



Parish of Our Lay Help of Christians &
St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

olneyparishpriest@icloud.com

Fr Brian Leatherland (Rtd) – Fr John Fowler (Rtd)

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

pfgriffin@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

Telephone: 01234 711212 ourladysolney@btconnect.com

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

Turvey Abbey – 01234 881432

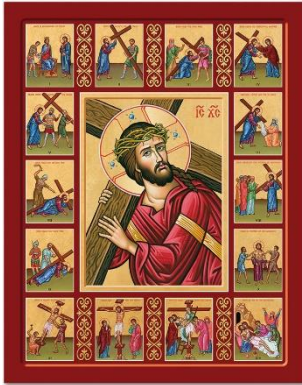
SVP Contact: 07925 125206

27th March 2022 Psalter Week 4	Fourth Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday	
First Reading	Joshua 5:9-12 <i>The People of God keep the Passover on their entry into the promised land.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	Taste and see that the Lord is good.	
Second Reading	2 St Paul to the Corinthians – 5:17-21 <i>God reconciled us to himself through Christ.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.' Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!	
Gospel	Luke 15:1-3. 11-32 <i>Your brother here was dead and has come to life.</i>	
Saturday 26th March +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Josephine East RIP)
Sunday 27th March +	10.30am	Mass – (For the Parish)
Monday 28th March <i>Feria</i>	10.00am	Mass – (Peter Bond RIP)
Tuesday 29th March <i>Feria</i>	10.00am	Mass - (Ellen Preece RIP)
Wednesday 30th March <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 31st March <i>Feria</i>	11.00am	Requiem Mass – Bernie Wogan RIP
Friday 1st April <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am 2.30pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Adrian John Int.) Stations of the Cross
Saturday 2nd April St Francis de Paola – Commemoration	10.00am 10.30am	Mass (Michael Grabowiecki Int.) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT		
Saturday 2nd April +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Una Kearns RIP)
Sunday 3rd April +	10.30am	Mass – (For the Parish)

The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a
complete gift of self to God – Pope Benedict XVI

Requiescat in Pace

The Requiem Mass for Bernie Wogan will be held here at Our Lady's on **Thursday 31st March at 11.00am**. We continue to pray for the repose of his soul, for his dear wife Liz, for his family & friends and all of those who are grieving. May he rest in peace.



Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent we will be praying the 'Stations of the Cross' each Friday afternoon at 2.30pm finishing with Exposition at 3pm for 15 minutes of quiet prayer and reflection.



CAFOD FAST DAY

THANK YOU for your very generous donations of **£901**. Your continued support means that CAFOD, through Caritas aid workers, can respond quickly to help families fleeing conflict in Ukraine. It also means CAFOD can respond to crises around the world, including South Sudan and Afghanistan, and support communities once conflict is over. Thank you very much – **The Parish CAFOD Team**

Ukraine Refugees - Update

The Trustees of Emmaus Village, Carlton have registered as an interested provider of accommodation for Ukrainian refugees. They have accommodation available and very much want to welcome refugees to our community. The Trustees are working with Caritas here in our Diocese, as well as the Local Authority, Carlton Parish Council, the local Church of England parishes as well as our own parish. If you would like to offer any help the Group are looking for the following:

- People who can speak languages (Ukrainian – Russian – German)
- Volunteer Drivers
- Volunteers to provide cooked meals

If you are considering offering accommodation you will need to first register your interest as a sponsor on the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine>

If you wish to help in any way or would like further information, please contact either Fr David or Deacon Peter

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES – new envelopes are available at the back of the church. If you are new to the parish or would like to start using envelopes, please contact Denise who will make the arrangements.

News from NYMO Northampton Youth Ministry Office

On **Saturday 9th April** - NYMO host a young adult brunch at the NYMO offices in Luton – no cost! If you are aged 18- 30yrs you are invited to join the team for a brunch and some incredible teaching. The brunch will start with food at 11.30am with prayer at 12.15pm and then teaching and discussion from 12.30 until 1.30pm, as we focus on the upcoming celebrations of Holy Week. You are welcome to just turn up but it will help with catering if you can let them know that you will be joining in – please contact them at info@nymo.org

Fr Liam Castle

On Friday morning, the solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Bishop David ordained Deacon Liam Castle, formerly from the parish of Ss Philip & James, Bedford, to the sacred priesthood. Please do keep Fr Liam in your prayers as he embarks on his priestly ministry



Last Friday at 4pm (UK time) Pope Francis consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the protection of the Sacred Heart of Mary. The Pope invited all Bishops, priests, religious, and Catholic faithful to
“assemble in their places of prayer on 25 March, so that God’s Holy People may raise a heartfelt and choral plea to Mary our Mother.”

Bishop David held the consecration service at 12.30pm at the Cathedral following the ordination of Fr Liam Castle.
He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity...

Evoking the message of Fatima with these words, the mention of ‘refuge’, resonates with the ancient Marion prayer and our diocesan motto “Suub Tuum Praesidium” “Under Your Protection”. The message of Fatima proclaims “God has decided to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart...” and “my Immaculate Heart will be your refuge”.

The prayer, known in Latin as Sub tuum Praesidium and first found in a Greek papyrus, c. 300 A.D., is the oldest known prayer to the Virgin.

*We fly to Thy protection, O Holy Mother of God.
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

We pray this prayer especially for an end to war and destruction and ask our Creator’s loving protection over our fractious world.

Readings for Fourth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

In the first readings for the Sundays of Lent, we are working through the history of Israel as we move towards the promise of the New Covenant which is the central point of Easter. In this year's readings, the whole period between the Exodus from Egypt and the promise of the New Covenant at the time of the Babylonian exile (a period of some six hundred years) is represented by this one reading, the moment of arrival in the Promised Land of Canaan. This is the time when the provisional arrangements of the desert wanderings come to an end. The stories of the desert wanderings are folk-history and what happened there has a special meaning for the people; they are not modern research-history. So, manna (probably an edible honeylike excretion of a desert plant) is used in our passage as a symbol - the symbol of God's wonderful protection and feeding of Israel even in harsh and almost uninhabitable conditions (as here in the Sinai desert). The reading describes a double celebration, bringing together two festivals: the Passover in origin is a feast of wandering nomads, as they move at the first full moon of spring from their sheltered winter pastures to cooler summer pastures; the festival of Unleavened Bread, on the other hand, marks the beginning of the wheat harvest, a feast of a settled agricultural people. For Paul the celebration represents the newness of Easter, the freshness of the New Covenant.

Second Reading: Corinthians 5:17-21

As we approach the commemoration of Christ's passion and resurrection our readings focus more on these events. The New Testament uses a variety of images to describe what is happening: Christ was glorified (using the idea of the awesome divine glory spoken about in the Old Testament), he was raised to the right hand of God (using imagery from Psalm 110), he was exalted to heaven. In Christ we have been redeemed like freed slaves, ransomed like hostages, reconciled like estranged friends. In Christ God has reached out to us to bring us back into true and full relationship with him. It is always God who does the reconciling.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Who is the hero of the story? What should its title be? Some call it the parable of the Powerless Father, for the father is powerless to do anything but welcome his son. Clearly the principal message of the parable is that we can count on God's forgiveness, whatever we do. The contrast is also between the two sons. The younger insults his father: all he thinks about is his inheritance, as though he wished his father already dead. All the same, the father is eagerly on the watch, and forgets all his dignity to run and welcome his returning son. And to persuade the elder son to join in the party, the father even leaves his dinner-guests at table, going out into the field to urge the jealous elder brother to join in. Forgiveness and love is his whole motivation. The elder son responds to his father with insults ('That son of yours' he says), inventing guesses about sexual loose-living. It is a splendid example of Luke's delicate, witty and subtle characterisation.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Zarvaniza, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, St Francis de Paola, pray for us all.

With our love and prayers,

Fr David and Deacon Peter