

Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

deaconpeter.griffin@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

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St Joseph's Convent – Sr Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

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17 th March 2024 Psalter Week: 1		Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B)	
First Reading	Jeremiah 31:31-34 <i>I will make a new covenant and never call their sin to mind.</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	A pure heart create for me, O God.		
Second Reading	Hebrews 5:7-9 <i>He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!		
Gospel	John 12:20-30 <i>If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.</i>		
Saturday 16th March +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass - (Pro Populo)	
Sunday 17th March +	10.30am	Mass – (RoseAnn & Tom Kiely RIP)	
Monday 18th March St Cyril of Jerusalem – Bishop & Doctor		No Parish Mass	
Tuesday 19th March ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BVM	10.00am	Mass – (Brian O'Connor RIP)	
Wednesday 20th March <i>Lent Feria</i>		No Parish Mass	
Thursday 21st March <i>Lent Feria</i>	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion	
Friday 22nd March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Ann & George Nutt RIP)	
Saturday 23rd March St Turibius of Mogrovejo - Bishop	10.00am 10.30am	Mass – (Margaret Leavy RIP) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament With Rosary & Confessions	
<i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord</i>			
Saturday – 23rd March +	5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)	
Sunday – 24th March +	10.30am	Mass – (Daniel McCarthy RIP)	

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £387.90

DCP – £31.00

Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £882.90



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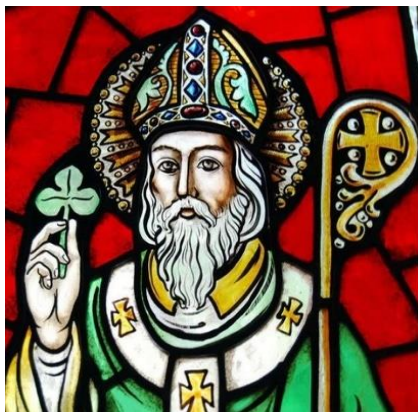
Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent we will be praying the 'Stations of the Cross' each **Friday** afternoon at **2.30pm** here at Our Lady's – please do come if you can.



MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday 28th March at 8.00pm – we are looking for six volunteers – 3 Male + 3 Female – for the Washing of the Feet during the Mass. If you would like to assist, please contact Denise, or speak to Deacon Peter.



ST PATRICK, Bishop – Patron of Ireland was born in Great Britain about the year 385. As a youth he was taken captive to Ireland as a slave and worked as a herdsman. After making his escape he wished to become a priest and after being made Bishop for Ireland he was untiring in preaching the Gospel and he converted many to the faith. In addition, he organised the Church throughout Ireland. It is believed that he died in 461 and was buried at Downpatrick.

Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh



Something special for Lent: 'Laudato Si' Study Group

Our parish study group on Pope Francis's encyclical letter 'Laudato Si', written to encourage care for God's creation, our environment. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 19th March at 7.30 pm** in the parish hall. If you were unable to make previous meetings you will still be very welcome to attend. Copies of 'Laudato Si' can be downloaded from the CAFOD website or purchased from the CTS. – <https://www.ctsbooks.org/>

CALLING ALL MEN IN THE PARISH – The Choir needs you! The choir needs to have a few more male voices to help with the singing this Easter. If you would like to help, then come to the choir practices which are taking place on **Mondays at 7.30pm** in the church.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES - New envelopes will be available from next weekend, anyone who no longer requires them or if you are new to the parish and would like a set please contact Denise.

Mass Intentions - we have recently received three separate online requests for a Mass Intention – unfortunately we aren't sure who they are from. If you have recently sent an online request for a Mass Intention, can you please contact Denise. Thank you.



Bishop David - The Solemnity of St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is being celebrated on **Tuesday 19th March**. Bishop David was ordained Bishop of Northampton on this solemnity in 2020 and this year we mark four years of his episcopal ministry. Mass for the Solemnity of St Joseph will be celebrated by Bishop David in the **Cathedral at 11.00am** followed by refreshments in the St Thomas Centre afterwards. All are welcome. Please continue to hold Bishop David in your prayers.

Ad multos annos



Penance Service for Holy Week – as part of our parish preparations for the great feast of Easter, there will be a Penitential Service here at Our Lady's on **Wednesday evening 27th March at 7.00pm** - Fr David has invited three other priests to join him and encourages us all to avail ourselves of this great sacrament of grace and forgiveness.



CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION *Passing on the Faith*

Many thanks to all who came to our last meeting and to those who helped provide tea and coffee. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 27th March at 2.00pm** in the parish hall.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT PUBLISHED - In November 2023, our diocese was the focus of a Safeguarding audit undertaken by the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency. The key findings of this audit are that the Diocese of Northampton is at the overall grading of Comprehensive Assurance at this time. Exemplary practice was seen in respect of the compassionate and innovative ways in which the Diocese seeks to engage with, and support, victim-survivors. This was a planned audit in line with recommendations presented in the final report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, ICCSA published in 2022. Bishop David is encouraging us all to read the Executive Summary – you can view this under the 'News & Press' tab on the diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO PRAY AS THE EARLY CHRISTIANS PRAYED?

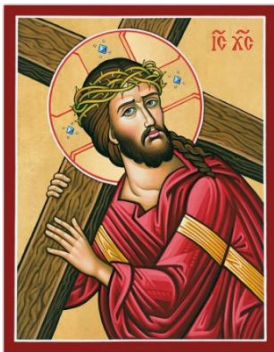
If so, you can make use of a free online course of talks by David Torkington. David has been for many years writing about the deeper kind of prayer which is available to all believers – contemplative prayer. This was the prayer of Jesus Himself and of all the early Christians. Why not try the course of talks and see – “Come and see,” says Jesus in the Gospel of St John. You will find the talks at the following:

<https://essentialistpress.com/prayer-to-contemplation-series/>



Holy Week

Saturday 23 rd March – 6.30pm	Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord Blessing & Distribution of Palms
Sunday 24 th March – 10.30am	Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord Blessing & Distribution of Palms
Monday 25 th March – 10.00am	Service of Word & Communion
Tuesday 26 th March – 10.00am	Mass
Wednesday 27 th March – 10.00am	Mass
Wednesday 27 th March – 2.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 27 th March – 7.00pm	Penance Service with Confessions
Thursday 28 th March – 11.00am	Chrism Mass - Cathedral
Sacred Paschal Triduum	
Maundy Thursday – 8.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday – 3.00pm	The Passion of the Lord
Good Friday – 7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday – 9.00am	Office of Readings – Morning Prayer
Holy Saturday – 8.00pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday – 10.30am	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



Lenten Prayer for Sundays

Take some time to pray this each Sunday of Lent either on your own or as a family. Use it to recommit to having your best Lent ever through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving:

Heavenly Father, as I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins. As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Give me rest in you and help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment. Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you. Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent. Amen.

May Our Lady Help of Christians, Our Lady of Peace, St Lawrence, St Joseph, St Rita, St John Mary Vianney, St John Henry Newman, St Vincent de Paul, St Cyril of Jerusalem, St Turibius of Mogrovejo, pray for us.

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