

**Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence**

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

**Diocese of Northampton**

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Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

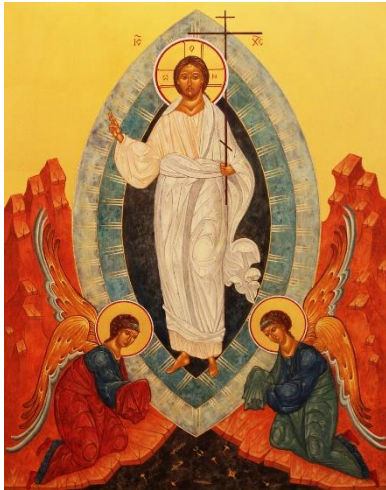
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<b>17<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b> <b>Psalter Week 1</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>He is Risen! – Alleluia, Alleluia!</b>		
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43</b> <i>We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection</i>		
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.</b>		
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>St Paul to the Colossians 3:1-4</b> <i>You must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.</i>		
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!</b>		
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>John 20: 1-9</b> <i>He must rise from the dead.</i>		
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April +</b>	<b>8.30pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection</b> <i>(Noreen Ryan RIP; Michael Tarrant RIP)</i>	
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (John Burke RIP; For the Parish)</b>	
	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Divine Mercy Novena</b>	
<b>Easter Octave</b>			
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Michael Tarrant RIP)</b> <b>(followed by Divine Mercy)</b>	
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>h</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass - (Lynda Ferguson RIP)</b> <b>(followed by Divine Mercy)</b>	
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>	
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (Bernie &amp; Agnes Wogan RIP)</b> <b>(followed by Divine Mercy)</b>	
<b>Friday – 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>	<b>10.45am</b> <b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Funeral Service: Stephen O'Malley RIP</b> <b>Mass – (Alan Booth RIP)</b> <b>(followed by Divine Mercy)</b>	
<b>Saturday – 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b> <i>of Easter Octave</i>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass (Bernie Wogan RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>with Divine Mercy Novena</b>	
<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Low Sunday)</b> <b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b>			
<b>Saturday – 23<sup>rd</sup> April +</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>	
<b>Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> April+</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Kam Bousaki RIP)</b>	
	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer &amp; Divine Mercy Novena</b>	



Fr David, Fr Brian, Fr John, Fr Malcom,  
Deacon Peter, Denise & the Sisters wish you, your  
families and friends a very Blessed and Happy  
Easter.

God bless you all!



### Easter Offering

As is customary, the Easter Offering is your personal gift to our Parish Priest, Fr David. If you wish to contribute, please either put this in the planned giving envelope or a plain envelope and mark it 'Easter Offering' – if using online banking please insert 'Easter Fr David' in the description or you can use the Digital Collection Plate in the narthex. Thank you

*Note from Deacon Peter...* Last Thursday at the Chrism Mass, Bishop David, together with other priests from the Diocese, renewed their priestly promises. I find this to be a very special moment in the Mass when we are reminded of the special part that our priests play in our daily lives. Here in our Parish, Fr David continues to be a very faithful and true shepherd of Christ and we are very blessed to have such a fine Parish Priest here in Olney – thank you so much Fr David for all that you do for us. We pray that you will be greatly blessed this Easter and always. As we bask in the joys of Easter, we hope and pray that you will find peace and time to rest (*and of course lots of chocolate!*). God bless you Fr David.



A sincere thank you from Fr David to everyone who worked so hard in so many different ways to prepare our church for the worthy celebration of Holy Week and the sacred Triduum. God bless you all!



### Mass for the Sick & Housebound

On **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm** at the Cathedral, Bishop David will celebrate a special Mass for the Sick & housebound. All are welcome to attend or to join in via the Cathedral livestream vis the diocesan website:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/>

There will be a downloadable Mass sheet nearer the time so that everyone can join in.

## Reflection on today's Gospel reading – John 20:1-9

“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him.”



Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The

details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling - she assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen but she does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (*it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body*).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them.

Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Zarvaniza, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, pray for us all as we bask in the joys of Easter.

With our love and prayers, Fr David and Deacon Peter