



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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Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

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Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

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28 th July 2024 Psalter Week 1		Seventeenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Kings 4:42-44 <i>They will eat and have some left over.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.		
Second Reading	St Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6 <i>One Body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!		
Gospel	John 6:1-15 <i>Jesus gave out as much as was wanted to all who were sitting ready.</i>		
Saturday 27 th July +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 28 th July +	10.30am	Mass – (Fr David's Ints)	
Monday 29 th July Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus	11.00am	Requiem Mass - Annie Doyle RIP	
Tuesday 30 th July St Peter Chrysologus – Bishop & Doctor Blessed Everard Hanse - Martyr	10.00am	Mass – (Fr David's Ints – Anniversary of Priestly Ordination)	
Wednesday 31 st July St Ignatius Loyola - Priest	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass- (Annie Doyle RIP)	
Thursday 1 st August St Alphonsus Liguori – Bishop & Doctor	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion	
Friday – 2 nd August St Eusebius of Vercelli – Bishop St Peter Julian Eymard - Priest	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Sue Barnes RIP)	
Saturday – 3 rd August St Walthen - Abbot	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Fr Richard Barrett Ints) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession	
Eighteenth Sunday of the Year			
Saturday – 3 rd August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Charles Keeney RIP)	
Sunday – 4 th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £387.12

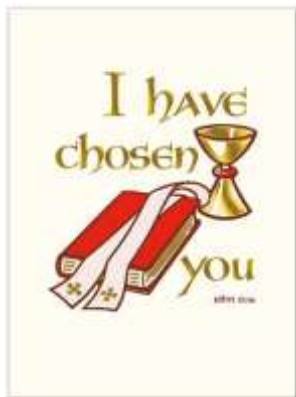
DCP – £50.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £901.12

Many thanks for your continued financial support.

Ad Multos Annos



This coming Tuesday, 30th July, Fr David celebrates the 31st anniversary of his priestly ordination. We are very fortunate to have been blessed with such a caring and loving Parish Priest these past five years. We thank God for Fr David's priestly ministry and pray for him, his family, and friends as he embarks on the next phase of his priestly ministry. God bless you Fr David

Fr David's farewell celebration will be at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 6th October, with a reception in the hall afterwards



Fr David Butler Barrett
Ordained Priest: 30th July 1993

Deo Gratias

"O, how great is the priest! ... If he realised what he is, he would die. If we had faith, we would see God hidden in the priest like a light behind glass, like wine mixed with water. Without the priest, the passion and death of our Lord would be of no avail."

St John Vianney



Many Congratulations to the fifteen young parishioners who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop David here at Our Lady's last Monday evening – it was a truly wonderful occasion. Thanks to everyone in the parish who worked so hard to ensure that everything went so well. We keep our newly Confirmed young people, their families, and friends very much in our thoughts and prayers.

Note from Deacon Peter: It was a great privilege and pleasure for me to journey with our young people as they prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Their obvious hunger and enthusiasm for the faith was truly inspiring – I wish them well in whatever the future may hold for them – 'Pactum Serva' (Keep the Faith). May God bless you & your families now and always.

Mass Intentions – If you wish to donate for Mass Intentions via the Digital Collecting Plate can you please ensure that you complete the Mass Offering envelope at the same time and put into one of the baskets in the church. Thank you.

TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE HELD IN THE HALL AFTER NEXT SUNDAY'S 10.30AM MASS



Catholic Grandparents Association 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.'

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

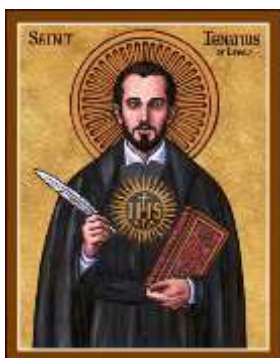
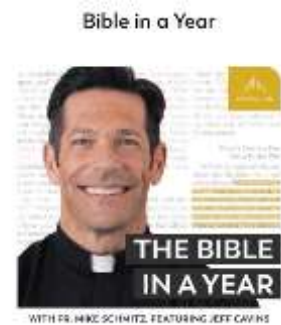


The Tenth National Eucharistic Congress was held in Indianapolis, from 17th – 21st July this year. **Bishop Robert Barron** of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, addressed the congress and you can view this via the following link: https://youtu.be/_wwOgJxiMCM?si=ycoe2oKfjs52d2cG



Ascension App Make 2024 the year you finally read the Catechism of the Catholic Church—Included when you download the

Ascension App. The Catechism of the Catholic Church contains all the essential doctrines of the Catholic Faith. Ascension's version of the Catechism provides a unique, color-coded guide that makes reading and understanding the *entire* Catechism easier than ever before. You can also find **Fr Mike Schmitz's** podcasts for free helping you to read the **Catechism in a Year** – and also **the Bible in a Year**. *Bible in a Year* has become one of the most viewed of podcasts – Fr Mike is a brilliant presenter, making things clear and easy to understand. And it comes included in the free-to-download Ascension App – you can find the Ascension App either on Google Play or on the App Store.



St Ignatius Loyola, Priest was born in the year 1491 at Loyola in northern Spain, his early life was led at court and in the army. He was later converted to a life of holiness. He studied theology at Paris and gathered companions around him and afterwards at Rome he formed the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). He exercised a very fruitful apostolate by his written work and by the formation of his disciples who were outstanding in the reform of the Church. He died at Rome in the year 1556. You can obtain a copy of the 'Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola' – ISBN: 9780895551535 – published by TAN books from Blackwell's Books <https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/>

Thought for the Week: All the things in this world are gifts of God, created for us, to be the means by which we can come to know him better, love him more surely, and serve him more faithfully.

St Ignatius Loyola

Sunday Readings

2 Kings 4:42-44 - The prophet Elisha was renowned for the wonders he worked; others are related before and after this incident. Here he is repeating Moses' miracle of providing bread or manna for his followers. For Christians, however, the greater interest is that the miraculous feeding by Jesus is recounted in the gospels in terms which deliberately recall this incident: the chance-comer who provides barley loaves and more, the prophet's command, the disciple's incredulous question, the repeated command, the feeding, and the food left over. The same six steps may be seen in the gospel. So, Jesus is repeating the Moses miracle after the pattern of Elisha, only a thousand times as generously: instead of twenty 'loaves' (small pitta-breads) among a hundred men, Jesus shares out five among five thousand. What is the point of this modelling of the story? For John Jesus is a second Moses, standing in the same tradition but greater than Moses, making God known just as Moses had done, bringing to completion all that Moses had begun. "The Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 4:1-6 - The continuing disunity among Christians makes this passage difficult to read with a clear conscience. It is perhaps the strongest plea for unity in the New Testament, with the possible exception of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper, that "they may be one" (John 17:21). Is there really a 'peace that binds you together'? One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all – all this is undeniable. One faith? Perhaps not in the sense of a set or list of beliefs, but all Christians profess the same awareness of inability to save ourselves; we all rely on and put our trust in God's promises, fulfilled in Jesus Christ. That awareness should be enough to draw us together. What can still justify our disunity? At least we should rejoice that immense strides have been made in a lifetime since the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was established; there is an earnest desire to understand one another and our still separate traditions. The work of the one Spirit is clear in that the generation that began this search can hardly have hoped for such enormous steps to have been taken. We delight in the recognition that the traditions in different Church communities express the same fundamental values and point us together to Christ our Lord.

John 6:1-15 - In this Sunday's Gospel, John's version of the miraculous feeding reminds us of the Last Supper, when Jesus 'said the blessing' over the bread. Since John's gospel has no account of the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, this feeding account is particularly significant. The feeding is also described as one of the 'signs' which Jesus works. The first part of the Gospel of John is often called 'the Book of Signs' because Jesus works several signs which show who he truly is. First there is the sign at the marriage-feast of Cana, where the sign of turning the water into wine is a sign of the messianic banquet. Other signs are the raising of the royal official's son, a sign of Jesus' gift of life, and the cure of the blind man in the temple, a sign of Jesus' gift of light and revelation. Several of the signs are followed by an extended discourse, explaining the meaning of the sign, as this feeding sign is followed by the discourse on the Bread of Life, explaining the significance of Jesus' gift of himself as the Bread of Life, the Wisdom of God received in the Eucharist.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Walsingham, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St Rita, pray for us.

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