



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

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

frdavid.barrett@northamptondiocese.org

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

SVP Contact: 07469 717760

4 th August 2024 Psalter Week 2		Eighteenth Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15 <i>I will rain down bread for you from the heavens.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	The Lord gave them bread from heaven.		
Second Reading	St Paul to the Ephesians 4:17. 20-24 <i>Put on the new self that has been created in God's way.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!		
Gospel	John 6:24-35 <i>He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.</i>		
Saturday 3 rd August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Charles Keeney RIP)	
Sunday 4 th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Monday 5 th August Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	10.00am	Mass – (Margaret Gilleran Ints.)	
Tuesday 6 th August THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	10.00am	Mass – (Kathleen Walsh RIP)	
Wednesday 7 th August St Sixtus II, Pope & Companions – Martyrs	10.00am	Mass – (Fr Biju's Ints)	
Thursday 8 th August St Dominic - Priest	10.00am	Mass – (Holy Souls)	
Friday – 9 th August ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS – Virgin Martyr	10.00am	Mass – (Paula Medlicott RIP)	
Saturday – 10 th August ST LAWRENCE – Deacon & Martyr Secondary Patron of the Parish	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (The Patterson family Ints.) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession	
Nineteenth Sunday of the Year			
Saturday – 10 th August +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday – 11 th August +	10.30am	Mass – (Family & friends of the Ayles family)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £515.50

DCP – £20.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £999.50

Many thanks for your continued financial support.

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



Farewell Fr David – after spending the best part of five years as our Parish Priest we bid farewell to him as he moves to his full-time placement as the Director of Human Formation at Allen Hall Seminary in the Diocese of Westminster. As Bishop David reminded us at our recent Confirmation Mass, Fr David is blessed with some very special skills that are in great need at the Seminary. It is for this reason that God has called him to this ministry to help train the priests for the future of His Church. We will all greatly miss dear Fr David; he is a wonderful caring priest who has done so much to herald the Gospel here at Our Lady's. We unite in wishing him every blessing and an assurance of our continuing prayers now & always.

God bless you, Fr David

Thanksgiving Mass – A Thanksgiving Mass & presentation to Fr David will be held on **Sunday 6th October** at 10.30am. Cards for parishioners to sign will be at the back of the church from 5th August until 1st October. Envelopes will also be 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.



WELCOME TO FR BIJU!

We extend a very warm welcome to Fr Biju Chittuparamban as our new Parish Priest! Fr Biju has a wide experience of being a priest and has spent 6 years in Formation work for students for the priesthood at Oscott Seminary in Birmingham. We look forward to welcoming Fr Biju to the parish in the week of 5th August. Please do keep Fr Biju in your daily prayers as he embarks on the next stage of his priestly ministry.

MASS OFFERING – Last 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.



Fr John Fowler, RIP – On Monday 5th August, we remember in prayer our dear friend and priest on the second anniversary of when he returned to the Lord. We all of us have so many fond memories of dear Fr John – we pray that he is now basking in the joys of his heavenly home. Please keep Cicely, Andrew & all of Fr John’s family & friends in your prayers.

“Happy are those who die in the Lord! Happy indeed, the Spirit says; now they can rest for ever after their work, since their good deeds go with them.” Revelation 13-14



**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.

Why do I need this training? - The Catholic Church, and all those with a role within it, have a duty of care to ensure that children and adults are safe from harm. This duty of care spans from ensuring people are safe when within our premises and care to protecting those who may be at risk of harm or abuse within their home, community, or other settings.

In your role you share this duty of care and play an important part in the safeguarding process. For example:

- You may see or hear something which could suggest someone is vulnerable or at risk.
- You may be involved in running, or supporting volunteers who run, activities or groups which require adherence to policy and guidance to keep participants safe whilst taking part.
- You may be in contact with parishioners who may be vulnerable
- You may be approached by a member of the Church for support or advice regarding their situation or concerns

This training has been designed to provide you with the information to support you in your role as a valued member of the Catholic Church.

Final thought for the week: Jesus said, “Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head”

Matthew 8: 20



Transfiguration of the Lord

Tuesday 6th August

Amid the disciples' fears, Christ reveals Himself to them in a tiny glimpse of what the resurrection will be like. This brief vision of Christ, in His glory, was given to Peter, James and John, in order to strengthen the trails of their faith which the sufferings and crucifixion of their beloved master would bring on them. All of us, I am sure, long to have a glimpse of Christ in our everyday lives – maybe to reassure us of God's presence, maybe to remind us of what awaits us in heaven or perhaps to strengthen our weak faith.

What do we know of the glory of God when we have never seen him with our own eyes or heard His voice with our ears?

The reality is, of course, that there are real glimpses of God all around us each day of our lives – all that we need to do is look for them and recognise them for what they really are. We can see Christ in the hungry, the poor, the homeless, the disadvantaged – we can see Him in those whom we love, our families, our friends – we can see Him in the beauty of the world around us, in the sunset or sunrise, in the trees and rivers, the flowers and plants, in our homes and of course here in our church – in the sacraments, in our devotions, especially in the Mass – all of these are full of the richness and beauty of Christ.

There are two potentialities within each of us – the potential for good and the potential for evil. We are capable of hatred, bitterness, greed, envy and the like. These are ugly things and bring out the worst in us – they corrupt our hearts and minds and draw us away from God. Whereas our potential for good makes us capable of love, joy, patience, kindness, compassion – these are beautiful things and bring out the best in us. They purify our hearts and minds and draw us ever closer to God. Goodness transfigures us.

Mount Tabor and Calvary are linked in the Gospel and are linked also in life. We long for the experience of transfiguration, to stand alongside Peter, James, and John to see God revealed in Jesus Christ. We want to be like Moses and catch a glimpse of His glory. We want to be like Elijah, to hear God in the sound of stillness. But the magnificence of Christ transfigured on Mount Tabor is to be found veiled in the garden at Gethsemane and on Calvary. The glory of God, not now seen directly by our eyes, is just as real and present when Christ experiences His agony in the garden – for in this agony of Christ all mankind was involved. The passion of Jesus Christ is for all time and all people. Tabor and Calvary, in their different ways, reveal the true face of Christ who is the Son of God for, as we know, there was to be a further revelation when the crucified Christ became the risen Christ. The vision of God transfigured in His Son, Jesus Christ, gave His disciples the hope to carry them through the journey of Christ's passion – we too are given this same hope today to carry us through the events of Christ's passion - remembering that Christ died for all mankind.

In His love for us, God allows us to taste on earth the joys of the world to come. In between, however, we must travel in the darkness of faith.

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 Biju, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter