



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

Priest in Charge: Fr Biju Chittuparamban
frbiju.chittuparamban@northamptondiocese.org

Fr Patrick Hutton – Retired

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org

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

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

SVP Contact: 07469 717760

3 rd November 2024 Psalter Week 3		Thirty-First Sunday of the Year	
First Reading	Deuteronomy 6:2-6 <i>Listen Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	I love you, Lord, my strength.		
Second Reading	Hebrews 7:23-28 <i>Because he remains forever, Christ can never lose his priesthood.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!		
Gospel	Mark 12:28-34 <i>This is the first commandment. The second is like it.</i>		
Saturday 2 nd November +	6.00pm 6.30pm	Confession Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 3 rd November +	10.30am	Mass – (Denise Barnes Int.)	
Monday 4 th November St Charles Borromeo - Bishop	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Pat Reilly – Int.)	
Tuesday 5 th November Feria	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Margaret Cleaver Int.)	
Wednesday 6 th November Feria		No Parish Mass today	
Thursday 7 th November St Willibrord - Bishop	10.00am 10.30am 12 noon	Mass – (Canon Michael Griffiths RIP) Adoration	
Friday – 8 th November Blessed John Duns Scotus - Priest	9.15am 10.00am	Adoration Mass – (Ian Aldus RIP)	
Saturday – 9 th November The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9.00am 9.30am	Adoration Mass – (Gerry McGrady – Sick)	
Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year			
Saturday – 9 th November +	6.00pm 6.30pm	Confession Mass – (Liam Ryan RIP)	
Sunday – 10 th November + Remembrance Sunday	9.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)	

Second Collection next weekend: Bishops Ministry Fund

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

- Offertory: £461.65
- Digital Collection Plate: £15.00
- Standing Orders of £487.00
- TOTAL: £963.65

Many thanks for your continued financial support

Invitation from the Social Committee - please join us after 10:30 am Mass today (Sunday) for tea/ coffee and cake. Everyone is welcome particularly if you are new to the Parish.



In Memoriam Mass - Saturday 2nd November

Fr Biju & Deacon Peter would like to thank our parish SVP and everyone who helped in the preparation of this Mass held on Saturday and to all those who attended or who joined us via the 'Live Stream.' It was a wonderful occasion where we were able to celebrate and pray for the many souls of our families & friends who have returned home to the Lord. A truly wonderful parish celebration. May they rest in peace.



Remembrance Sunday 10th November

Please note that **next Sunday 10th November**, Mass will be changed to begin at **9.30am** for that day only. This will allow those who wish to join in with the town's Remembrance Sunday Commemoration.



CASPAR – In line with the decision made by the Diocese, we are beginning to use CASPAR, a new parish database system designed to improve communication and streamline parish management. We kindly ask you all to register as a parishioner either via the web page: www.caspar.church/me?ID=56071 or by scanning the QR code here (also available in the porch). You will need your own email address and will be prompted to create a password. The

sign-up process is simple, and we only collect your name and email address. Rest assured, all data is kept secure and is fully GDPR-compliant. You can delete your entry anytime you like. If you are not confident in using the internet or do not have an email address, please contact Denise who will help you to sign up. Thank you.

The First Thursday Discussion Club meets this coming **Thursday, 7th November, 7.30pm -8.30pm**. All are welcome. Liz Ryan will be talking about the work of the Samaritans and how it resembles but also differs from the role of the Good Samaritan. Parishioners and parish groups who share a love of this parable are most welcome to join the discussion &/or to lead the debate in another month. We also expect that some parishioners will want to discuss the Assisted Dying Bill that has just been introduced into the House of Commons. The convenor of our discussion club, Simon Lee, has written about this here: <https://williamtemplefoundation.org.uk/assisted-arguing/>



Blessing of Graves – during this month when we dedicate our prayers to the Holy Souls, Fr Biju is offering to bless the graves of your loved ones. If you would like the grave of a loved one blessed during this month of November then please speak directly to Fr Biju who will be happy to arrange this for you.



Church Cleaners – we are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church building in which we can worthily worship the Lord. We remain ever grateful to the willing team of volunteers who keep our church clean and tidy. Sadly, due to ill health and ageing the number of volunteers is now reduced to only three. We are seeking more volunteers to help keep our church looking resplendent – if you are able to give some of your time each month to help with this task, please add your name to the list at the back of the church or speak to Julia Scott or Fr Biju. Thank you.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Our annual parish Christmas Concert will be held on **Friday 20th December at 7.00pm** here in our church. An evening of carols, readings and prayer followed by seasonal refreshments in the parish hall. This year the proceeds from the concert will go to 'Olney is Kind.'

Mass Intentions – as Catholics it is an ancient and noble practice to pray for the living and the dead at Mass. The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption made present to us. Therefore, so many of us seek to book a Mass intention for our loved ones. We have a number of available weekday dates during the coming weeks – if you would like to book a Mass please complete one of the Mass Offering envelopes available in the porch.



Newsletter – Deadline - Items for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter should be submitted to Denise no later than **5.00pm on Thursday afternoon**. Whilst we will do our best to include your item this cannot always be guaranteed.

Thought for the Month of Holy Souls: "We must say many prayers for the souls of the faithful departed, for one must be so pure to enter heaven"

St John Mary Vianney

Scripture Reflections on 31st Sunday (Year B)



From Fr. Biju's desk... The central message of today's readings is the most fundamental principle of all religions, especially Christianity. **It is to love God in Himself and living in others.** Scripture readings for today remind us that we are created to love God by loving others and to love others as an expression of our love for God. Our religious practices, like prayers, Bible reading, Sacraments, acts of penance, and self-control, are meant to help us to acknowledge and appreciate the presence of God in our neighbours and to express our love for God by serving our neighbours with love, sharing our blessings with them.

Deuteronomy 6:2-6 - the first reading presents Moses explaining the Law to the Israelites after his return from Mount Sinai. He tries to make people revere and obey the Law given by God as something that will bring them dignity, purpose, stature, distinction, and a unique place in history. He reminds them that keeping God's commandments will give them God's blessings of long life, prosperity, and fruitful, peaceful lives.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 18) invites us to love God because He alone is our strength and our stronghold.

Hebrews 7:23-28 - the second reading, St Paul tells us that Jesus is the high priest. Because He is perfect, remains forever and Christ can never lose His Priesthood.

Mark 12:28-34 – in today's Gospel, a Scribe asks Jesus to summarize the most important of the Mosaic Laws in one sentence. Jesus says true religion is loving God and loving our fellow human beings at the same time. It is by showing genuine, active love for our neighbours that we can demonstrate that we really love God.

How do we love God? We must keep God's commandments, and offer daily prayers of thanksgiving, praise, contrition for our failings, and petition. We also need to read and meditate on His word in the Holy Bible and participate actively in the Holy Mass and other liturgical functions.

How do we love our neighbour? We love our neighbour by helping, supporting, encouraging, forgiving, and praying for everyone, without discrimination based on colour, race, gender, age, wealth, or social status.

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

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