



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

Parish Priest: Fr Biju Chittuparamban

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Fr Patrick Hutton – Retired

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

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St Joseph's Convent – Sr Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

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11 th August 2024 Psalter Week 3		Nineteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Kings 19:4-8 <i>Strengthened by the food he walked until he reached the mountain of God.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	Taste and see that the Lord is good.		
Second Reading	St Paul to the Ephesians 4:30-5:2 <i>Follow Christ by loving as he loved you.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!		
Gospel	John 6:41-51 <i>I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.</i>		
Saturday 10 th August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 11 th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Family & friends of the Ayles family)	
Monday 12 th August St Jane Frances de Chantal - Religious	10.00am	Mass – (Peace in the World)	
Tuesday 13 th August Ss Pontian, Pope – St Hyppolytus, Priest Martyrs	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Richard Jewell RIP)	
Wednesday 14 th August St Maximilian Kolbe – Priest, Martyr	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Sr Ellen Burke RIP)	
Thursday 15 th August + THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM – Solemnity - Holy Day of Obligation	10.00am 7.00pm	Mass – (Annie Doyle RIP) Mass – (Fr David's Ints.)	
Friday – 16 th August St Stephen of Hungary	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Darren Beckett Ints.)	
Saturday – 17 th August	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Margaret Gilleran Ints.) Adoration with Confession	
Twentieth Sunday of the Year			
Saturday – 17 th August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Michael & Vincent Wogan RIP)	
Sunday – 18 th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £509.25

DCP – £20.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £993.25

Many thanks for your continued financial support.



Introduction from Fr Biju - I am Fr Biju Varghese

Chittuparamban, born on August 4, 1982 in Kerala, India. After completing my A-levels, I joined the Vocationist religious order in 1999. After completing my degrees in philosophy and Theology and the formation to the priesthood, I was ordained a priest on December 31, 2008.

After my ordination, I worked as an assistant parish priest at St. Antony's Church in Mannuthy, Kerala, India for six months. Following that, I moved to Indonesia, where I served as an assistant formator

for two years.

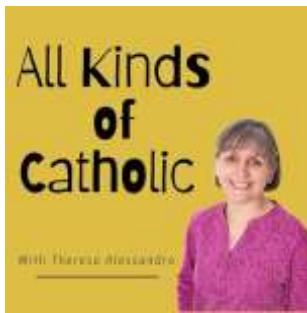
Upon returning to India, I worked as a superior and formator at the Vocationist Minor Seminary in Kerala for two years. Subsequently, I transferred to the Vocationist Major Seminary in Kerala, where I continued to serve as a superior and formator. During this time, I also completed two master's degrees, one in Literature and the other in Psychology and Mphil. In Marriage and family Counselling.

Later, I moved to the UK and worked as a formation tutor for six and a half years. I then served as an assistant parish priest at St. Ethelbert's Church in Slough for six months. Regarding my family, my parents passed away when I was very young, I have three elder sisters and two brothers. Two sisters are nuns and the other three are married and I have altogether 8 nephews and nieces.

I am very happy to be with you, to minister to you and be part of your spiritual journey. May Almighty God Bless you all.

Thanksgiving Mass – A Thanksgiving Mass & presentation to Fr David will be held on **Sunday 6th October** at 10.30am. Cards for parishioners to sign are available at the back of the church. Envelopes are also available for anyone wishing to donate towards a farewell gift for Father. If donating by cheque, please make payable to Our Lady Help of Christians. You can also donate via the digital collection plate or via the bank. Contact Denise for further details.

MASS OFFERING – On Saturday, 27th July, after the 6.30pm Mass a payment of £30.00 was made via the digital collection plate for Mass Intentions. No details/envelope was completed and as such we are unable to 'book in' the Mass. Could the person requesting the Mass please contact Denise.



All Kinds of Catholic is a new weekly podcast that was launched last month. The project has been created by Theresa Alessandro who hosts the episodes. A new conversation with a different Catholic guest is released every Wednesday. The dialogue focusses on how each person is living their faith in the world today. Theresa explained, 'It is important that the podcast appears on mainstream platforms like Apple, Spotify, Amazon and Youtube, witnessing to the fact that Catholic people, and our faith journeys, are part of the fabric of society.'

Five episodes in, the pod is drawing a growing following of many hundreds of listeners, including some in other parts of the world. Key elements of Catholic culture and practice come to the surface naturally in the conversations. Guests have talked about the rosary, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the power of our conscience and of justice, the value of groups like the Catholic Women's League or Laudato Si' Animators, the witness of a beloved parish priest's Jubilee celebration and the challenge of talking about our faith at work. People have honestly shared their 'wobbles', or more serious concerns about their faith or about the church as well.

<https://www.audible.co.uk/podcast/All-Kinds-of-Catholic/BOD5WJGFFD>



**Catholic
Safeguarding
Standards
Agency**

NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN – SAFEGUARDING

New arrangements for Safeguarding Training:

Following a good rating in the recent audit, the Diocese has introduced new arrangements for safeguarding training for all who volunteer for roles in the parish. There are specific requirements for those whose roles require them to hold a DBS certificate; all the volunteers affected by this have been contacted to explain what they need to do.

All other volunteers will receive a leaflet explaining the principles of safeguarding as it applies to those undertaking roles in the Church. This is also available to all parishioners free of charge; there is a notice on the board explaining how it can be accessed, or you can contact Janet Goodland for details at safeguarding.olney@northamptondioces.org.



St Maximilian Kolbe – On Wednesday the Church celebrates the feast of St Maximilian Kolbe a Polish Catholic priest who was very active in promoting the veneration of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. During the Second World War he was imprisoned in Auschwitz where he famously offered himself, as an old man with no dependants, in place of Francis Gajowniczek, an Army Sergeant, who had a wife and children and had been sentenced to death. Truly a Saint of our time.

Thought for the Week: If anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his Mother, he will not have Christ for his Brother."

St Maximilian Kolbe



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

From a Homily of Pope Benedict XVI for the Assumption – 2005

The feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love. Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven: There is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us.

We have a Mother in heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. He himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: “Behold, your Mother!” We have a Mother in heaven. Heaven is open, heaven has a heart. In the Gospel we hear the Magnificat, that great poem inspired by the Holy Spirit that came from Mary’s lips, indeed, from Mary’s heart. This marvellous canticle mirrors the entire soul, the

entire personality of Mary. We can say that this hymn of hers is a portrait of Mary, a true icon in which we can see her exactly as she is. It begins with the word “Magnificat”: my soul “magnifies” the Lord, that is, “proclaims the greatness” of the Lord. Mary wanted God to be great in the world, great in her life and present among us all. She was not afraid that God might be a “rival” in our life, that with his greatness he might encroach on our freedom, our vital space. She knew that if God is great, we too are great.

Our life is not oppressed but raised and expanded: It is precisely then that it becomes great in the splendour of God. The fact that our first parents thought the contrary was the core of original sin. They feared that if God were too great, he would take something away from their life. They thought that they could set God aside to make room for themselves.

This was also the great temptation of the modern age, of the past three or four centuries. More and more people have thought and said: “But this God does not give us our freedom; with all his commandments, he restricts the space in our lives. So, God must disappear; we want to be autonomous and independent. Without this God we ourselves would be gods and do as we please.” This was also the view of the Prodigal Son, who did not realize that he was “free” precisely because he was in his father’s house. He left for distant lands and squandered his estate. In the end, he realized that precisely because he had gone so far away from his father, instead of being free he had become a slave; he understood that only by returning home to his father’s house would he be truly free, in the full beauty of life. This is how it is in our modern epoch. Previously, it was thought and believed that by setting God aside and being autonomous, following only our own ideas and inclinations, we would truly be free to do whatever we liked without anyone being able to give us orders. But when God disappears, men and women do not become greater; indeed, they lose the divine dignity, their faces lose God’s splendour. In the end, they turn out to be merely products of a blind evolution and, as such, can be used and abused. This is precisely what the experience of our epoch has confirmed for us. Only if God is great is humankind also great. With Mary, we must begin to understand that this is so. We must not drift away from God but make God present; we must ensure that he is great in our lives. Thus, we too will become divine; all the splendour of the divine dignity will then be ours. Let us apply this to our own lives. It is important that God be great among us, in public and in private life. In public life, it is important that God be present, for example, through the cross on public buildings, and that he be present in our community life, for only if God is present do we have an orientation, a common direction; otherwise, disputes become impossible to settle, for our common dignity is no longer recognized. Let us make God great in public and in private life. This means making room for God in our lives every day, starting in the morning with prayers, and then dedicating time to God, giving Sundays to God. We do not waste our free time if we offer it to God. If God enters our time, all time becomes greater, roomier, richer.

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 Biju, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter