



**Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence**  
 39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH  
**Diocese of Northampton**  
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 Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired  
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<b>6<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b> <b>Psalter Week 4</b>	<i>Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year</i> <b>Year of Luke (C) – Ferial Lectionary: Year II</b>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Maccabees 7:1-2. 9-14</b> <i>The King of the world will raise us up to live again for ever.</i>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>I shall be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory, O Lord.</b>	
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>2 Paul to Thessalonians 2:16-3:5</b> <i>May the Lord strengthen you in everything good that you do or say.</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Alleluia!</b>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 20:27-38</b> <i>He is God, not of the dead, but of the living.</i>	
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (Vera Devereux Int.)</b>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November +</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>St Willibrord – Bishop – op mem</b>		<b>No Parish Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>Bl John Duns Scotus – Religious op mem</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Forgotten Souls in Purgatory)</b>
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</b> <i>- Feast</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Mass – (Michael &amp; Jean Griffin RIP)</b>
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>St Leo the Great – Pope &amp; Doctor - mem</b>	<b>6.15pm</b> <b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (Fr Brian Leatherland RIP)</b>
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>St Martin of Tours Bishop - mem</b>	<b>9.15am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Mass – (Peter &amp; Suzanne Griffiths Int)</b>
<b>Saturday – 12<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>St Josaphat of Polotsk Bishop &amp; Martyr - mem</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am-</b> <b>11.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (Anthony Bagg RIP)</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Confession</b>
<b>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>		
<b>Saturday – 12<sup>th</sup> November +</b>	<b>5.45pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Confession</b> <b>Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)</b>
<b>Sunday – 13<sup>th</sup> November +</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass – (John Abbott RIP)</b>

**Second Collection this weekend – Bishop's Maintenance Fund**  
**Second Collection next Weekend – Sick & Retired Clergy**



## Remembrance Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Please note that on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November**, Mass will be changed to begin at **9.30am for next Sunday only**. This will allow those who wish to join in with the town's Remembrance Sunday Commemoration.



### Requiescat in Pace

Last Sunday afternoon Fr David's father was called home to the Lord. We offer our sincere condolences and prayers to Fr David and his family in the midst of their grief. We pray that the angels will lead him to his heavenly reward – *“well done, good and faithful servant”*

**Fr Patrick Hutton** – We are delighted to welcome Fr Patrick, a retired priest of the diocese, who has very kindly offered to help Fr David with the celebration of Mass on Tuesdays when Fr David is unavailable.



### Reverse Advent Campaign

The MK Foodbank are once again organising the Reverse Advent Campaign. With the ongoing cost of living crisis this coming Christmas is going to be so much more difficult for struggling families. For many years our parish have been very generous supporters of the MK Foodbank and we are very keen to again offer our support for this year's Reverse Advent Campaign. The organisers are requesting us to consider the following items:

- **Tinned Meat – Fish – Pulses – Fruit – Tomatoes – Pasta – Vegetables – Rice Pudding – Custard.**
- **Long Life Milk – Fruit Juice or Squash**
- **Jams – Peanut Butter**
- **Dried Rice – Cereal – Biscuits – Loo Roll**
- **Small Chocolates – Sweets – Christmassy Snacks – Mini Christmas Cakes – Nuts & Crisps**

If you can help in any way, please bring your donations to the church in the usual way. The closing date for donations is **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December** to enable delivery to the Foodbank in time for them to distribute. Further information is available on the MK Foodbank website: <http://mkfoodbank.org.uk/>

**Parish Accounts** – A copy of the latest Parish Accounts are available to view on the noticeboard in the narthex. Many thanks to our Parish Administrator for all the work she does, to our Finance Committee for their oversight and to the Chair of the Committee for putting together the display of accounts on the notice board.



## Parish Forum

We have not been able to hold a Parish Forum meeting since before the beginning of the pandemic back in March 2020.

Fr David is very keen to hold a Parish Forum meeting next month on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm.**

The Parish Forum provides a useful platform for parish groups and parishioners to share ideas and communicate views for the benefit of the whole

parish. Everyone is encouraged to attend this informal gathering to have their say and to look on the Forum as a way of becoming better informed about what is going on in the Parish, the Deanery and the Diocese and to plan for the future.



**BLESSED JOHN DUNS SCOTUS** - has been one of the most influential Franciscans through the centuries. Born at Duns in the county of Berwick, Scotland, John was descended from a wealthy farming family. In later years, he was identified as John Duns Scotus to indicate the land of his birth; *Scotia* is the Latin name for Scotland.

John received the habit of the Friars Minor at Dumfries, where his uncle Elias Duns was superior. After novitiate, John studied at Oxford and Paris and was ordained in 1291. More studies in Paris followed until 1297, when he returned to lecture at Oxford and

Cambridge. Four years later, he returned to Paris to teach and complete the requirements for the doctorate.

After a short stay in Oxford, Scotus returned to Paris, where he received the doctorate in 1305. He continued teaching there and in 1307 so ably defended the Immaculate Conception of Mary that the university officially adopted his position. That same year the minister general assigned him to the Franciscan school in Cologne where John died in 1308. He is buried in the Franciscan church near the famous Cologne cathedral. Drawing on the work of John Duns Scotus, Pope Pius IX solemnly defined the Immaculate Conception of Mary in 1854. John Duns Scotus, the “Subtle Doctor,” was beatified in 1993



**DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA** -This feast commemorates the dedication of the basilica built by the Emperor Constantine in the Lateran Hill, which by tradition dating from the twelfth century, is said to have taken place on this day. At first the feast was kept only in the City of Rome but then, in honour of the basilica which is called the Mother and Head of all

Churches of the City and the World, it was extended to the whole of the Roman Rite as a sign of unity and respect towards the Holy See, which, as St Ignatius of Antioch wrote, presides over the whole assembly of charity.

From Fr David's desk....

***In Spe Salvi (47-48), Pope Benedict XVI meditates on Purgatory and the importance of praying for the dead:***

Some recent theologians are of the opinion that the fire [of Purgatory] which both burns and saves is Christ himself, the Judge and Saviour. The encounter with him is the decisive act of judgement. Before his gaze all falsehood melts away. This encounter with him, as it burns us, transforms and frees us, **allowing us to become truly ourselves**. All that we build during our lives can prove to be mere straw, pure bluster, and it collapses. Yet in the pain of this encounter, when the impurity and sickness of our lives become evident to us, there lies salvation. His gaze, the touch of his heart heals us through an undeniably painful transformation “as through fire”. But it is **a blessed pain**, in which the holy power of his love sears through us like a flame, enabling us to become totally ourselves and thus totally of God.

A further point must be mentioned here, because it is important for the practice of Christian hope. Early Jewish thought includes the idea that one can help the deceased in their intermediate state **through prayer** (see for example 2 Macc 12:38-45; first century BC). The equivalent practice was readily adopted by Christians and is common to the Eastern and Western Church. The souls of the departed can, however, receive “solace and refreshment” through the Eucharist, prayer and almsgiving. The belief that love can reach into the afterlife, that reciprocal giving and receiving is possible, in which **our affection for one another continues beyond the limits of death**—this has been a fundamental conviction of Christianity throughout the ages and it remains a source of comfort today. Who would not feel the need to convey to their departed loved ones a sign of kindness, a gesture of gratitude or even a request for pardon? Now a further question arises: if “Purgatory” is simply purification through fire in the encounter with the Lord, Judge and Saviour, how can a third person intervene, even if he or she is particularly close to the other? When we ask such a question, we should recall that **no man is an island**, entire of itself. Our lives are involved with one another, through innumerable interactions they are linked together. **No one lives alone. No one sins alone. No one is saved alone.** The lives of others continually spill over into mine: in what I think, say, do and achieve. And conversely, my life spills over into that of others: for better and for worse. So, my prayer for another is not something extraneous to that person, something external, not even after death. In the interconnectedness of Being, my gratitude to the other—my prayer for him—can play a small part in his purification. And for that there is no need to convert earthly time into God's time: in the communion of souls **simple terrestrial time is superseded**. It is never too late to touch the heart of another, nor is it ever in vain. In this way we further clarify an important element of the Christian concept of hope. **Our hope is always essentially also hope for others**; only thus is it truly hope for me too. As Christians, we should never limit ourselves to asking: how can I save myself? We should also ask: what can I do in order that others may be saved and that for them to the star of hope may rise? Then I will have done my utmost for my own personal salvation as well.

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of the Rosary, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St Willibrord, Bl John Duns Scotus, St Leo the Great, St Martin of Tours, St Josaphat of Polotsk pray for us all.

With our love and prayers – Fr David & Deacon Peter