



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

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Turvey Abbey – 01234 881432

SVP Contact: 07925 125206

15 th May 2022 Psalter Week 1	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27 <i>They gave an account of the church of all that God had done with them.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	I will bless your name forever, O God my King.	
Second Reading	Apocalypse 21:1-5 <i>God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.' Alleluia!	
Gospel	John 13:31-35 <i>I give you a new commandment: love one another.</i>	
Saturday 14th May +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday 15th May +	10.30am	Mass – (Eddie Bagg RIP)
Monday 16th May <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Sr Teresa & Sr Maria PHJC Int)
Tuesday 17th May <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today
Wednesday 18th May Pope St John I – Martyr – op. memoria		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 19th May St Dunstan, Bishop – op. memoria Bl Peter Wright, Martyr – op. memoria	11.00am	Requiem Mass – Sr Teresa Buckley DHS
Friday – 20th May St Bernadine of Siena, Priest - op. memoria	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Adrian Field Int.)
Saturday – 21st May St Christopher Magallanes & comp. Martyrs	10.00am 10.30am	Mass (Jack Robbins RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER		
Saturday – 21st May+	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)
Sunday – 22nd May+	10.30am	Mass – (Harris Family Int.)

Month of May – Our Lady's Month

Throughout the month of May, which we dedicate to Our Lady, after every Mass, we will either pray the Rosary or say the Litany of Loreto. I would suggest we pray for peace in the world – for the conversion of nations away from war to reconciliation and peace.



Requiescant In Pace

The requiem Mass for Sr Teresa Buckley, DHS will be held at Our Lady's on **Thursday 19th May at 11.00am**. We pray for the repose her soul and pray also for her family, friends and the Daughters of the Holy Spirit, especially here at St Joseph's and Burlington Hall, Woburn Sands



**Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults**

Would you like to be part of an RCIA Team here in our parish?

From September, it would be very useful to have some volunteers to help with a team to prepare people for becoming Catholics. If you would like to be part of this, then please do speak to Fr David, Deacon Peter or Denise. There will be training available from our Diocese

on the following dates and it will all be done through Zoom:

Session 1- Monday 13th June 2022 (7.15pm-8.30pm): What is the RCIA? Looking at its background, theology, history and shape.

Session 2: Monday 20th June 2022 (7.15pm-8.30pm): Exploring the Periods of Evangelisation & Catechumenate. Reflecting on guidance from the Directory for Catechesis to inform our approach to welcoming enquirers.

Session 3- Monday 27th June 2022 (7.15pm-8.30pm): Exploring the Period of Enlightenment, the celebration of the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil and issues around Reception into Full Communion.

Session 4: Monday 4th July 2022 (7.15pm-8.30pm): Exploring the Period of Mystagogia. Building RCIA Teams & developing roles. Opportunity for questions and sharing of good practice.

The course is free but there will be opportunity to make a donation. To book your place and receive information for joining the Zoom sessions please visit:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/rciateamtraining/>

PARISH LENTEN APPEAL - A final reminder please to all who took seeds & a water bottle as part of the parish CAFOD Lenten Appeal – can you please return your water bottles to the presbytery no later than **next weekend**. Thank you for your continued generosity.

NORTHAMPTON STREET PASTORS - an Open Evening is being held on **Wednesday 25th May 7.30pm** at Broadmead Community Church, NN3 2QY for anyone who would be interested in become a Northampton Street Pastor. Further information available on: northampton@streetpastors.org.uk or see notice in the church porch.



Spring Plenary 2022 Resolution

An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

*Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops’ Conference
Friday 6 May 2022*

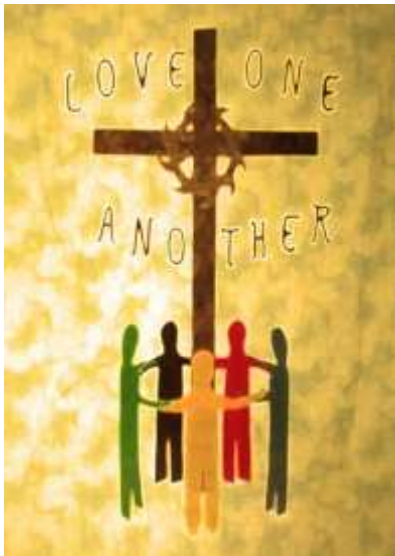


When requesting a Mass Intention could you please ensure the donors name and contact details are shown either on the brown envelope or on the front of a white envelope if you are using your own stationery. Occasionally Masses have to be rescheduled and when this happens, we would like to be able to notify you of this. If you are looking for a specific date/time please

book well in advance if possible – at present there are few options left in June/July. Thank you.

Fifth Sunday of Easter – Gospel Reflection

John 13:31-35



From now until Pentecost the readings from St John's Gospel are taken from the great final teaching of Jesus at the Last Supper about the future of his Church and his disciples. From the sayings of Jesus, the evangelist has composed a great discourse of Jesus about the obligations, duties and dangers which will come upon his disciples after his own death and resurrection. There were probably slightly different versions of this discourse, which were handed down by word of mouth; the impression of repetition in the discourse probably results from the evangelist recording three versions one after another.

As we approach the Birth of the Church at Pentecost, we need to listen to how Jesus envisaged his community.

Today's reading gives us the essentials. At the head of the Christian community stands the glorified Son of Man, in whom God is glorified. But this Son is no distant figurehead, for he will come to be present among his disciples.

How will this happen?

Answer: in the love which his disciples show for one another.

One is reminded of the legend about the aged St John, wheeled into the church at Ephesus. When asked for the message of Jesus, all he would say was:

'My little children, love one another'

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Fatima, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Edmund, Pope St John I, St Dunstan, Blessed Peter Wright, St Bernadine of Sienna, St Christopher Magallanes & Companions, pray for us all as we continue to bask in the joys of Easter.

With our love and prayers, Fr David and Deacon Peter