



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Telephone: 01234 711212

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett – olneyparishpriest@icloud.com

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

pfgriffin@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger – 01234 711212

ourladysolney@btconnect.com

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

St Joseph's Convent – Sr Delia DHS - 01234 711267

SVP Contact: 07925 125206

9th August 2020 – Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

Psalter Week

First Reading:	Kings 19:9.11-13
Psalm:	Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.
Second Reading:	St Paul to the Romans 9:1-5
Gospel Alleluia:	<i>Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!</i>
Gospel:	Matthew 14: 22-33

Saturday 8th August	6.30pm	Vigil Mass (<i>C & K Keeney RIP</i>)
Sunday 9th August	10.30am	Mass (<i>The People of the Parish</i>)
Monday 10th August	10.00am	Mass (<i>Mgr & Fr Ryan RIP</i>) ST LAWRENCE, DEACON & MARTYR – CO-PATRON OF THIS PARISH - SOLEMNITY
Tuesday 11th August	12.20pm	Mass (<i>Daughters of the Holy Spirit Int</i>) <i>St Clare, virgin – memoria</i>
Wednesday 12th August	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Sr Anne Ryan DHS <i>Due to current restrictions, regrettably this Mass will not be open to the public</i>
Thursday 13th August	10.00am	Mass (<i>Sr Anne Ryan DHS RIP</i>) <i>Ss Pontianus, Pope & Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs</i>
Friday 14th August	10.00am	Mass (<i>Fr John Glen RIP</i>) <i>St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr</i>
Saturday 15th August	10.00am	Mass (<i>Phil Burrows Birthday Int</i>) <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY		
Saturday 15th August	6.30pm	Vigil Mass (<i>A & E Donald RIP</i>)
Sunday 16th August	10.30am	Mass (<i>People of the Parish</i>)

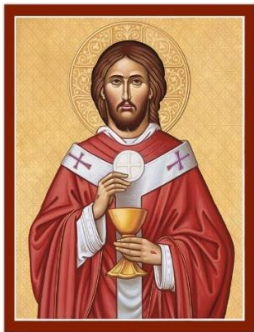


PUBLIC MASSES AND LITURGIES – As you know, we are now able to open our church for the celebration of Holy Mass. The obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday continues to be dispensed, by the Bishops of England and Wales, at this time, therefore we will continue to ‘Live Stream’ all Masses except on Wednesdays. Those of you that do attend the church for Mass are asked to carefully follow the guidance of the Stewards. Please contact Fr David or Deacon Peter if you have any concerns

Please book in for Masses, especially at weekends, so that we can be sure that we can accommodate you in a socially distant way. If you are booked in already at weekends, please let Denise know if you cannot attend. Thank you.

Government Guidelines now require the wearing of a Face Mask in all places of worship.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

St Alphonsus Liguori

St Lawrence (AD 225 – AD 258)

On Monday we will be celebrating the feast of St Lawrence who is the secondary patron of our Parish. St Lawrence was one of the seven Deacons of Rome under Pope Sixtus II and the only one not to die on the same day as Pope Sixtus II. The Deacons of Rome were responsible for looking after the Church’s goods and for giving alms to the poor. St Lawrence sold the sacred vessels in his keeping and gave all of the money to the widows, the poor and the sick of the city. When asked to produce the Church’s treasures he summoned all of these and showed them to the Prefect declaring that they were the only true treasure of the Church.





Sr Anne Ryan DHS RIP

The requiem Mass for Sr Anne will be held at Our Lady's on Wednesday 12th August at 11 am. Regrettably, due to the current restrictions, this Mass will not be open to the public. Please do pray for the repose of the soul of dear Sr Anne, for her family, for the Sisters at St. Joseph's and for the wider community of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit.

Requiescat in pace

Next Sunday, 16th August, we will be celebrating the Feast of the Assumption of the BVM and Fr David will be celebrating Mass in the garden at Our Lady's – the weather forecast looks good! Please do make sure that you are booked in with Denise beforehand. We are asking those of you that will be attending the Mass to enter the garden via the gate to the left of the Presbytery. Chairs will be available for you or you may wish to bring your own chair from home. Please wear face masks. Stewards will be on hand to guide you as to where to sit and you are requested to remain in your place at the distribution of Holy Communion. After Mass, the Stewards will direct you to one of the two side gates in order that you can leave in a safe manner and conforming to the guidelines. We are hoping to make greater use of the wonderful garden that we have at our disposal.



Abortion pills are killing women - DIY abortions must stop now!

A leaked NHS email, disclosed during a case at the Court of Appeal challenging the Government's DIY abortion scheme, revealed that 13 tragic incidents, which took place between 31 March and 21 May 2020, are being investigated, including:

- The murder of a baby aborted alive
- Two women who died after taking the abortion pills
- Pills delivered to a woman 22 weeks over the limit for home abortion

Please ask your MP to contact the Department of Health to demand an immediate inspection of all abortion providers sending pills through the post.

St Maximilian Kolbe 1894 – 1941



On Friday 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 – *St Maximilian, pray for us.*

If you are aware of anyone who is in need of support or company or with any kind of need, please do get in touch with the SVP, Fr David or Deacon Peter.

The SVP is an organisation where members are guided and inspired to see their work of helping people as part of their spiritual life. If you would like to join the SVP and be part of an organisation that helps those in need in our parish, do contact the SVP on the number at the top of the newsletter.



 From Fr David's desk...

Reflection on the Solemnity of St Lawrence, Co-Patron of our Parish

This Monday, 10th August, we celebrate the Solemnity of our co-Patron for our parish – St Lawrence. He has always been a very popular saint in the history of the Church. During the Reformation period, when our parish had its origins in the household of the Throckmorton family at Weston Underwood, he was very popular with the remaining faithful Catholics who had to practise their Faith in secret. Just as St Lawrence died for the Faith – a true martyr because he died in love – so also many of our fellow country men and women would die for their Catholic Faith. The following is taken from a sermon preached by the great St Augustine of Hippo (d. 430) which he delivered on this feast day of St Lawrence.

The Roman Church commends this day to us as the blessed Laurence's day of triumph, on which he trod down the world as it roared and raged against him; spurned it as it coaxed and wheedled him; and in each case, conquered the devil as he persecuted him. For in that Church, you see, as you have regularly been told, he performed the office of deacon; it was there that he administered the sacred chalice of Christ's blood; there that he shed his own blood for the name of Christ. The blessed apostle John clearly explained the mystery of the Lord's supper when he said *Just as Christ laid down his life for us, so we too ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.* St Lawrence understood this, my brethren, and he did it; and he undoubtedly prepared things similar to what he received at that table. He loved Christ in his life, he imitated him in his death.

And we too, brethren, if we truly love him, let us imitate him. After all, we shall not be able to give a better proof of love than by imitating his example; *for Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example, so that we might follow in his footsteps.* In this sentence the apostle Peter appears to have seen that Christ suffered only for those who follow in his footsteps, and that Christ's passion profits none but those who follow in his footsteps. The holy martyrs followed him, to the shedding of their blood, to the similarity of their sufferings. The martyrs followed, but they were not the only ones. It is not the case, I mean to say, that after they crossed, the bridge was cut; or that after they had drunk, the fountain dried up.

The garden of the Lord, brethren, includes – yes, it truly includes – includes not only the roses of martyrs but also the lilies of virgins, and the ivy of married people, and the violets of widows. There is absolutely no kind of human beings, my dearly beloved, who need to despair of their vocation; Christ suffered for all. It was very truly written about him: *who wishes all men to be saved, and to come to the acknowledgement of the truth.*

So, let us understand how Christians ought to follow Christ, short of the shedding of blood, short of the danger of suffering death. The Apostle says, speaking of the Lord Christ, *Who, though he was in the form of God, did not think it robbery to be equal to God. What incomparable greatness! But he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and being made in the likeness of men, and found in condition as a man.* What unequalled humility!

Christ humbled himself: you have something, Christian, to latch on to. *Christ became obedient.* Why do you behave proudly? After running the course of these humiliations and laying death low, Christ ascended into heaven: let us follow him there. Let us listen to the Apostle telling us, *"If you have risen with Christ, savour the things that are above us, seated at God's right hand"*.

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

With my love and prayers,
Fr David B Barrett, Parish Priest