God and help them to be living members of the Church.



Sr Ellen Burke, DHS – RIP

The Requiem Mass for Sr Ellen will be celebrated here at Our Lady's **this coming Wednesday 24th July at 11.00am**. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family, the Sisters here at St Joseph's and Burlington Hall and the wider community of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit. Requiescat in Pace.



From Fr Patrick's desk... The recent meeting of our Catholic Grandparents at the end of June was an opportunity to consider the importance of giving unconditional love, and individual attention to our grandchildren. How important it is for teenage grandchildren especially to know that their grandparents will keep their confidences, and be for them an emotional safety-net. We greatly appreciated the refreshments provided at the beginning of our meeting. Thank

you. We committed ourselves to keep in our prayers the grandchildren experiencing difficulties in their lives. David Ashford received a Certificate of Membership and a badge on his gilet. Look out for it when you see him proudly wearing it. Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 31st July at 2pm**. The subject will be 'facts about grandparents who become carers of their grandchildren.'

One grandmother who had been caring for her grandchildren all day long was rather miffed when they quickly abandoned her to rush into their parents' arms on their return. 'It hurts a bit,' she admitted, 'but I suppose that's how it should be.' Yes, it is. *But don't expect two bags of sweets next time, you fickle little blighters!*

Because of holidays we shall not be meeting in August. Thereafter we look forward to welcoming Fr. Biju Chittuparamban.



Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life

led by

Rt Rev. David Oakley
Bishop of Northampton

commencing at the 12 Noon Pilgrim Mass
in the Chapel of Reconciliation

Saturday 3rd August 2024

Coach from

St Augustine's, Heelands, 7.30am
All Saints, Bletchley, 7.55am

Cost £12 per seat, under 18 free

Cost subsidized by Guardians of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bedford
in memory of former Guardian Dick Gardner

Contact Rosemary – 07852 149225
or Oma – 0753 0530103

www.prolifepilgrimage.org

follow online at walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/



Called & Equipped is a **one-year programme**, offering a foundation in Catholic teaching and a journey of faith formation.

- For **anyone active in parish life** or coming into ministry
- Starts with a **residential foundations weekend 4th-6th October 2024**, and will have **24 weekly group sessions** over the following year. All **materials are online**, and small groups usually meet over zoom with one in-person event each term.
- **Choice of small groups** for participants running in different parts of the diocese, and on different days of the week. **Possibility of a bespoke group** if there are enough people from your parish or pastoral area doing it.
- The cost of the course, £480 including the residential weekend, **will be split three ways**: £160 from the diocesan Together in Faith Fund, £160 from the parish, and £160 from the individual. There will be **bursary places** available for those unable to meet the individual payment.

A final introductory webinar will take place on zoom on **Tuesday 16 July at 7:30pm**. Please come and join to see if this is the course for you. For more details and to sign up go to: <https://northamptondiocese.org/called-equipped/>

Thought for the week: You are not a saint because you keep the rules and are blameless; you are a saint if you live in the real world, going out and loving the real people God has put into your life.

Sr Wendy Beckett

Reflections from Turvey Abbey

St Mary Magdalene – Apostle to the Apostles



I recently read an article about Pope Francis where the writer talked about the importance of understanding his style of leadership, ways of speaking and particular vocabulary.

What stands out for me when I think of Pope Francis is his stress on the culture of encounter. Pope Francis wants us to meet people where they are, not where we would like them to be.

It is possible to see the whole of our salvation history through the prism of encounter. In our biblical imaginations we hold the images of Adam and Eve who are afraid of that encounter and hide themselves, Abraham who encounters God as he looks at the stars of the night, Sarah who listens at the opening of the tent and hears God's promise for her, and so many more. Each encounter involves a person taking one step nearer to the God who holds the promise of all Life.

Mary Magdalene too must take that one step closer to Jesus. Making her way to the tomb in darkness, she is drawn by the power of every moment of encounter that she has ever had with Jesus. It might well have been as dawn was breaking that Jesus meets her. He takes the initiative. Then she must respond too.

I am always struck by the very human nature of this encounter. Jesus says her name and, in that moment, Mary is returned to herself. There are no angels or flashes of light, just one person recognizing another. Raymond Brown sees in this moment an echo of the Good Shepherd in John 10:

'She is one of those of whom Jesus said "I know my sheep and mine know me."

There are many ways for us to come to faith. Mary Magdalene shows us the way of encounter. Imagine Jesus calling you by name. How do you respond?

Dear Lord, we thank You for giving us St. Mary Magdalene as an example of holiness. Help us to imitate the love of You she showed in repenting from her past sins in order to serve You faithfully. St. Mary Magdalene, Scripture tells us that you were a great sinner before you encountered Jesus. After Jesus drove seven demons out of you, you repented of your past sins and chose to serve Him faithfully. Please bring my petitions before Christ Whom you served with such faithfulness! Amen.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Walsingham, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St Mary Magdalene, St Bridget of Sweden, St Sharbel Makhlof, St James, pray for us.

With our love and prayers, Fr David, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter