



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH

Diocese of Northampton

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7 th May 2023 Psalter Week 1		Fifth Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 <i>They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.		
Second Reading	1 St Peter 2:4-9 <i>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!'		
Gospel	John 14:1-12 <i>I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.</i>		
Saturday 6 th May +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)	
Sunday 7 th May +	10.30am	Mass – (Charles Patrick Tyrell RIP)	
Monday 8 th May <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today	
Tuesday 9 th May <i>Feria</i>	10.00am	Mass - (Sr Clare & her family Int.)	
Wednesday 10 th May St John of Avila, Priest – op mem	10.00am	Mass – (Fr Francis Maple Int.) <i>Diamond Anniversary of Ordination</i>	
Thursday 11 th May St Fremund, Martyr – op mem	10.00am	Mass – (Fr Brian Leatherland RIP)	
Friday – 12 th May Ss Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs – op mem St Pancras, Martyr – op mem	10.00am	Mass – (McNiff family Int.)	
Saturday – 13 th May Our Lady of Fatima – op mem	10.00am	Mass – (Sr Delia, Sr Mae & Sr Margaret Int.)	
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saturday – 13 th May +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (For the Parish)	
Sunday 14 th May+	10.30am	Mass – (Neliya Edema RIP)	

Coronation Cup Cake Candles – a parishioner has been busy hand making some Coronation Cup Cake Candles using recycled wax from the burnt down candles used in our church. They are available in the porch with a suggested donation of 50 pence each.



King Charles III and Queen Camilla

The Coronation on 6th May of King Charles III and Queen Camilla is marked with great joy across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. Let us commend them both to our Heavenly Father that He may sustain them in their duties all the days of their lives. **Let us pray:**

Almighty God, we pray,
that your servant Charles, our King,
who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue,
that, imbued with your heavenly grace,
he may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and,
being blessed with your favour may,
with his consort and the royal family,
come at last into your presence,
through Christ who is the way, the truth and the life
and who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen

Tea, coffee and other goodies are served **after this Sunday's 10.30am Mass** (7th May) to celebrate the Coronation. All are welcome to come along.

REQUIEM MASS – the Requiem Mass for Judy Ashford will be held here on **Friday 19th May at 11.00am** – Judy's body will be received into the church **at 4.00pm on Thursday 18th May**. We continue to pray for the repose of her soul and for the Lord's comforting grace for David, her family and friends. May she rest in peace.



SVP Healing Mass – Fr David will be celebrating a Healing Mass here on **Saturday 20th May at 12 noon**. This will be followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome regardless of age or how one feels. The SVP can provide transport if required; simply contact a member of the parish SVP – we look forward to welcoming you all.



MK FOODBANK – we continue to be very grateful for your generous donations to the MK Foodbank – particularly during these very difficult times for families & individuals.

The organisers of the Food bank are specifically requesting the following please:

- **Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Pasta, Tinned Veg, Pasta Sauce**
- **Long Life Milk, Juice or Squash, Cooking Oil, Spreads – Jams, Peanut Butter, or Chocolate Spread**
- **Biscuits, Tinned Fruit, Rice Pudding/Custard, Dried Rice – 500g or 1kg packets please**

Olney United Reformed Church – Rev. Derek Hopkins is retiring at the end of May after 40 years. There is a celebration service plus light refreshments on **27th May at 3.00pm** at the URC. If anyone would like to attend, please contact Denise no later than 14th May.

Priests Training Fund – Last weekend, ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’, a retiring collection was held in support of the Diocesan Priests Training Fund – we are very grateful to you for your support with this. Bishop David has sent a letter of his appreciation to all Parish Priests and you can view this by going to the Parish Website under ‘Pastoral Letters’. Most especially please keep our priests, seminarians and those men discerning their vocation in your daily prayers.

Clergy Moves - Bishop David has announced the following clergy moves:

- After twelve years, Canon Mark Floody will step down as Cathedral Dean and Fr Simon Penhalagan is appointed Cathedral Dean.
- Fr Daniel Rooke is appointed assistant Priest at the Cathedral.
- Canon Michael Harrison VG is appointed Parish Priest of St Martin de Porres, Luton.
- Fr Christopher Perry is appointed Parish Priest of Our Lady of Walsingham and St John Ogilvie, Corby.
- Fr Gerard Byrne is appointed Parish Priest of St Thomas of Aquinas and All Saints, Bletchley.
- Fr Wayne Coughlin is appointed Parish Priest of St Brendan’s, Corby. There will be an announcement to follow regarding Fr Wayne’s replacement at Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James, Bedford.
- Fr Andy Richardson is appointed Formation Tutor at St Mary’s College, Oscott.
- Fr Jobin Koshackal Jose VC and Fr Ebin Thomas VC are appointed to The Holy Family and St John the Apostle, Luton.
- Fr Nicholas Nwanzi has a full-time chaplaincy post at H.M. Prison Grendon.
- Fr Richard Aladics of the Leeds Diocese to our Diocese. He will be with us for some time to be nearer aged relatives. He is appointed Parish Priest of Christ the King, Bedford.
- Fr Pius Amoako is appointed Vocations Director.
- Fr Wayne Coughlin has stepped down as the Diocesan Director of *Missio*. Fr Daniel Rooke will be replacing him.

Anna Kearns is planning a fundraising event for a pro-life charity – Anna says:

“In August 2023, I am organising a bike ride (Life Cycle 2023) around the perimeter of the Northampton Diocese – some 584k! – *if I don’t get lost!* The bike ride will last for 13 days and I am trying to raise money for Baby Basics MK – a secular pregnancy resource centre in Milton Keynes who do amazing work.!

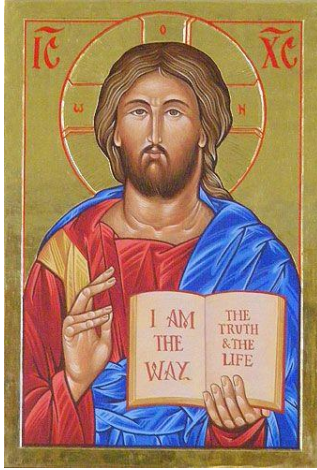
Further information can be found here: <https://www.babybasicsmk.org.uk/>

Any support whether financial, prayers or both would be greatly appreciated. I will be saying the rosary through each town I go through.”

To donate: <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/life-cycle-RD-Northampton/>



A Time for Hope & Healing - to support the National Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse, designated as the 9th May this year by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. Our diocese plans to hold an event at St Teresa’s Church, Beaconsfield **from 17th to the 20th of May**. Further details of the planned itinerary can be found on our parish website under the ‘Newsletter’ tab.



Gospel Reflection - John 14:1-12

Jesus tells his disciples, "I am the way and the truth and the life."

The readings for the last few Sundays have been about the Resurrection, but today's Gospel takes us back in time to an event in Jesus' life before his Passion.

Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house. He promises that where he is going, his disciples will be able to follow. Thomas, who will later doubt the disciples' reports that they have seen the Risen Lord, contradicts Jesus by saying that the disciples don't know where Jesus is going or how to get there. Jesus explains that he himself is **the way, the truth, and the life**. In knowing and loving Jesus, the disciples now love God the Father.

Philip then makes a request that challenges Jesus' words. Philip wants Jesus to show the Father to the disciples. Recall that Jesus has just told his disciples, "If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

As a good teacher, Jesus responds to Philip by repeating and elaborating on what he has just told the disciples: they have seen and known Jesus, so they have seen and known the Father. Then Jesus offers another reassurance about his departure: because of faith in God and in Jesus, the disciples will do the work that Jesus has done and more.

The connection between Jesus and his Father, between Jesus' work and the work of the Father, is made clear in today's Gospel. Jesus is in the Father, and God the Father is in Jesus. As God spoke his name to Moses, "I am," so too Jesus speaks his name to his disciples: "I am the way and the truth and the life."

The revelation of the Trinity is completed in the passage that follows today's reading, and it is the Gospel for next Sunday. Because Jesus goes away, the Father will send in Jesus' name the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will continue the work of the Father and of Jesus.

Thought for the week: "Therefore, the more our misfortunes accumulate the more ready and prepared our souls are, to receive God's mercy, for the greatness of our misery moves His compassion, and causes Him to show the more pity for us."

St John of Avila

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, Our Lady of Fatima, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St John of Avila, St Fremund, Ss Nereus & Achilleus and St Pancras pray for us all as we continue to bask in the glory of the Easter Season.

With our love and prayers to you all - Fr David, Fr Patrick & Deacon Peter